



**August 2007**

**Dear Members and Supporters of 1000 Friends of Central Ohio:**

Some of us still enjoy the kind of vibrant neighborhoods we knew from our childhood: filled with houses, shops, parks, schools and offices. We move about easily with choices for walking, biking, public transportation or cars. We know and talk with our neighbors. *We are a part of the community and the community is a part of our daily lives.*

But development patterns increasingly put distance between us and our core communities and our neighbors. Our choices in moving about - to and from school, work, shopping and play - increasingly depends more on the automobile with few or no options available. According to the latest U. S. Census, the cost of that transportation our family budget is second in only to the cost of housing, running around 30%! And, our busy lives can preclude our active involvement in civic affairs, giving us little control over public policy decisions being made for us.

**This is why I hope you will support our efforts in advocating for better planned communities by making a donation to *1000 Friends of Central Ohio* this month.**

Citizens across the country recognize the same challenges as:

- regional populations increase
- core city populations decline
- communities spread out
- transportation costs increase
- transportation *choices* decrease
- convergence of farmland to developed land increases
- energy fuels and other natural resources decline
- and, people are connecting less

**This is where you and *1000 Friends* can step-up-to-the-plate to enable positive change.**

We advocate for development principles that include all the best thinking on land use planning, economic development, and natural resource conservation. Designing smart, planning smart, and investing smart is our vision for Central Ohio.

***1000 Friends*** is you and me: individuals from different walks of life and experiences learning how best to shape our community's future and our personal life styles; wrestle with the complexities of growth, the economy, social connectedness, and community development; protect our farmland, open spaces and natural resources; and, be an informed participant in policy decision making.

Our organization diligently strives in helping decision makers understand a broader perspective and explore better ways to create a regional community that is environmentally healthy, economically sound, and socially vibrant.

Banded together, our members have taken on the tough issues and earned respect for being thoughtful, professional and visionary. Our organization is sought after for opinions on public policy issues. We demonstrated we can make a difference:

- Advocating for protection of the Darby Creek watershed by assisting in the multi jurisdictional Accord efforts
- Advising on the feasibility of a Downtown Columbus Streetcar
- Collaborating with The Columbus Metropolitan Club in initiating the **“Growing Smarter”** series of 18 forums with prominent speakers
- Instituting the on-going **“Moving Smarter”** presentations on transportation

We are led by professionals who believe in our community and in our future, and who believe clear thinking and sound decision-making is possible. We believe collectively we can make a difference in emerging policies affecting the way our region grows and the way we move about.

Do you have a vague sense that things could be better? Some ideas and strategies may sound a little strange at first, but not when you find out they are working in communities everywhere.

We all want good things in life for ourselves and our families, a great community to live in, our lives to matter, and a positive legacy to leave for the children of today.

**We are the only citizen-based development planning advocacy group for Central Ohio. We need your support in a tangible way so we can keep:**

- stretching the debate about these critical issues challenging our quality of life
- creating a community of smart investments
- turning off ordinary models – turning off single issue solutions – and turning on maximum flexibility in achieving quality goals

We can make our individual choices, but when we work together as members of **1000 Friends**, we are more likely to be heard and decisions affecting the quality of our community are more likely to result in smart investments.

**Please consider being a part of this exciting venture, and join 1000 Friends by September 15.**

By joining, we are committing to each other to voice a strong message to governments, corporations, business leaders, politicians and other civic decision makers that it is time to take steps necessary to plan, develop and invest in our communities wisely. Let's get smart! Let's think original! Let's think quality!

**Hope to see you at one of our upcoming programs!**



**Doug Ervin, Chair  
1000 Friends of Central Ohio Board of Trustees**

**P.S. Just as ideas are stretched at our forums, we hope you will consider a “stretch gift” of \$100, \$500 or \$1,000 to ensure we can continue to provide important information for a broader audience.**



## Join Your Friends Act Today – Vision Tomorrow

By working together, citizens can negotiate  
a more balanced environment, orderly development, and meaningful sense of community.  
Whatever it will take to influence the growth patterns of a community;  
it has to come from citizens!

Level	Per Year
<input type="checkbox"/> Leader	\$500 - \$999
<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate	\$250 - \$499
<input type="checkbox"/> Catalyst	\$100 - \$249
<input type="checkbox"/> Motivator	\$ 50 - \$99
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior	20% off any level
<input type="checkbox"/> Visionary	\$10,000 +
<input type="checkbox"/> Innovator	\$5,000 - \$9,999
<input type="checkbox"/> Collaborator	\$1,000 - \$4,999

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to volunteer? Join one of our Committees: Transportation, Land Use, Education % Marketing.  
Let us know your interests and skills!

---

You can reach us at: [1000friendsohio@columbus.rr.com](mailto:1000friendsohio@columbus.rr.com)

Mail this form to:

**1000 Friends of Central Ohio**  
**5423 Wine Tavern Lane**  
**Dublin, Ohio 43017**

Or, join on-line and pay by credit card:

[www.1kco.org](http://www.1kco.org)