

NEWS



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HUNTINGTON TO GROW AKRON EMPLOYMENT TO 1,200 BY 2017

Strong partnership yields proposed five-year agreement with city delivering sustained employment commitment in Northeast Ohio

AKRON, Ohio – Huntington Bank today renewed its commitment to Akron announcing plans for workforce employment of 1,200 by the end of 2017 and a path to sustained and new local employment through 2022.

Akron's Mayor, Daniel Horrigan joined Huntington's CEO, Steve Steinour, and Akron Regional President, Nick Browning, today at Huntington's downtown office complex at Cascade Plaza for the company's announcement of its local employment plans.

As part of the merger with FirstMerit in 2016, Huntington committed to prioritize sustained levels of Akron employment. In doing so, Huntington has retained a current Akron workforce of more than 1,100 employees, will increase overall employment within the city to 1,200 by the end of the year, and is incentivized to continue employment expansion in Akron.

"From day one, the city of Akron provided a warm welcome to Huntington. We couldn't succeed here without the community's trust and support, and we're proud to meet our commitment to grow jobs in Akron," said Steinour. "The Mayor, the city and JobsOhio are outstanding partners who helped us deliver job growth in an important operations hub for Huntington. As we continue to grow, we remain committed to finding meaningful ways to demonstrate our passion for helping people and making lives better in Northeast Ohio."

"Today marks a key milestone in our partnership with Huntington. With this agreement, Huntington has proven its commitment to the ongoing stability and economic success of the Akron community, and has demonstrated that Akron plays a key role in its future," Mayor Horrigan said of the announcement. "By growing jobs here, Huntington will support our citywide goals of increasing our population and ensuring robust employment opportunities for our residents. I thank Huntington for being a valued corporate citizen and look forward to working together toward our shared growth and success."

As further support for Huntington's employment growth in Akron, JobsOhio is also providing \$225,000 in grant funding in support of new employee training and onboarding costs.

"Huntington had many options on where to place a new regional headquarters, and Huntington chose Akron," said Valentina Isakina, JobsOhio managing director for financial services. "This commitment demonstrates the growing recognition of the talent quality in Northeast Ohio, and JobsOhio is pleased to support another project that helps grow this talent in the state."

Building improvements

As part of the agreement, Huntington and the city have undertaken and plan many improvements to Cascade Plaza and its buildings complex. The city will replace and upgrade Cascade Plaza parking deck lighting and improve directional parking signage. The city also will restore Cascade Plaza's back stairs overlooking Quaker Street as part of overall restoration plans for Cascade Plaza Hotel, which also may include construction of an access road from Bowery Street to the hotel.

Huntington has invested more than \$5 million in completed or ongoing improvements at its operations center at 295 FirstMerit Circle, 3 Cascade Plaza and Huntington Tower. Improvements include temporary call center expansion at 3 Cascade Plaza and long-term call center expansion at 295 FirstMerit Circle. Huntington also installed building signage atop Huntington Tower and on 3 Cascade Plaza in May.

"Partnering with local government, supporting a robust and talented local workforce and maintaining vibrant buildings where our colleagues and customers live and work are among the many ways Huntington invests in our local Akron community," said Browning.

About Huntington

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated is a regional bank holding company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, with \$100 billion of assets and a network of 996 branches and 1,855 ATMs across eight Midwestern states. Founded in 1866, The Huntington National Bank and its affiliates provide consumer, small business, commercial, treasury management, wealth management, brokerage, trust, and insurance services. Huntington also provides auto dealer, equipment finance, national settlement and capital market services that extend beyond its core states. Visit huntington.com for more information.

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