

**Testimony of Michael Miller, Director
Ohio Public Works Commission**

**House Finance and Appropriations Committee
Transportation Subcommittee
Thursday, February 9, 2017**

Chairman McColley, and members of the House Finance - Transportation Subcommittee, good afternoon. I am Michael Miller, Director of the Ohio Public Works Commission. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Ohio Public Works Commission=s Fiscal Year 2018-2019 operating and capital requests.

The Ohio Public Works Commission budget represents a continuation budget to maintain existing programs and staff. The FY 18-19 budget request is designed to maintain the program objectives for the State Capital Improvement, Local Transportation Improvement, and Clean Ohio Conservation Programs. It includes our capital requests for the Local Transportation Improvement as well as our operating request. This will allow the Commission to continue to respond to the needs of Ohio=s local governments and maintain existing services.

The Commission=s operating budget is modest when compared to the size of the capital programs it administers. For FY 18, the Commission is operating request is below its FY 17 appropriation level and for FY 19 we are requesting a total operating budget that is about equal to our FY 17 appropriation. It is important to note that the administrative costs to deliver all of these programs are paid from interest income, bond and motor fuel tax proceeds, and not the General Revenue Fund.

The Commission's budget request is based on a few principles. First, retention of our existing staff. Second, the Commission aligned its budget request to reflect the administrative effort necessary to manage all of our programs. Administrative, maintenance, and equipment costs incurred by the Commission are shared between our various programs with 60% (SCIP), 20% (LTIP), and 20% (COCP).

The Commission's State Capital Improvement and Clean Ohio Conservation operating appropriation are contained in the Main Operating Budget Bill. The programs capital requests were appropriated in last year's Capital Bill.

Given this is a continuation budget, it is important to note that the portfolio of active project. We currently have over 1,800 active infrastructure and Clean Ohio Projects and over 2,400 active loans. I expect this number to increase as we continue to process district submissions. The Commission stands committed to working with our local partners in seeing these projects to completion with the resources contained in this legislation.

Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to appear before you today. I would be happy to respond to any questions or concerns that you may have.