

BUSINESS MATTERS

Stow Companies Honored for Excellence

Mickey Thompson Performance Tires and Wheels, located at 4600 Prosper Drive, was among a select group of Ohio companies and the only Summit County business to receive the 2009 Governor’s Excellence in Exporting Award on August 26, 2009. According to Don Sneddon, advertising manager, about 30% of the company’s revenue comes from exports. Mickey Thompson, founded in 1963, is known worldwide as a leader in high performance tires and wheels for track and off-road racing.



Bill O’Roake (Mickey Thompson Tire), Governor Strickland, Lisa Patt-McDaniel (ODOD)



Jay Mellon, Jim Laber, AtNet Plus partners

AtNetPlus, Inc., a leading information technology company, located at 1000 Campus Drive, Suite 700, has been honored by the Entrepreneur’s EDGE to receive the 2009 Crain’s Cleveland Business Leading Edge Award. AtNetPlus, Inc. has grown from a staff size of 9 since moving to Stow in 2008 to their current staff of 19. According to the criteria utilized by The Entrepreneur’s EDGE, AtNetPlus was identified as a leading northeast Ohio company based on calculations used to compare the value that each nominated company contributed to the region.

“Companies like AtNetPlus play a major role in our regional economy in many ways,” said D. Kirk Neiswander, President of The Entrepreneur’s EDGE. AtNetPlus partner, Jay Mellon noted, “This award is a significant achievement for us. The Entrepreneur’s EDGE uses hard data to reach an unbiased result. That kind of recognition is particularly gratifying.”

“Companies like AtNetPlus play a major role in our regional economy in many ways,” said D. Kirk Neiswander, President of The Entrepreneur’s EDGE. AtNetPlus partner, Jay Mellon noted, “This award is a significant achievement for us. The Entrepreneur’s EDGE uses hard data to reach an unbiased result. That kind of recognition is particularly gratifying.”

Spectrum Surgical Instruments Corp., located at 4575 Hudson Drive, proudly announced that on June 17, 2009, for the second consecutive year, they have been awarded the 2009 World Class Customer Service Award from Smart Business. This award is presented to companies that set the standard for great customer service. Of 100 companies selected as finalists, Spectrum was one of just 11 companies that received this distinguished recognition.



Rick Schultz, Pres. CEO (Center) with staff

Stow Investment Creates Development Opportunities . . .

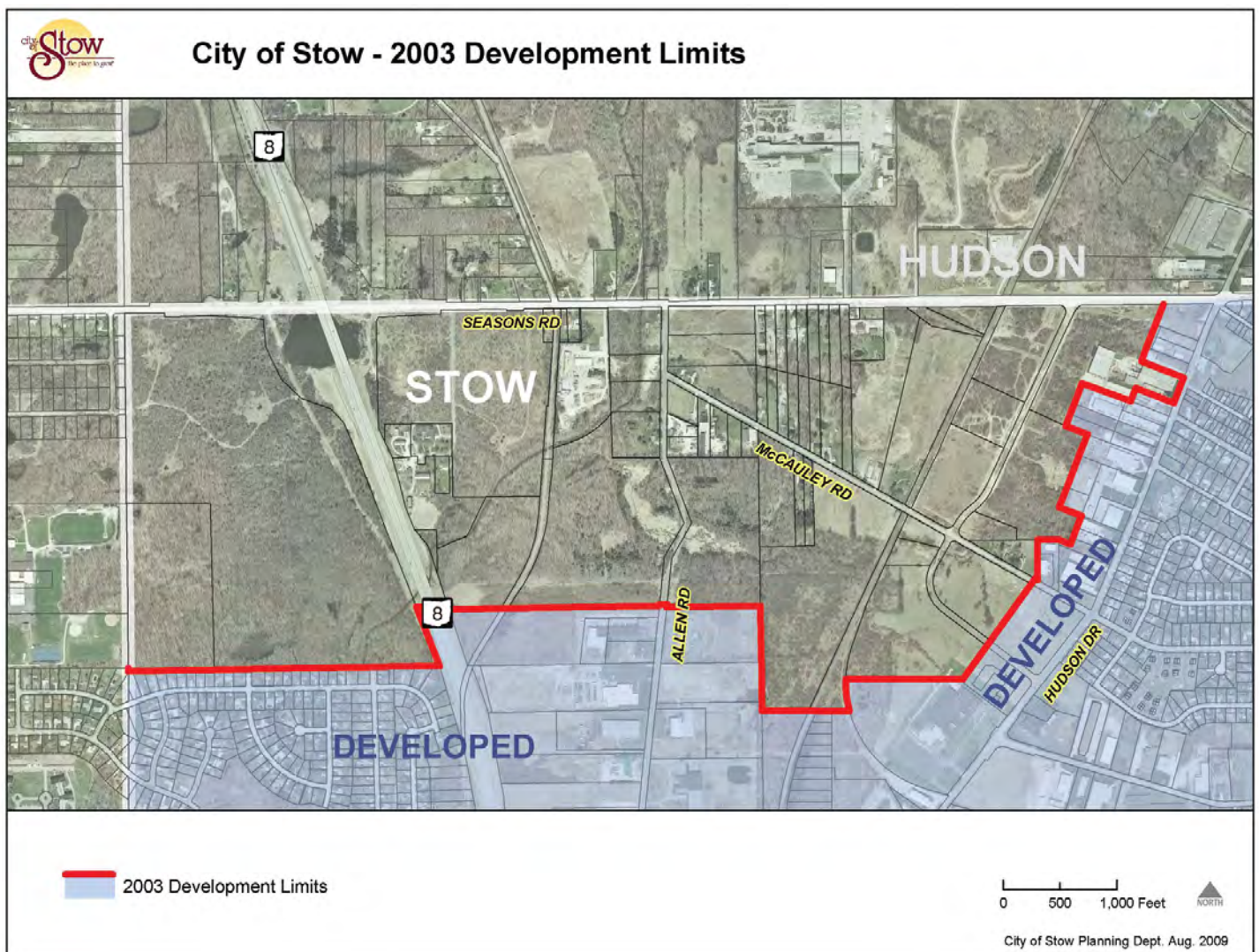
Infrastructure Investment Strategy in Northern Stow to Expand Economic Base

Over the last seven years the City of Stow has been strategically planning and implementing infrastructure improvements in the northwest quadrant of the city that will open up over 600 acres of land for industrial and office development. The goal of this planning and investment is to expand Stow's current development limits and create land that is "shovel ready" and "improved" so that it can be more easily marketed and developed for office and manufacturing uses. As implied, shovel ready land is land available for development without any further improvements.

Prior to this investment, this land was undevelopable due to lack of sewer and water service, access from State Route 8 and in one area, road frontage. These development limitations are shown on the map below.

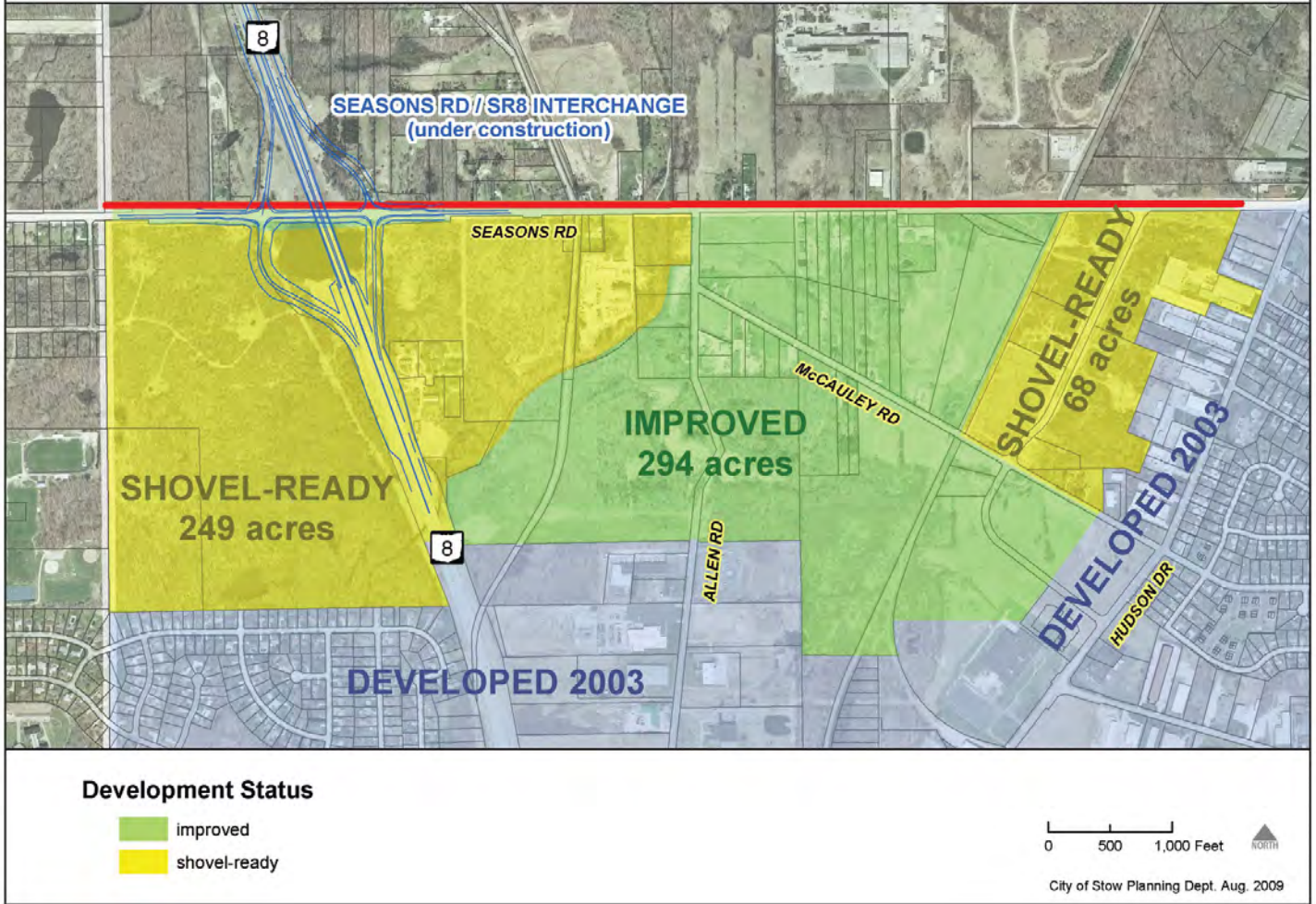
There are 249 acres south of the Seasons Road interchange (see map next page) that will be shovel ready by the end of 2010. The improvements that will transform this land and allow for economic development include the new interchange at State Route 8 and Seasons Road, a sanitary sewer pump station, as well as the upgrade of Seasons Road including the installation of sewer and water lines from Allen Road to Wyoga Lake Road.

The 294 acres shown as improved (see map next page) will benefit from the infrastructure improvements mentioned above, as well as the installation of water lines on Allen and McCauley Roads that should be





City of Stow - 2010 Development Limits



completed by December, 2009. This improved land is ready for development with the extension of gravity sanitary sewer lines on an as needed basis.

By the end of 2010, the City of Stow will have invested approximately \$3.8 million in infrastructure improvements in northern Stow. This represents less than 20% of the total \$22 million cost of these improvements. All but \$425,000 has been spent in partnership with the City of Hudson. Further, the City of Cuyahoga Falls has joined with Stow and Hudson to help finance the Seasons Road interchange, roadway upgrade and sewer line. These infrastructure projects have attracted approximately \$10 million in Federal and State financial assistance.

This infrastructure investment strategy is already paying off. Geis Companies developed the 56-acre Stow Commerce Center in 2005, and three businesses are currently located here. There are also 25 acres of shovel ready land remaining in the Stow Commerce Center. In addition, the Cities of Stow, Hudson and Cuyahoga Falls are working on a proposed Joint Economic Development Zone in the immediate area of the interchange that is intended to facilitate the development of this area as a medical corridor that will be anchored by the new 100-bed Summa Western Reserve Hospital. When the infrastructure improvements outlined here are completed, there will be over 550 acres of land in the vicinity of the new interchange ready for development in Stow. Contrast this with the situation in 2003 when there was little, if any, opportunity for development in this area, and it is easy to understand why Stow should be in a good position to attract quality, sustainable development in the Seasons Road interchange area for many years to come.

Businesses To Benefit From Improvements

Construction Projects at Steels Corners/S.R.8 Interchange to Improve Traffic Flow

Approximately 260,000 square feet of development has been constructed in the last seven years at the Steels Corners/S.R. 8 intersection including the Akron General Medical Wellness Center, Stow Municipal Courthouse, office buildings, restaurants, retail developments and three hotels. The real property value resulting from this development exceeds \$30 million. In order to accommodate this remarkable expansion as well as future growth, a number of improvements are in progress. These improvements will ease traffic flow at the interchange and surrounding roadways, increase safety, and enhance pedestrian transportation. The following improvements in and around the Steels Corners/S.R. 8 interchange, shown on the map below, are on track to be completed by the end of October 2009:

1. **Steels Corners (West of S.R. 8)** Widened to accommodate two westbound lanes from S.R. 8 to Steels Pointe; two eastbound thru lanes from Circle K to S.R. 8; and a dedicated right turn lane onto the south bound entrance ramp.
2. **S.R. 8 Exit Ramp (Southbound)** Widened to provide one right turn lane and one left turn lane onto Steels Corners Road.
3. **Steels Corners/S.R. 8 Bridge Improvements** The bridge has been widened to accommodate two thru lanes in each direction; one left turn lane onto the northbound entrance ramp; and two left turn lanes onto the southbound entrance ramps which will ease congestion at peak traffic periods.
4. **S.R. 8 Exit Ramp (Northbound)** Widened to provide one left turn lane; one left/thru/right lane; and one right turn lane.
5. **Steels Corners/Lakepointe Corporate Drive** Steels Corners widened to accommodate two thru lanes and one right turn lane. Left turns will also be eliminated at the intersection of Steels Corners and Lakepointe Corporate Drive.
6. **Steels Corners Sidewalk** A sidewalk 7 feet in width on the south side will be installed from Steels Pointe to Hudson Drive.
7. **Steels Corners/Hudson Drive/Allen Rd.**
 - a. Steels Corners (Eastbound)
2 thru lanes; 1 right turn lane;
1 left turn lane
 - b. Steels Corners (Westbound)
1 thru lane; 1 right turn lane;
1 left turn lane
 - c. Allen Road (Southbound)
1 thru lane; 1 right turn lane;
1 left turn lane
8. **Hudson Drive** Widened to three lanes from Steels Corners to Springdale Road.



Department of Planning & Development

Karen Fritschel

Mayor

330-689-2800

Ken Trenner

Planning & Development Director

330-689-2810

Rob Kurtz

Assistant Planning Director

330-689-2811

Mike Weddle

Economic Development Coordinator

330-689-2814

Steve Gibbons

GIS Coordinator

330-689-2813

Pamela Daerr

Administrative Assistant

330-689-2812

3760 Darrow Road • Stow, Ohio 44224-4094