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Township trustees demand payback plan for bypass widening funding

By Ken-Yon Hardy
Staff Writer

FAIRFIELD TWP. — Questions arose Tuesday night at Fairfield Twp.'s Board of Trustees meeting about the reimbursement of funding for the Ohio 4 Bypass widening project.

Trustee President Joe McAbee voiced concern about if half of the \$2.4 million project — which is supposed to be split between Hamilton, Fairfield and Fairfield Twp. — would be reimbursed should the township move forward by committing money for the project.

The remaining \$1.2 million is expected to be paid by the state.

"... I want to make sure that under the resolution that we did before, that the (Butler County Transportation Improvement District) is going to pay back the general fund if that's where we end up spending the money from," McAbee said. "I've noticed we have passed resolutions in the past about paying ourselves back out of TID's money. Hopefully that will (not be a problem)... If not, we are going to have to pass another resolution before we send any money.

"We need to make sure that we have a paper trail in place... so we can be paid back out of the TID fund."

Fairfield officials said late last month that they won't contribute to the project until they establish an income tax district with the township.

At the TID meeting earlier this month, board members voted to go forward with the design of 76 percent of the project — the portion of the highway in Hamilton and the township from Symmes Road north.

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