



*Many of Central Ohio's suburbs, such as Worthington (shown here), offer vibrant downtown business districts.*

### **WORTHINGTON**

In historic Worthington, some residents feared what would happen when a chain pharmacy, **CVS**, bought a locally owned grocery store in the center of town. When the owner of Jubilee grocery decided to sell the business, many worried that a drug store would not fit the character of the historic downtown. But advance planning from years earlier had laid the foundation for an attractive, new, two-story, multi-use development at the corner of High and North streets that will offer retail and residential opportunities to the community.

The development, in the heart of Worthington's Architectural Review District, had to be created with those design standards in mind. In addition, the city's comprehensive plan outlines specific goals for redevelopment in that area and throughout Worthington. The plan calls for the city to draw the feel of the downtown central business district farther north, and states that any future development should place

the buildings closer to the sidewalks, with parking in the back. The plan also calls for more housing options in the downtown area, which would promote walkability and enhance the neighborhood. In addition, the architecture should comply with the architectural district regulations and be a good fit for the community.

City leaders worked closely with **Skilken D.S.** to develop a project that would be aesthetically pleasing and meet the needs of the community. The end result is a three-building complex, with a footprint of approximately 25,000 feet, which includes a CVS Pharmacy, room for other retail establishments and four apartments above the retail space. The CVS will have a drive-through window and parking behind the building.

The architectural elements of the project are a good fit, respecting the culture and nature of Worthington's historic downtown area. The CVS was expected to open in June 2008, with construction of the other two buildings following.