

For Immediate Release

October 20, 2008

### Baltimore Retail Business Survey Online

Baltimore Area residents as well as anyone who might shop in Baltimore, Ohio, are being asked to participate in a retail business survey over the next four weeks. The results of the survey will be part of a Baltimore Retail Business Assessment, a milestone of the Baltimore Empty Office/Retail Space Marketing Campaign started in the Spring of 2008. "The Baltimore Retail Business Assessment will be a valuable asset to our present Baltimore businesses and future business looking to locate in Baltimore," said Mayor Bob Kalish.

The Baltimore Empty Office/Retail Space Marketing Campaign's goal is to fill the currently unoccupied office and retail space in Baltimore with businesses by the end of 2009. The campaign is co-sponsored by the Village of Baltimore, Fairfield County Economic Development, the Baltimore Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC) and the Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee (BDRC). Other accomplishments of the group to date include the formation of a working group of interested property owners and business, community and government leaders; and an inventory of empty office/retail space which is available online. "It's exciting to be part of a diverse group of leaders and accomplishing the milestones necessary to insure Baltimore's economic development," said Kathy Badgeley, BDRC Chairperson.

Survey respondents will be asked what type of products and services they currently purchase in Baltimore, which other communities they go to for products and services as well as why and, what types of retail businesses they would like to see in Baltimore. "Businesses that are looking to start up in Baltimore, relocate to Baltimore or expand to Baltimore will require this data in their decision making process," said Mayor Kalish.

The survey, which takes about 10 minutes to complete, is available online, courtesy of the Fairfield County Economic Development. A link to the survey can be found on the Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee website, [www.balimoredowntownrestoration.com](http://www.balimoredowntownrestoration.com), or the Village of Baltimore website, [www.baltimoreohio.org](http://www.baltimoreohio.org). Individuals who would rather complete a paper version of the survey may pick them up and drop them off at the Village of Baltimore Administrative Office at 103 W Market Street, Real Living Farmers Realty at 719 W Market Street and Willow Tree Cottage at 120 E Market Street. "We would love to have everyone in the Baltimore Area complete the survey. That is why we are utilizing the power of the Internet to reach out to area residents and consumers as well as the traditional paper survey," explained Tony Caito, BACC President. Anyone having questions may contact BACC at 740-438-0837.

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