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Regional Council of Governments

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Honorable Rob Portman Headlines OKI Annual Meeting **Event provides OKI opportunity to highlight its year of excellence**

Cincinnati, OH – U.S. Office of Management and Budget Director Rob Portman was today's headline speaker at the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) annual meeting. Nearly 400 area business leaders and elected officials attended the event held at The Phoenix in downtown Cincinnati.

"Director Portman is deeply respected among our communities and has been instrumental in supporting the goals and mission of OKI," said Christine Maticic, Liberty Township Trustee and president of OKI. "We are honored he was able to share in our celebration as we recognized all that OKI and its partners do to ensure economic vitality and the quality of life in our region."

As OMB director, Portman oversees the federal budget and manages the federal taxes and entitlement policy. Portman, a Cincinnati native, along with his family still call Terrace Park home.

During the annual meeting OKI recognized three individuals for their commitment to making a positive and lasting change in the region by honoring them with the "OKI In Motion Award." Award winners included Tim McLelland with the Hamilton to New Baltimore Groundwater Consortium, Keith Corman with Colerain Township, and Stephen Louis with the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority. The event also provided OKI the opportunity to highlight several awards and the many milestones the organization achieved during the past year such as:

- receiving the "Client of the Year Award" from the Society for Marketing Professional Services of Greater Cincinnati,
- being presented with Citilab's "2006 User Award for Best Traffic Simulation,"
- receiving the National Association of Regional Councils' Achievement Award,
- recognition from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Ohio,
- acknowledgment from the Federal Highway Administration as the national leader in the utilization of sophisticated benefit-cost analysis, and

OKI staff member Mary Bennett was awarded the Public Administrator of the Year Award by the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration.

"These awards reflect the excellence and quality of work that the great staff at OKI consistently produces," said Executive Director Mark Policinski. "The real benefactors are the residents of the 198 political jurisdictions in our eight-county region."

OKI is a council of local governments, business organizations and community groups committed to developing collaborative strategies, plans and programs to improve the quality of life and economic development potential of the Tri-State.

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