

# City to give up TID seat

## Goal to help agency represent entire county

By **CHRIS DUMOND**  
JOURNALNEWS

**HAMILTON** — In an effort to make the Butler County Transportation Improvement District Board of Trustees more representative of the entire county, the city could soon give up one of its seats to a Middletown man.

Jim Blount, chairman of the TID, said the board has been trying to get broader representation for more than two years. The TID board coordinates federal, state and local resources in getting transportation projects done.

"As a 10-year board member and chairman for the last few years, I've seen what can happen when government agencies cooperate," Blount said. "Every TID project has helped the entire area, not just the jurisdiction where the improvement is located.

"I've been on various local transportation committees for 40 years and I've seen more accomplished by the TID in 10 years because it speaks for more than one community," Blount said.

Legislation that created the TID only allows southeastern Butler County communities to appoint members. Along with the Butler County Board of Commissioners, the cities of Hamilton and Fairfield, and the townships of Liberty, West Chester and Fairfield appoint representatives.

Unless the law is changed, Blount said, that's the way it will remain. However, TID Director John Fonner said, those communities may appoint representatives from other areas.

On Feb. 23 Hamilton City Council is slated to consider the appointment of Bill Triick, president of the chamber of commerce serving Middletown, Monroe and Trenton in the place of Hamilton Public Works Director Ralph Reigelsperger, City Manager Mike Samoviski said

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Fonner made the suggestion in a Friday letter to Samoviski.

"Mr. Triick's constant interaction with the elected officials and businesses in these communities will be a tremendous asset to the (TID) as we pursue new projects that will benefit all of Butler County," Fonner wrote.

He said it's also important that the TID board complement the make up of the Butler County Port Authority board, as the two groups will have to work together to foster economic development in the county.

Fonner praised the city council for considering giving up a seat on the board in the spirit of acting on a countywide and regional basis.

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## TID

### Hamilton to give up seat on board

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Regardless, TID board will get at least one new member at its regular meeting slated for Monday morning.

Newly appointed West Chester Township Administrator Judi Carter will replace Dave Gulley, who has taken administrative positions with both Deerfield Township and Warren County.

The meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Government Services Center on High Street.

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