

**To: TID Board Members**

**Date: February 3, 2003**

**Re: Director's Report**

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### **Current Projects**

#### **1. Liberty Interchange**

The study process is proceeding. The work group met January 24 to review preliminary information on interchange schematics and to update the schedule now that all necessary travel demand data has been received. The project Problem Statement has been refined and finalized. The next Stakeholder's meeting is scheduled for February 12 at 3:00 p.m. at the Liberty Township Hall, to be followed by a Public Information meeting at the same location February 26. At a meeting with ODOT the preliminary evaluation criteria were further defined. This is the raw material stakeholders will consider and from which a working set of measures will be developed. The next work group meeting is scheduled for February 7.

#### **Michael A. Fox Highway**

At the June TID Board meeting, a resolution to refund to ODOT a portion of the project administration charges for the Fox Highway in order to conclude the final agreement with ODOT for the outstanding financial closeout was tabled. Staff was directed to resolve this issue. After a series of discussions between staff and various ODOT officials, the Director Proctor has agreed to make \$1,628,000 available for the TID's SR 747 project. Details of this transfer are being worked out within ODOT District 8. When all the provisions of this agreement are finalized, the tabled resolution will be brought back for action. In connection with the December Board action to name the bridge on the Fox Highway over Maud-Hughes Road after former county engineer Bill Foster, preliminary contacts were made with our local delegation. Once a package of supporting materials has been assembled, it will be forwarded for action in Columbus.

#### **2. SR 747 Widening, Phase III-A**

A portion of the SR 747 Widening Project (see Item #2 below) has become active due to development pressures at the SR 747/Princeton Road intersection. LJB Inc. has produced preliminary cross-section plans and right-of-way plans so that the parties involved can map a course of action. Preliminary meetings with the involved parties have been conducted but the cost estimate of \$1.5 million, not including right-of-way, utility relocation, and completion of the engineering, is presenting a significant challenge. Staff will continue to work with the stakeholders to identify funding alternatives.

### **Future Projects**

#### **1. Butler County Airport Access**

Discussions continue regarding inclusion of the Bobmeyer Road Extension in the environmental scope for the B widening. See also Item 3 below.

#### **2. SR 747 Widening, Phase III**

The application to OKI for the necessary federal STP funding for the SR747 Widening Project from Tylersville Road to Princeton Road was submitted. Following extensive review the request was recommended for funding by the Subcommittee. Consideration for approval by OKI's Executive Committee is scheduled for February 13, 2003. Upon approval, and the use of the ODOT commitment (see the discussion under "Michael A. Fox Highway" above), all funding necessary will be in place for the right-of-way and construction phases, with no local match necessary. The remaining unfunded item is the update of the environmental clearance and the preparation of design and right-of-way plans. Staff will commence arrangements for these items shortly. Staff has met with Mike Flynn, ODOT District 8 Deputy Director, to discuss the implications of pending revisions to ODOT's LPA eligibility procedures. We feel encouraged that the TID will be able to successfully negotiate with ODOT the TID's role in administering the SR747 project.

#### **3. SR 4 Bypass Widening**

As with SR 747 above, the Phase I application covering the section from Symmes Road to Tylersville Road and the Phase II application continuing from Tylersville Road to the Michael A. Fox Highway were submitted to OK. Unfortunately, neither request survived the selection process. Interested parties continue to meet, however, to arrange for the environmental analysis work for the entire Bypass 4 corridor. Completion of this work will position the wide project in a more favorable position to compete for future funding. Resources necessary to accomplish the work are being identified through both the City of Fairfield and the City of Hamilton-Fairfield Township JEDD, whose board agreed to make the JEDD income stream available for this effort.

#### **4. Fairfield-Hamilton Corridor Study**

At the December TID Board meeting, the Board authorized execution of the contract pending resolution of funding issues. It was agreed that Fairfield and Hamilton would each pay \$12,000, Butler County would be approached for \$12,000, and the TID itself would cover the remaining 25%. A commitment has been received from Fairfield, and responses from Hamilton and Butler County are anticipated shortly.

#### **5. Hamilton North/New Miami Study Project**

This project would extend existing Washington Boulevard eastward across the Great Miami River to a yet-to-be-determined roadway connection. No recent activity has taken place on this proposal.

#### **6. North Bypass 4 Study Group**

The study group looking into development opportunities among the communities in the area of the northern section of Bypass 4 will meet again on a yet-to-be determined date. Participants include representatives from Hamilton, Fairfield, Fairfield Township, St. Clair Township, New Miami, Butler County Planning, the Butler Engineer's Office, the Airport, and me.