

**To: BCTID Board Members**  
**Date: May 6, 2005**  
**Re: Director's Report**

## **Project Updates**

### **1. Liberty Interchange**

- ◆ ROW acquisition – Environmental investigations at Camp Timberhill indicate there are no significant issues that warrant further investigation. MetroParks staff, board and counsel are reviewing the land swap contract. Preliminary comments from National Park Service officials regarding the swap have been favorable.
- ◆ Project Funding – BCTID staff continues to meet with county staff and representatives from Liberty and West Chester Townships regarding the sources and allocations of funding for this project. The county and the townships must agree upon the financing strategy for the project and pledge revenues from the various sources prior to BCTID board approval of the ROW acquisition described above.

The proposed changes to TIF District legislation as passed in HB66 represent a significant threat to the funding of this project. The CincinnatiUSA Chamber of Commerce has published recommended changes to this legislation (attached) as it is considered by the Ohio Senate. These recommended changes, if approved, will adequately address the issues that threaten the funding for the Liberty Interchange project. Request a Board motion endorsing the legislative changes contained in the recommendations of the CincinnatiUSA Chamber.

- ◆ Design, Utility Relocation and Schedule – Final design plans for Cox Road extension and the eastern portion of Hamilton-Mason Road are in development and are being reviewed by the BCEO. Cinergy officials have indicated that they will begin their review of the plans in June.

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

- ◆ Cinergy is reviewing the project plans for impacts to the electric lines and gas mains in the project corridor. They have scheduled field investigations (40 to 50 test pits) to determine the exact location of the 12 inch high pressure gas main on the west side of the corridor. Survey coordination for the test pits is underway between Cinergy and KZF.

### **3. SR 747 Widening, Phase IV**

- ◆ The TID closed on the purchase of the Morris property on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Final environmental investigations determined that there was no detectable contamination related to the heating oil spill reported by a member of the Morris family.

#### **4. SR 4 Bypass Widening/ Butler County Airport Access**

- ◆ The status of the currently authorized work by ME Companies is described in their April Project Status report which is attached.
- ◆ Staff submitted the application for TRAC funding on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The application shows widening the road to six lanes between Symmes Road and Tylersville Road with an estimated total project cost of \$32,760,000 with a 50% local contribution to the project. The application also identifies the intent to construct the project in phases with the first phase, the southern portion of the project (south of Tylersville Road) being paid for using primarily local funds and the northern portion of the project being paid primarily with TRAC funds.
- ◆ A public information meeting was held on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was attended by approximately 20 people representing land owners, residents and businesses in the SR4 and SR4 Bypass corridors.

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

#### **6. Hamilton North/ New Miami River Crossing Study**

#### **7. North SR 4 Bypass Extension**

- No activity on these three projects.

### **Other Issues**

1. None

### **Calendar and Communication**

1. Upcoming meetings scheduled with the following parties to discuss current projects, potential opportunities and develop relationships for BCTID:
  - May 10<sup>th</sup> - OKI Intermodal Coordinating Committee Meeting
  - May 10<sup>th</sup> - Butler County MetroParks Board regarding VOA property
  - May 11<sup>th</sup> - Meeting in Columbus with the Ohio Rail Development Commission
  - May 17<sup>th</sup> - Butler County Port Authority Board meeting.
  - June 13<sup>th</sup> - BCTID Board Meeting