

Preliminary plans call for building a factory on a portion of Gahanna's 191-acre Central Park site, which included a brick factory and landfill remediated by the city in partnership with Value Recovery Group, which owns the planned factory property.

The site is ideal because of its access to a Gahanna-owned rail spur, which would let the company bring in parts and test trains, Fromm said.

"It's a perfect setting," he said.

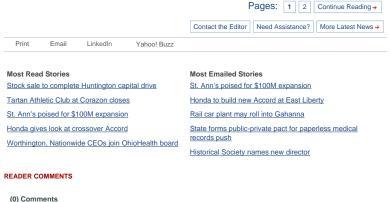
No sure thing

If the project gets funded, US Railcar plans to produce the cars using the facilities of an out-of-state company until the Gahanna factory is ready, Fromm said.

If it doesn't land the funding it needs, then it will continue to produce the rail cars through its partner, he said.

With so much public support for passenger rail, the odds of US Railcar getting funding are likely "better than 50-50," said Sadicka White, Gahanna's development director.

"We're excited," she said. "We're just encouraging the consideration by the state and of course the federal government with regard to stimulus funding.'



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