



To: BCTID Board of Directors  
From: John Fonner, Executive Director  
Date: March 12, 2007  
Re: Director's Report

## **Project Updates**

### 1. Liberty Interchange

- Interchange Ramps – Staff, with Rii and CH2M Hill representatives, met with ODOT staff on Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> to review the draft 401/404 Wetlands Permit submittal to the Corps of Engineers. Review and processing of this report and permit is expected to be complete in Fall 2007 and should not impact the timing of the project.
- Project Design – Board approval is requested for Resolution 2007-07 authorizing the Director to execute a modification to the agreement with Rii for the engineering design. The modification includes additional work in a number of areas including additional work required for FHWA approval of the Interchange Modification Study, the addition of a major culvert modification at the Harbor Town development, design coordination with the engineer for the ODOT project to widen I-75 and additional surveying work related to project real estate issues.
- Project Funding – Project financing closed on February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Cox Road Extension & Hamilton Mason Road East – Cox Road and Hamilton Mason Road East design drawings are complete pending final review and approval by BCEO and BCDES.
- ROW Acquisition – To be discussed in executive session.

### 2. SR 747 Widening, Phase III

- Utility Relocation – All utility relocation is complete except telephone which is expected within two weeks.
- Construction – The construction contract with J.R. Jurgenson was executed on March 2, 2007. The preconstruction meeting will be held within the next two weeks. The project completion date is October 15, 2007.

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

- Project Design – ME is awaiting final approval of the Preliminary Engineering report and of the design project scope. Geotechnical investigations are complete and the reports are under review by the BCEO, City of Hamilton and ODOT.

### 4. SR 63 Extension – No activity to report.

### 5. ODOT Transportation Budget Bill (HB67)

- Staff has worked in conjunction with Butler County's legislators to retain current funding of in the biennial transportation budget bill. To date, Butler County's legislators and the administration have been supportive of this effort. This will be monitored closely as the bill is considered by the legislature. The legislation is expected to be complete by the end of March.

## 6. Butler County Port Authority

- Quaker Chemical – Final financing documents are being prepared and reviewed. The total project value is expected to be approximately \$41 million. The project will result in 40 jobs retained and 45 new jobs and will be complete in 2008. Closing is expected in the first quarter 2007.
- Butler County Intermodal Rail Study - The final report of the rail study was presented to the BCPA board and project steering committee in February. The study evaluates the market potential for development of an intermodal freight rail facility in Butler County and discusses how the current rail operations of CSX and Norfolk Southern could influence this concept. The study also describes the potential role for Butler County in the State of Ohio's recently published "Four Corners" freight rail strategy.
- Middletown Regional Hospital Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund Application (CORF) – The BCPA has agreed to file an application for a CORF grant of \$3 million on behalf of the Middletown Regional Hospital for the demolition and remediation of the existing hospital facility in Middletown. Grant applications are to be filed by April 2, 2007.

## **Calendar and Communication**

Upcoming meetings scheduled with the following parties to discuss current projects, potential opportunities and develop relationships for BCTID:

- March 13 – OKI ICC Meeting
- March 15 – Liberty Interchange Project Meeting
- March 20 – Butler County Port Authority

## **April BCTID Board Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting would be on Monday April 9<sup>th</sup>. This is the Monday after Easter and I will be out of town, traveling with my family over Spring Break. I recommend that the April board meeting be held the prior week on Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup> or Thursday April 5<sup>th</sup>.