For more information on the Cleveland Storefront Renovation Program and/or a listing of the award winners, please call 216/664-4031 or log onto www.cleveland-oh.gov. CLEVELAND – On the evening of May 3, 2012, Mayor Frank G. Jackson and Daryl P. Rush, Director of the Department of Community Development will publicly

acknowledge and thank participants that completed 46 Storefront Renovation Program (SRP) projects in 2011. These projects represented a public investment of $293,000 to leverage over $903,000 of private investment in exterior building renovations of Cleveland's retail district areas. For each dollar of SRP investment there was $3.08 of private investment.

"A completed Storefront Renovation Program project contributes to the visual appeal and economic strength of the retail district," said Mayor Jackson. "It also adds to the overall sustainability of an aged building by giving it a new beginning."

Program participants representing both building and business owners completed 46 storefront projects which included 12 buildings, 16 city neighborhood retail and 18 downtown retail signage projects. The Storefront Program's impact begins with the assistance provided to each applicant by the staff of both the Community Development Corporations (CDCs) and the City of Cleveland in the form of free design and technical assistance as well as the handling of all program related paperwork.

Over 160 invitees, including area banks, foundations, and community leaders, are expected to attend the 17h Annual Cleveland Storefront Renovation Program Awards Ceremony, in the historic English Oak Room at Tower City Center. The theme for this year's awards event is "SRP: Putting Our Stamp on Cleveland's Neighborhoods" and will include a reception at 5:00 p.m. and a program starting at 6:00 p.m. The event is open to the media. CHASE through its JP

Morgan Chase & Co. Foundation is again the annual sponsor of the Storefront Program Awards event, as it has been since 2006.

The businesses that completed SRP projects in 2011 employ 811 full- and part-time employees, among them 298 Cleveland residents. The construction work and professional services necessary on these projects created 282 temporary jobs in all aspects of the construction, architectural and engineering fields.

Since 1983, when the Storefront Program began, 2,047 projects have been completed, leveraging over $54 million in private investment from just over $19.9 million of Federal Community Development Block Grant funds.

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