

Chris Mullins, P.E P.S.
Chair, Pickaway County Transportation Improvement District

## Pickaway TID Board Members

## **Testimony on House Bill 74**

Chris Mullins Chairman

Jay Wippel Vice Chairman

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Gary Scherer

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Harold Henson

Chairman Oelslager, Vice-chair Plummer, Ranking Member Crowley, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony today in support of House Bill 74, the state's transportation budget. My name is Chris Mullins and I serve as the chair of the Pickaway County Transportation Improvement District. Pickaway County is in Central Ohio with a diverse mix of industry including significant logistics, manufacturing operations, and agriculture. Pickaway County has continued to see significant development in several areas of the county including the continued expansion of the Rickenbacker Intermodal facility.

In 2020, Pickaway County formed a TID to create another tool in our transportation toolbox. The TID, while new to Pickaway County, has already been key to prioritizing transportation infrastructure improvements in Pickaway County which will support continued economic development and job creation activity in the community.

I am writing today in support of House Bill 74, the state transportation budget and the proposed \$4.5 million annual funding for Transportation Improvement Districts (TIDs). The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has supported TIDs across Ohio with funding support through annual competitive grant awards. These funds go towards critical infrastructure and roadway projects, which support safety, jobs, and the general movement of goods and people on Ohio's roads.

The proposed funding level of \$4.5 million for FY 22-23 represents the same level of funding for the current and previous Fiscal years of 20-21 from the last transportation budget, House Bill 62. Last year ODOT awarded grants to 27 TIDs out of 44 eligible applications. These funds supported important projects throughout our state allowing TIDs and their county and local government partners to improve infrastructure, which supported job growth and safety.

Thank you for your time and on behalf of the Pickaway County Transportation Improvement District. I encourage you to support this important funding.

Thank you.

Pickaway TID

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