

To: TID Board Members

Date: October 8, 2002

Re: Director's Report

Current Projects

1. Phase II – Princeton Road at State Route 4 Bypass

The project is complete and open to traffic. A final walk-through was conducted September 25, 2002, and final payment should be made within the next month.

2. Liberty Interchange (formerly known as Michael A. Fox/I-75, Cox Road Study)

The study process is proceeding. Contact with Joe Cron of Resource International continues. The Year 2030 Certified Traffic should be delivered by ODOT to Resource this month. A stakeholder meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. October 11, 2002 at the Liberty Township Hall, with a public involvement meeting for the entire study area following in November. A request was made to the OKI Executive Committee to authorize the OKI staff to conduct the air quality analysis required for the advancement of the Liberty Interchange to the Recommendations Section of the OKI Long Range Plan and thence to the OKI Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The OKI Executive Committee voted to approve the request. A public hearing to accommodate this plan amendment will be held by OKI at the Liberty Township Hall at 6:00 p.m. November 7, 2002. A mailer to Liberty Township residents advising them of this meeting is under preparation jointly by the Commissioners and the TID. To further advance the Liberty Interchange, ODOT agreed to allow the commencement of the environmental analysis component concurrently with the corridor air quality analysis. Resource International proposes to subcontract the environmental analysis to the firm CH²M-Hill and the necessary aerial surveying to the firm Aerial Technologies, Inc. Resolutions are presented to authorize Resource International to undertake this work and to authorize an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the BCTID and Liberty Township for the necessary funding. Also, a working group to oversee this project has been established. Chaired by Bob Faxon, the group includes Greg Wilkens, Nell Kilpatrick, Greg Amend, Tim Williams, Diana Mart (Planning Administrator – ODOT District 8), and me. The group meets every other week, and will have their third meeting October 11.

3. Visioning Process

The wrap-up session on the visioning process occurred September 9. At that time, Warner Moore from Jordan J Goulding laid out a recommended future course of action for the TID, based on final results of the interviewing process and the issues identified at the July 15 retreat. I have reviewed the draft report detailing these recommendations. A final report is due shortly, which will be distributed to the TID Board, those interviewed, and other units of government in Butler County.

4. 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 Michael A. Fox Highway in order to conclude the final agreement with ODOT for the outstanding financial closeout was tabled. Staff was directed to meet with ODOT regarding the funding. It was hoped that an agreement could be reached to allow the funds in question to be applied to the SR 747 widening project. I met with ODOT's District 8 Deputy Director Mike Flynn to solicit the district's support, and have been in contact with ODOT Central Office regarding scheduling a meeting in the near future with ODOT Director Proctor to present that proposal to him.

5. 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. Approved retail projects on the northeast and southwest quadrants precipitated a proposed turn-lane widening project that would have provided substandard lane widths and vertical alignment corrections. The eventual SR 747 widening project would have required the complete reconstruction of this improvement. Discussions with the Butler County Engineer, Liberty Township, and ODOT led to the TID's taking a role at the present time to see if an improvement could be made that would be compatible with the future five-laning work, in a manner similar to the TID's SR 747/Tylersville Road improvement. To that end, I have solicited cost proposals from area firms, due to the TID on October 9, the

would provide preliminary engineering through ODOT's Stage 1 level. This would produce preliminary cross-section plans and preliminary right-of-way plans so that the parties involved can map a course of action. The cost of this initial work will be borne by Liberty Township. Resolutions are presented to authorize the selected firm to undertake this work and to authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement between the BCTID Liberty Township for the necessary funding.

Future Projects

1. Butler County Airport Access

Discussions continue with Ron Davis, Airport Director, regarding the timeframe for the process of releasing the ex airport acreage for development, which in turn will support the roadway construction. I have also begun investigation of the process required to obtain ODOT approval for the connection at Bypass 4.

2. SR 747 Widening, Phase III

I anticipate filing an application with OKI for the necessary federal STP funding for the SR747 Widening Project Tylersville Road to Princeton Road. Applications for this biennial funding window are due to OKI by December 6, Selected projects will be presented to OKI's Executive Committee February 13, 2002.

3. SR 4 Bypass Widening

As with SR 747 above, the window for OKI funding applies to this project as well. In order to establish the amount of financial support that the communities involved would provide to this project, so that a funding application can be developed in time for OKI's process, a meeting has been scheduled for October 17. Representatives from Fairfield Township, Hamilton, Butler County, the Airport, ODOT, and OKI are scheduled to attend.

4. Fairfield-Hamilton Corridor Study

At the August TID Board meeting, this item was table pending resolution of funding issues.

5. Hamilton North/New Miami Study Project

This project would extend existing Washington Boulevard eastward across the Great Miami River to a yet-to-determined roadway connection. Discussions continue regarding how this project might be accomplished. Initial concepts regarding the necessary economic development to support the roadway are evolving.

6. North Bypass 4 Study Group

As I indicated at the August TID Board meeting, a study group is being assembled to look into development opportunities among the communities in the area of the northern section of Bypass 4. The group will meet for the first time October 18. Participants include representatives Hamilton, Fairfield, Fairfield Township, St. Township, New Miami, Butler County Planning, the Butler County Engineer's Office, the Airport, and me.

Contacts

One of the recommendations of the visioning process was that the director provide the board with a digest of contacts and outreach (beyond the established agencies and individuals) since the last meeting. I have recently started keeping track of such activity and provide the following contacts:

Jewell Collins, President, St. Clair Township Trustees

Katherine Rumph-Butler, Mayor, New Miami

David Schiavone, Mayor, Middletown

Michael Rossi, President, Lemon Township Trustees

Paul Gillespie, President, Milford Township Trustees

Nancy J. Poe, President, Morgan Township Trustees

George Simonds, President, Oxford Township Trustees

Dennis Conrad, President, Reily Township Trustees

Robert Settles, Mayor, Millville

Jane Howington, Manager, Oxford

Marek Dollar, Dean, Miami University School of Engineering and Applied Science

Gill Pacey, Professor, Miami University Department of Physics

Knights of Columbus (addressed meeting September 18)

Craig Epps, Evergreen Farm Estates Homeowner's Association

Edward Fox, Sr., New Miami

Other

Given that there are a number of active issues currently, and the prospect for additional activity appears positive, the Board may want to consider resuming monthly meetings.