



4343 Cooper Road Blue Ash, OH 45242-5699 • ph. 513.745.8500 • fax 513.745.8594 • BlueAsh.com

CONTACT: Judy Clark, Economic Development Director
(513) 745-8524; jclark@blueash.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2007

**FDI MAGAZINE NAMES BLUE ASH AS SECOND MOST BUSINESS-FRIENDLY “MICRO” CITY
IN NORTH AMERICA**

The City of Blue Ash was selected by *fDi* Magazine (Foreign Direct Investment) as North America’s second most business-friendly “micro” city.

fDi Magazine, publication of *Financial Times*, included this prestigious 2007/2008 distinction for Blue Ash in their April/May issue. The magazine sponsors this competition every two years and this is the first time that cities in the United States, Canada and Mexico have competed directly against one another in the *fDi*’s Cities of the Future Competition. The rankings listed the top ten large, small and micro cities.

Blue Ash, Ohio’s population of 12,000 puts it in the “micro city” category of communities with less than 100,000 people. “We are so pleased to have been chosen for this distinctive award,” commented Blue Ash Mayor Jack Buckman. “It acknowledges our efforts to create an environment that is a quality place for businesses to invest and to call home.”

fDi’s methodology identified those cities that have the basics to flourish in the next few years by attracting high levels of inward investment. The selected cities scored most highly on seven criteria including economic potential, quality of life and business friendliness.

Blue Ash City Manager David Waltz commented that, “Our legacy of a successful business location spans several decades and this award is a reflection of our commitment to providing exceptional services and business environment that support the business community .”

Blue Ash twice has been named in *50 Fabulous Places to Raise Your Family*. The good life in Blue Ash is extended to the business community who reside in a city that has struck a perfect balance between prosperity and superior livability, which makes Blue Ash a small cities model where business success and personal fulfillment can both be achieved.

The City of Blue Ash is a prosperous, professionally managed community that is home to more than 2,000 businesses and a workforce of approximately 50,000 people. Blue Ash trails only downtown Cincinnati as the Greater Cincinnati region's largest office market. For more information on Blue Ash, log onto www.BlueAshAdvance.com, Blue Ash's economic development website.

XXX