



**MUIRFIELD
ASSOCIATION**

Bob Fathman, President



24 September 2019

Rep. Stephen Hambley, Chair
Members, Ohio House Civil Justice Committee

Re: HB 288

Dear Chair Hambley and Members of the House Civil Justice Committee:

I write representing the residents of Dublin's Muirfield Village subdivision, about 8,000 residents in the 2,400 homes in our part of Dublin. **We strongly oppose HB 288** and ask that you consider our concerns as you evaluate this bill in your Committee.

Dublin prides itself in having built and maintained over 130 miles of bike/multiuse paths and lanes, and here in Muirfield Village our HOA itself owns and maintains an additional 29 miles of paths. In recent years the City and our HOA have explored ways of interconnecting paths to be part of the larger system of paths in all of Central Ohio and in the State, where a network of paths is developing encouraging cyclists to get to neighboring communities, accessing each other's infrastructure. HB 288 is a throwback move that could result in a hyphenated non-network for paths planned for the future.

These kinds of decisions are best left to local communities, responding to individual needs, to help children access schools, all residents to access parks and places of work and shopping, in addition to the obvious benefits of health and recreation, plus the important safety factor of keeping children and adults off of roadways.

We ask that you please oppose this bill, allowing us to move forward with these important resources.

Respectfully,

Robert E. Fathman, Ph.D., President
Muirfield Association, Inc.

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