



For Immediate Release
January 17, 2012

Contact: **OhioHealth**, Mark Hopkins
614-544-4248, mhopkins@ohiohealth.com
Pickerington, Joe Henderson
Development Services Director
(614) 833-2204, jhenderson@pickerington.net

OhioHealth Takes First Step Toward Development of Medical Campus in Pickerington

Planning & Zoning to Review Rezoning Request

COLUMBUS, Ohio – OhioHealth announced that it has applied for rezoning on land in Pickerington that would allow it to develop a healthcare campus in the community. The land is not currently owned by OhioHealth but could be purchased if the zoning is approved.

“Because of the significant growth in the Pickerington and Reynoldsburg area over the last two decades, and with more population growth projected,” said Bob Gilbert, senior operations officer for OhioHealth’s Neighborhood Care, “we have made the decision to expand and add healthcare services in the community and we are very excited about it.”

“This is a historic moment for the city of Pickerington,” said Joe Henderson, development services director for the city of Pickerington. “The desire of an organization such as OhioHealth to invest this substantially in our community is evidence to the positive direction that the city is headed. The city of Pickerington welcomes OhioHealth and looks forward to creating a lasting partnership.”

Although still in the early stages of planning what services would be offered and what kind of facilities would be built, the requested zoning variance, if approved, would allow for a wide variety of uses on the approximately 70 acres located on Refugee Rd., just west of Hill Rd.

The facility could very likely be along the lines of its Westerville Medical Campus with a variety of services that match the community need. Services such as imaging (including mammography), physical therapy and rehab, physician office space, sleep medicine, and possibly outpatient surgery will all be considered. The word “hospital” is mentioned in the zoning request because it leaves options open if, down the road, a hospital is what the community needs. Additionally, it allows for the full range of healthcare facilities to be developed.

“We have had a tremendous response to our facility in Westerville,” said Gilbert, “because we were careful to develop services there that the community truly needed and would support. Today, more than a thousand people a day walk through those doors. We will take the same thorough approach in Pickerington to make sure its residents are getting the healthcare services they need and want.”

About OhioHealth...

OhioHealth is a nationally recognized, not-for-profit, charitable, healthcare organization serving and supported by the community. Named by Thomson Reuters as one of the 10 best healthcare systems in America three years in a row, OhioHealth has also been recognized by FORTUNE Magazine as one of the “100 Best Companies to Work For” in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Based in Columbus, Ohio, it is a family of 21,000 associates, physicians and volunteers, 18 hospitals, 23 health and surgery centers, home-health providers, medical equipment and health service suppliers throughout a 40-county area. OhioHealth member hospitals include Riverside Methodist Hospital, Grant Medical Center, Doctors Hospital-Columbus, Grady Memorial Hospital, Dublin Methodist Hospital, Doctors Hospital-Nelsonville, Hardin Memorial Hospital and Marion General Hospital. For more information, please visit our website at www.ohiohealth.com.