

# Ohio Balanced Growth Program

## Fact Sheet: Local Government Roles

### Who are the local governments?

In the context of Watershed Planning Partnerships, “local governments” include; townships, villages, cities, counties, special districts, planning commissions, and regional councils.

### Planning Role

- A local government organization may become the lead agency in organizing a Watershed Planning Partnership.
- Local governments are encouraged to participate in the watershed planning process.
- Identify development and conservation areas that they want to bring forth in the planning process at the watershed level.
- Provide data about their jurisdiction and technical planning assistance in their roles as a watershed partner.

### Implementation Role

- Update and amend existing land use plans to reflect the Watershed Balanced Growth Plan and establish consistency.
- If no comprehensive or master land use plan exists, develop such plans to the extent necessary to support implementation of the watershed plan.
- Adopt local ordinances/resolutions based on the guidance for applicable best practices and models recommended by the Balanced Growth Program.
- Direct local capital expenditures to support PCAs and PDAs in the watershed plan, as opportunities arise during the expansions or maintenance of existing infrastructure.

### Local Coordination

- The Watershed Planning Partnership should consult with and involve local governments located within its planning jurisdiction concerning the designation of PCAs and PDAs and should ensure early and continuous public participation in the designation process.
- Each local government may propose to the partnership the designation of a PDA that would include the area within its jurisdictional boundary not otherwise designated as a PCA, and that may include additional unincorporated areas contiguous to its municipal boundary (with county and township consultation).
- The partnership should attempt to reach agreement with each local government located within its planning jurisdiction on the location and size of the PCAs and PDAs.