

THE CITY OF TALLMADGE

NEW BUSINESS RESOURCE GUIDE



CAROL SICILIANO-KILWAY

MAYOR, CITY OF TALLMADGE



Welcome to Tallmadge! As Mayor, I am pleased to welcome you to our city and congratulate you on making the decision to locate here. Tallmadge has a rich history and many wonderful amenities including our unique traffic circle with the Old Town Hall and Historic Tallmadge Church, our beautiful parks and recreation facilities, and excellent school system Tallmadge is a lovely place to locate, stay, and grow. The City was founded in 1807 by the Reverend David Bacon as part of the Connecticut Western Reserve. It was Bacon who laid out our picturesque Circle based on the New England design of the day. Today, the Circle is still the central focal point of our community of over 18,000 people. We blend an Early American heritage with a present-day Midwestern hospitality!

Our business climate remains one of the best in Northeast Ohio. As a city government, we work hard to serve the needs of our businesses and connect them with appropriate resources to help them succeed. I spent most of my career working for my family's manufacturing company here in Tallmadge. I understand what it takes to make payroll, run a profitable business, and remain accountable to your customers. It is this same work ethic that I take with me to City Hall each day.

As you review this information, please know that my Economic Development team stands ready to help you in any way. Please do not hesitate to contact my office directly at (330) 633-0857.

Thank you for choosing Tallmadge!

Sincerely,

Carol Siciliano-Kilway
Mayor

The City of Tallmadge Planning & Zoning Department serves existing and new Tallmadge businesses efficiency and a customer-centric approach. Zoning applications are required in order to regulate the use and development of all land within the City. The zoning plans examiners review the proposed use and development of property to determine compliance with applicable zoning laws. Before you begin, all new businesses locating in Tallmadge are required to complete a Use and Compliance Certificate application with the Planning & Zoning Department. All forms are fillable through our online application portal. This portal simplifies the application process, improves customer experience, and reduces the need for in-person visits. With 24/7 direct access, you can now track the process of applications, schedule inspections, upload additional documents, and communicate with staff.

Zoning Request Submittal Process

The OpenGov Citizen Services Portal is a single, online location where you can:

- Submit an Application for Zoning, Utilities, Right-of-Way and other land use changes
- Track the progress of your application
- Message the City
- Schedule inspections
- Print your approvals, inspection reports and more

OpenGov Portal User Guide



ZONING CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL APPLICATION

This is required for accessory structures, fences/walls, demolitions, signage, and permitted use & compliance. Application review may take up to 14 business days.

CONDITIONAL USE

While often desirable in the zoning district in which they are proposed, uses requiring conditional use review have potentially greater effects on their surroundings than permitted uses and as a result require additional scrutiny by the Planning and Zoning Commission to ensure that the use is appropriate for the location. A Zoning Certificate must be obtained for the property within one year of the conditional use approval.

SITE PLAN REVIEW

A Site Plan Review before the Planning & Zoning Commission is required for any new property development and expansion of structure and/or parking lots, except for one, two and three family dwellings. When a rezoning or conditional zoning request is involved, the Site Plan Review may be combined with said application.

BUILDING PERMITS

Since 2011, Summit County Department of Building Standards handles all Building Permits and Occupancy Permits. Permits are issued once Zoning permission is given by the Planning & Zoning Department and Fire Inspections are completed.

The Building Department can be reached at 330-630-7280 or by visiting the Building Department website:
co.summitoh.net/departments/Building-Standards.html

SIGNAGE

The City of Tallmadge is committed to working with businesses in the community to help maintain and promote business. Before any investment in signage is made, whether permanent or temporary, contact the Planning & Zoning Department to verify compliance with the sign regulations of our city. Our best advice, before you invest in any temporary and/or permanent advertising medium, give us a call and discuss your plans. For all regulations, visit our website or contact the Planning & Zoning Department at (330) 633-0090.

UTILITIES

You may need to contact the local electric, gas, and cable company to start service. This is in addition to starting water and sewer services to your business, if required.

- FirstEnergy
- Enbridge Gas Ohio (formerly Dominion)
- City of Tallmadge Water and Sewer Department
- Spectrum, AT&T, Verizon
- Tallmadge Natural Gas Aggregation program supplied by Eastern Power & Gas
- Tallmadge Electric Aggregation program supplied by Dynegy (formerly Energy Harbor)



Starting Your New Business in Ohio

It is essential that you register your business with the Ohio Secretary of State, which can be completed online. Next, you must contact the Internal Revenue Service to obtain a federal Employer Identification Number (EIN). Once you have completed these steps, you will register with the Ohio Department of Taxation. Through the Ohio Department of Taxation, you can obtain information regarding Ohio taxes, including registration requirements, filing requirements, and filing due dates. They feature the Ohio Small Business Tax Training Program to help you acquire a broader understanding of Ohio's tax requirements.

For more information, please visit the Ohio Secretary of State's website, for the Ohio Business Roadmap.



www.ohiosos.gov/business



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There are very few competitive grants available for for-profit businesses, especially start-up companies. Despite this reality, there are financial resources and Economic Development incentives available.

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA)

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Tax Abatement Program offers real property tax abatement on the increase in assessed valuation of commercial and industrial property resulting from improvements. The program applies to new industrial and commercial construction including additions to existing buildings.

Industrial and non-retail commercial properties are eligible for 100% tax abatement for 7 years based upon a \$1,000,000 minimum yearly payroll and up to 10 years if the payroll increases by an additional \$500,000 by the end of the 6th year of the abatement period.

Commercial retail properties not within the Design Control District are eligible for 50% tax abatement for 4 years based upon a \$100,000 minimum yearly payroll and up to 7 years if the payroll increases by an additional \$500,000 by the end of the 4th year of the abatement period.

Design Control District new construction projects are eligible for 100% tax abatement for 7 years. However, the abatement may not exceed the amount of the investment.

A Community Reinvestment Area Program Application must be submitted to the City of Tallmadge Economic Development Office prior to construction or remodeling occurring to ensure compliance with the program requirements.



New Jobs Program (NJP)

The City of Tallmadge New Jobs Program provides a monetary incentive in the form of an income tax rebate to new businesses occupying new and/or existing industrial, commercial, or retail buildings where such occupancy creates new jobs within the city.

Eligibility Categories

- New businesses moving into Tallmadge and creating new jobs resulting in a minimum of \$500,000 in new annual payroll all at one time, excluding benefits;
- New businesses must agree to maintain the new jobs and increased payroll throughout the grant period;
- Term of the grant period shall be three (3) years;
- Any new business that leases a building must have a minimum 5-year lease for such structures at the time the grant is approved;
- Grant payments are payable only after the Qualifying New Payroll has been maintained for one full calendar year.

An application must be submitted to the City of Tallmadge Economic Development Office and, upon acceptance, is subject to verification by the City of Tallmadge Finance Director and City Council approval.

JobsOhio Small Business Grant

The JobsOhio Small Business Grant was developed to provide additional financial support for qualified projects in designated communities and/or for businesses owned by eligible populations across the state. The program recognizes eligible communities may benefit from investments and job creation on a smaller scale than communities that experience higher levels of corporate investment regularly. Additionally, this program recognizes that businesses owned by eligible populations may face additional challenges in growing their businesses. Grant decisions are based on several project factors, including but not limited to company location, company ownership, jobs created and/or retained, and project fixed asset investment. Support is intended for small to medium-sized companies. For more information and to fill out an intake form, please contact the City of Tallmadge Economic Development Team.

Western Reserve Community Fund

The Western Reserve Community Fund (WRCF) is a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). WRCF supports small businesses, affordable housing, and non-profit organizations with flexible, low-cost financing and technical assistance. As a CDFI certified by the U.S. Treasury, WRCF works to promote equity and expand economic opportunity for disadvantaged communities and businesses by providing financial products and services, striving to foster economic opportunity and revitalized neighborhoods. WRCF was created to help fill the regional gap in access to capital and provide support in dis-invested areas and is not a competitor with banks. If you are interested in flexible financing options, please contact the Economic Development Team.

Bounce Innovation Hub (Bounce) is Northeast Ohio's premier incubator that provides programming and support for entrepreneurs, startups, and small businesses. Bounce is home to notable entrepreneurial programs including Aspiring Entrepreneur (AE), Tech Incubator, MORTAR, and NextLevel.

Ohio Small Business Development Center (SBDC) offers expert business counseling and assistance through Certified Business Advisors. The Ohio SBDC network provides cash flow analysis, capital identification, training workshops, and financial projections.

Akron Urban League (AUL) is built on the pillars of economic self-reliance, social empowerment, and quality of life. They provide various programs based on DEI, entrepreneurship, educational attainment, advocacy, and workforce development. The Akron Urban League is here to help your company achieve its goals through purpose, collaboration, and respect.

Development Finance Authority of Summit County (DFA) leverages private capital for Northeast Ohio communities for the public good. They offer many flexible resources such as bond and tax credit financing, small business and non-profit lending, and an energy efficiency financing program. Their bond options range from fixed-rate bonds to conduit bonds.

Energy Special Improvement District (ESID) financing program, the DFA can provide companies with a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) bond. The Development Finance Authority of Summit County is built on the values of job creation, development financing, and building a robust tax base.

Western Reserve Community Fund (WRCF) is a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). WRCF supports small businesses, affordable housing, and non-profit organizations with flexible, low-cost financing and technical assistance.



CONTACT US

Please do not hesitate to contact us at the following:

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City of Tallmadge Mayor's Office:

Mayor Carol Siciliano-Kilway

Main Line
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City of Tallmadge Planning & Zoning Department:

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Planning & Zoning Manager
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