

**Licking County Transportation Improvement District**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**  
**November 8, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Licking County Transportation Improvement District (LCTID) was called to order at 8:34 a.m. by Chairman Flowers on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at the Donald D. Hill County Administration Building, 20 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Newark Ohio 43055

**Board Members Present**

Jared Knerr, Duane Flowers, Andy Walther, Rick Platt, Mark VanBuren

**Others Present**

William Lozier, TransCon	Jason Carr, Wilson Shannon & Snow
Rusty Schuermann, Kegler Brown	Representative Thad Claggett
Scott Ryan, Ohio Dept of Development	Rick Black, Licking County Commissioner
Jennifer Shuey, DLZ	Russ Krock, ADR & Associates
Nita Hanson, Etna Township	Jeff Ortega, VS Engineering
Matt Hill, LCATS	Jacque Annarino, ODOT
Steve Smith, Terracon	Scott Haines, Verdantas
John Enderle, Terracon	Brian Morehead, City of Newark
Valerie Croasman, MS Consultants	Frank Aransky, American Structure Pointe
Michael Salvadore, American Structure Pointe	Sean Staneart, City of Johnstown
Scott Seaman, GPD Group	Jared Lane, City of Heath
Tim McDonald, Burgess & Niple	Kent Mallett, The Advocate
Jody Sucharski, DLZ	Alan Haines, City of Pataskala
Patricia Moss, Citizen	Jay Garrison, Shelly
Matt Allison, Licking County Transit	Amy Rosepiles, Burgess & Niple
Mark Johns, City of Heath	Jamie Leeseberg, EL Robinson
Hailey Feightner, Grow Licking County	Ashely Hartsock, ADR & Associates
Mona Large, LCATS	Will Lloyd, LCATS
Alexander Griffith, LCATS	Jim Roberts, Southwest Licking Water & Sewer

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken and all members present were seated.

**Approval of October 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

*Mr. Platt made a motion to approve the October 11, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. VanBuren. A voice vote was called and the motion passed.*

**Finances**

Mr. Carr reviewed with the Board the financial reports for September 2023.

*Motion by Mr. Platt, seconded by Mr. VanBuren to approve the August Financial Report and upon roll*

*call vote, carried with each member present individually voting "yes".*

Resolution 2023-09 Various Budgetary and Accounting Matters  
Mr. Carr reviewed with the Board Resolution 2023-09.

*Motion by Mr. Walther, seconded by Mr. Knerr to approve Resolution 2023-09 and upon roll call vote, carried with each member present individually voting "yes".*

#### **Licking County Mobility Hub Presentation - LCATS**

##### **Project Update – Bill Lozier** *Thornwood Drive Corridor*

Thornwood Crossing Bridge – The project is under construction. The temporary bridge is open.

River Road to Faye Drive (The Hill) - There are still ongoing discussions with Newark. A call with ODOT was held on Oct 10 to discuss how the federal funds and the \$4M in state funds can be comingled and still meet required deadlines. Since the funding agreement for the \$4M is between the TID and ODOT there are reporting and accounting responsibilities that cannot be "passed through." Also, ODOT requires that they see a cancelled check from the TID (not Newark) in order to be reimbursed. As the contracting agency this would mean Newark would pay the invoices to the Contractor and then the TID would pay Newark before reimbursement could be made to the TID from ODOT. This would also mean that both agencies would be required to advance payments before reimbursement. Jared and Brian are working on a solution that must be in place prior to the TID signing the funding agreement with ODOT. One suggestion was to carve out a stand alone TID project such as between the tracks and Faye Dr. This would preclude the use of federal funds and eliminate the need for Newark to advance the funds to the contractor. Since the TID could use Newark's consultant that has already been selected using the ODOT process this project could move quickly and hopefully meet the December 31, 2026 deadline. This would also eliminate the situation of the TID being a middle man.

Faye Drive to Railroad Crossing – Newark stated they are including this section with the scope of work with the Hill project, however as noted in River Road to Faye Drive (The Hill) above and during the call with ODOT on Oct 10 it was discussed that this could be a stand alone TID project where the \$4M in GRF funds would be used.

Railroad to Hallie Ln/Central Parkway - The project has been awarded for construction to Law General Contractors and is fully funded.

Hallie Lane/ Central PW to Lees Road – The design is proceeding, and the construction phase is fully funded in the amount of \$2,929,916.

City of Heath/Union Township – Lees Rd to Beaver Run Rd - Bill met with Heath and obtained supporting information for the TID grant pre-application for the supplemental funding round. The application was submitted on October 13 for design services in the amount of \$335,000. The Board approved increasing matching funds from the TWD corridor fund in the amount of \$99,790, and since the total fee for design is projected to be a total of \$684,500 there would be \$249,710 left to be paid by Heath or some other source. The 1.9 mile long project was given a planning level estimate for construction by ODOT of \$7M. An estimate for right of way costs has not been determined. As noted in the schedule below we should know Nov 7 if we will be invited to submit a full application.

City of Heath/Union Township – Lees Rd to Beaver Run Rd (continued)

*Pre-applications will open: Monday, October 16th*

*Pre-application deadline: Monday, October 30th*

*Invitations to complete full application: Wednesday, November 8th*

*Full application deadline: Friday, December 1st*

*Invitations to present: Tuesday, December 5th*

*Presentations: Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>*

Thornwood Dr/Beaver Run Rd Intersection Improvement - A preliminary alignment has been developed by ADR Assoc, and further direction from Heath and/or the Port Authority and Heath is needed.

*Pike Street Improvements*

As previously reported the developer will fund construction of a 700 ft long gap between his project to the east and the TID project to the west. The Township will receive the construction funds and pass them along to the TID and it has agreed to fund any changes to the consulting agreement. Etna plans to pass a resolution committing additional funds for the design and pass them along to the TID. We have recently received a construction cost estimate from Verdantas that will be used in the agreement between the developer and the Township. We will work with legal counsel to discuss changes that are necessary to the IGA with the township.

*Newark-Heath Pathway Connector*

The Evans Foundation is doing some internal work on the project so further TID involvement is on hold.

*Refugee Rd/Mink St Rd Improvements*

The project is to be shut down soon for the season with substantial work completed. This week the pavement will be finished up to and including the surface course on the Mink St roundabout, with temporary lighting and permanent thermoplastic striping so that the intersection can be opened this Friday. The base course is to be completed on the mainline Refugee Rd from Mink to 700 ft east of Kissel ditch, with temporary striping scheduled early next so that section should be opened by Friday November 17th. That will leave the Etna Parkway roundabout and the remainder of the Refugee construction for next year. The project is on if not ahead of schedule, and so far has had minimal change orders so it is well within budget.

**Critical milestone dates:**

**July 11:** Contractor Notice to Proceed

**September 1, 2023:** Utility clear date

**November 1, 2023:** Interim completion date for construction of Mink Roundabout and Refugee Rd widening and reconstruction to a point just east of Kissell Ditch (about half the project) The max road closure time is 60 days.

**July 1, 2024:** Substantial completion of entire project including Etna Parkway Roundabout and the rest of Refugee Rd up to intermediate asphalt course.

**December 1, 2024:** Final Completion date

*Intel*

See project status below. Numbers correspond to attached exhibit. Details regarding scope of work for each project can be provided on request.

1. **Mink St/Duncan Plains Rd** – This project would construct a roundabout and replace the pavement to the new Green Chapel Rd roundabout which is 0.3 mi to the south. LOI to be advertised in the near future.

2. **Licking County Local Roads Duncan Plains, Green Chapel, Clover Rd-** Pavement reconstruction, minor widening and drainage improvements with consideration of complete street treatments. Consultant selected.
3. **Thornwood Dr Hill** – See Item 1.b. above.
4. **Duncan Plains/County Line** – DCTID project
5. **SR 605/Walnut St-FCTID** project
6. **SR 37/USR 62-**Consideration of short-, medium-, and long-term mitigation measures in downtown Johnstown. We have held 2 scope meeting with the city and will advertise for consulting services LOI in the near future
7. **SR 37/County Line Rd-** DCTID project
8. **Fancher/County Line Rd-**DCTID project
9. **Beech Rd/Countyline, Fancher and Tippet Rds-** Intersection improvement study with consideration of north-south connection. Waiting to hear if federal funds were received from the \$3.5M application for CPF earmark program application.
10. **Licking County Local Roads County Line and Duncan Plains Rd-** Pavement reconstruction, minor widening, and drainage improvements with consideration of complete street treatments. Consultant selected.

#### **Projects 11-15 by ODOT**

**Clover Valley Rd South-** Pavement reconstruction, minor widening, and drainage improvements with consideration of complete street treatments. Preliminary scope meeting held with ODOT since using federal FFY 2023 CPF earmark funds in the amount of \$2M. This project has a later completion date of 2028 where the state funding projects must be completed by 2027.

#### *Other*

- During the intergovernmental agreement discussions with Etna, they requested the TID evaluate future traffic needs on Refugee Rd between Etna Parkway and SR 310. We are working with ODOT and have obtained their traffic impact studies from projects in the area. It may be possible that this project gets included with project d0 below since the scope of work specifically mentions SR 37 and SR 310 operational improvements.
- Listed below are ODOT projects significant to the recent developments in Licking County
  - a) I70 Far east freeway from SR 256 to Palmer Rd (Funded for Stage 1 design by TRAC)
  - b) I70 widening from Palmer Rd to SR 158 (TRAC funding request for design)
  - c) SR 161 widening from Mink to SR 37 in Granville (TRAC request for design)
  - d) I70 to 161 improvements to existing north-south routes (LOI for study posted by ODOT)
  - e) SR 37 improvements between Delaware and 161 (LOI for study posted by ODOT)
- The Governor's budget included \$100M dedicated to RR grade separations that is administered by the Ohio Rail Development Commission. The program is being held up as a best practice nationally since it is well timed to match new federal infrastructure funds. Eligible projects are separation of current at-grade crossings or other projects that result in a net reduction of at-grade crossings, such as roadway relocations, or connecting road/rail line modifications. Eligible activities are planning, environmental review, right of way acquisition, and/or design and construction.

The scoring categories are listed as follows:

- Mobility of People / Goods
- Emissions Reduction / Environmental Improvement / Noise Reduction
- Improved Emergency Services Access
- Improved Community Access
- Economic Benefit

- Mobility of Multiple Modes Including Freight and Nonvehicular Modes (Pedestrians, Bicycles, Public Transportation)
- Trespass Reduction
- Equity and Barriers to Opportunity

TID Board members are asked to make suggestions for project applications. The City of Heath has already mentioned the possibility of crossings in the Thornwood Dr corridor. I also suggested Newark consider the program and I contacted ODOT regarding the SR 37 crossing. In that case the TID would partner with ODOT as the applicant since a local unit of government must make the application.

- Jason and Bill have drafted a fee analysis report and discussed with Board Member VanBuren and others

The Board, Jason Carr and Bill Lozier discussed the potential options for project fees.

Bill Lozier, also discussed with the board the need to advertise for Letters Of Interest for the potential Intel projects.

*Motion by Mr. VanBuren, seconded by Mr. Walther to allow the Secretary/Treasurer to advertise for Letters of Interest for the following projects:*

1. Mink St/Duncan Plains Road
2. SR 37/USR 62
3. Beach Road/Countyline, Fancher & Tippet Roads
4. Clover Valley Rd South

*and upon roll call vote, carried with each member present individually voting "yes".*

### **Public Comments**

Mark Johns, Mayor City of Heath, stated that Thornwood Drive will be open by the end of November.

**Next Meeting December 13, 2023 @ 8:30 am**

### **Adjournment**

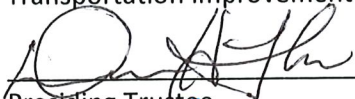
*Mr. Walther moved to adjourn. Mr. VanBuren seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 10:24 am.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Christian

**Licking County Transportation Improvement District Board Minutes**

Approved at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Licking County Transportation Improvement District, Licking County, Ohio, on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Trustee

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jared Knerr, Secretary Treasurer

Motion to Approve: Waltner  
Seconded by: Knerr