



# Delaware County Commissioners

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Commissioners adopt final agreement for Tanger Outlet Mall Construction***

Delaware, Ohio—The Delaware County Commissioners completed another step toward the groundbreaking for the approximately 350,000 square foot outlet mall on the 57-acre property at US 36/37 and I-71 in Berkshire Road. The County partnered with the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Columbus Outlets, LLC, Berkshire Township, and the Berkshire Landing New Community Authority to develop the agreement that was passed unanimously by the Commissioners during Monday's session.

The agreement provides for the funding and approval of certain transportation public improvements to benefit the Tanger/Simon Outlet Mall development. The developer has agreed to bear the up front costs and responsibility for the Opening Day improvements and future development needs. Delaware County appropriated \$8 million to assist with the costs of the public improvements and secured a guaranty from the Community Authority for the funding and completion of the Design Year Improvements.

"This new outlet mall will bring good jobs, quality retail and valuable tax revenue to Delaware County. We're doing this project right and it has my full support," said Commissioner Barb Lewis, regarding the vote in session Monday. Commissioner O'Brien added, "I have worked, with others, on this project for almost four years and I am pleased that the outlet mall will increase the tax base to provide for road infrastructure. But what it adds to retail in our county is immeasurable—IKEA, Polaris Mall, Cabela's and now the Tanger Outlet stores—is there a better place to shop?"

Berkshire Township approved an exemption from real property taxation of 75 percent of the improvements, a TIF exemption, for a period of not less than 10 years per parcel. With the establishment by the county of the New Community Authority, they will levy a community development charge equal to ½ to 1 percent of all retail sales.

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The Tanger/Simon Outlets mall development is projected to generate approximately \$19.7 million in sales taxes for Delaware County during the 10 years following its opening in spring 2016.

"This project agreement is a victory for the county and the area surrounding the future outlet mall. All parties should be applauded—Delaware County, Berkshire Township, Big Walnut School District, the city of Delaware, Sunbury, ODOT, the BST & G Fire District, and of course Simon/Tanger. The economic development that will be created will provide the initial revenue to begin the infrastructure improvements and this is only the beginning," shared Commissioner Gary Merrell.

Established in 1808, Delaware County is located in the center of Ohio, is 459 square miles in size, and serves nearly 190,000 residents. With 1100+ employees and a budget of \$45 million, Delaware County is one of the top 50 employers in central Ohio and continues to be the fastest growing county in the state.

For more information, please find us on Facebook or visit our Web site at [www.co.delaware.oh.us](http://www.co.delaware.oh.us)

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