

GLR CONNECT

News • Events • Workforce • Membership • & More

Hello there,

GLR remains committed to delivering timely strategic project updates, spotlighting key upcoming events, and sharing notable developments shaping the Greater Lima region. Explore this issue to stay informed on the latest activity and opportunities across our community.

WHAT'S NEW



Lima Rotary Kicks Off February with 2026 Outlook Panel

On February 2, the Lima Rotary Club kicked off February with a Groundhog Day-themed meeting. Members gathered for a special "Forecast" Panel Discussion featuring local experts offering their outlook for the year ahead. Among the panelists was Dave Stratton, whose insights contributed to a forward-looking conversation about Lima's opportunities and challenges in 2026.



Lima/Allen Chamber Annual Breakfast Spotlights Workforce Trends and Regional Growth

On February 4, regional leaders and partners gathered for the GLR Engagement Breakfast to discuss economic development, emerging needs, and coordinated planning. The event highlighted the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a plan that guides long-term growth and strengthens regional resilience. Thank you to all who joined and contributed to the conversation.



Business & Workforce Development Update

AEDG's Business and Workforce Development Lead, Tim Fitzpatrick, started the year strong, meeting with nine companies and scheduling five more. Conversations highlighted activity across Allen County, including medical research, logistics growth, and expanding global operations. Key themes included updated abatement reporting, acquisition activity, new contracts, planned facility expansions, and strong interest in the JobsOhio Relocation Incentive. Contact Tim Fitzpatrick at fitzpatrick@aedg.org to discuss your company's progress.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Advancing the Future of Memorial Hall

The Memorial Hall Project continues to move forward, with the Review Committee ranking Freytag & Associates as the top Design Professional and Weigand Construction as the top Construction Manager at Risk. The Allen County Port Authority met on Friday, February 13, and approved proceeding with Weigand in this role. This marks an important step in advancing a key redevelopment opportunity for the Greater Lima Region.



CEDS

Comprehensive
Economic
Development
Strategy

CEDS Draft Now Open for Public Review

The final draft of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is now available for public review. You can view the document by scanning and/or clicking the QR code below. **We encourage you to review the Summary of CEDS Goals (pages 44–56),** which connects stakeholder input to clear regional strategies and actions. AEDG will align its priorities with these goals and pursue support from the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

The public comment period runs from **February 10 to March 11**. Following the review period, the five county economic development boards will submit letters of support and the final CEDS submission to the U.S. Economic Development Administration.



EVENTS



Strengthen Your Cybersecurity: Free Online Session on Feb. 19

We wanted to share a helpful opportunity coming up soon. PERRY proTECH is hosting a free online session on **February 19** designed to help you stay protected in today's digital world. It's a great opportunity to gain practical tips and strengthen your cybersecurity awareness. **You can register by scanning or clicking on the QR code in the image above.**



Boost Your Recruiting Power: Ohio Relocation Incentives Informational Meeting

You're invited to an informative meeting focused on boosting your recruiting efforts through JobsOhio's Relocation Incentive program. Join us on **February 26, 2026, from 10:00–11:00 AM** at **UNOH Racer Station in Lima, Ohio**, to learn how relocation incentives can help attract and retain talent. Coffee will be provided, and attendees will gain practical insights and resources to strengthen their workforce strategy.



Register Today for the State of Ohio Ethics Training in Lima

Join us for a State of Ohio Ethics Training designed for government agencies, boards, and commissions. This free session will provide essential guidance to help public- and private-sector professionals understand and comply with Ohio's Ethics Law. The training will take place on **Wednesday, March 4, 2026, from 10:00–11:00 AM** at **OhioMeansJobs, 951 Commerce Pkwy, Lima, OH 45804**. All boards, commissions, and government agencies are strongly encouraged to attend. **RSVP today by scanning or clicking on the QR code in the image above.**

Thank you for reading this month's edition of GLR CONNECT. We're excited about the growth and progress within our community, and we look forward to keeping you updated on future developments. Stay tuned for more exciting news, events, and opportunities to get involved.

If you have any feedback or want to contribute, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We value your input!

Until next time,

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