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Maple Heights Economy Recovers, Local Businesses Hiring

MAPLE HEIGHTS - As the United States works to contain COVID-19 and its impacts on the economy, the City of Maple Heights is seeing signs that the local economy is stable and positioning for growth in 2021.

Maple Heights income tax collections indicate a stabilized local economy and growth in the number of recent job postings indicate that that businesses are positioning themselves for growth in 2021. In September 2020, Maple Heights income tax collections were up 3.3% compared to the same period in 2018—2.2% higher than other comparable municipalities. The growth in income tax collections is the result of increases in individual incomes growing and increases in the number of people employed by Maple Heights Businesses.

The growth in income tax collections is expected to continue as major employers in the City, including Sherwood Food Distributors and GOJO Industries, and small businesses are looking to fill open positions. Sherwood Food Distributors, a figure in the Maple Heights business community for decades, has invested in its facility on Lee Road South and expanded operations over the past 5 years. The City welcomed GOJO Industries to its business community in June 2020 when it announced it would invest \$25 million to open a facility on Lee Road South, bringing over 200, good-paying jobs to Maple Heights in the next 3 years.

New jobs created by Sherwood Food Distributors, GOJO Industries, and the 11 new small businesses that have opened their doors in 2020 in Maple Heights are estimated to increase the total number of jobs in the City by over 3.0%. Mayor Annette Blackwell said, **"Maple Heights is fortunate to have a dedicated, active business community who share our vision of a thriving Maple Heights and are looking to hire Maple Heights residents."**

3.0%+ growth in the number of jobs in Maple Heights is a significant indicator of the strength of the local economy, given that the county, state, and federal labor markets and the economy as a whole are recovering slowly from the effects of shutdowns in the first half of 2020. **"Maple Heights businesses employ Maple Heights residents, so the health and strength of our businesses directly relates to the health and strength of our residents and the community as a whole"** Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers said.

The City of Maple Heights posts economic development updates and information about job fairs and job openings to its website (<u>www.citymapleheights.com</u>) and social media (<u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>).

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