

ZYNDORF/SERCHUK INVESTMENT COMPANY

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Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chairman McClain and Ranking Member Sheehy, thank you for allowing me to opportunity to share some background that led to the drafting of HB 465.

My name is Steve Serchuk. I have a Master's Degree in City Planning, but for the past 45 years I have been recruiting businesses to Lucas County that have invested hundreds of millions of dollars, created thousands of jobs, and generated millions of tax dollars to support State & Local governments and our local school districts.

In late 2020 ODOT's consultant sent our company a generic letter indicating they planned to do some work on McCord Road in Lucas County that might impact a shopping center we developed on the corner of McCord Road & Airport Highway. During all of 2021, neither ODOT, nor their traffic consultant ever asked for input or involvement from area businesses, property owners, or school officials on the proposed plans for McCord Road.

Although ODOT's traffic consultant presented ODOT with 4 possible alternatives, the one ODOT chose would divert over 1,800 additional cars every day into the Springfield School "safety zone". I have provided each of you with an aerial photo that shows McCord Road going from 40 MPH to 20 MPH in the school safety zone. The photo also shows how the 1,800 additional cars will have to travel twice – once north & once south – through the school safety zone.

The 40 local businesses & the Springfield Schools that would be detrimentally impacted have pleaded throughout 2021 with ODOT to select a different alternative for McCord Road. Two of the Alternatives presented to ODOT have similar traffic mitigation and similar cost/benefits, however ODOT has rejected these alternatives and therefore 1,800 additional cars everyday will be diverted into the Springfield Schools "safety zone".

I have served for 10 years on the Lucas County Plan Commission, including 5 as its Chairman. I have first-hand experience with transportation plans. One of the cardinal rules of Good Planning is involvement of the neighbors & affected parties. This was not done on McCord Road. We are here today to urge you to codify & require ODOT to notify and hopefully involve school districts throughout Ohio anytime there is an ODOT project that impacts a "school safety zone".

Thank you for your attention and your support for House Bill 465.

Are there any questions?

Steve Serchuk

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# Keep Springfield Schools Kids Safe



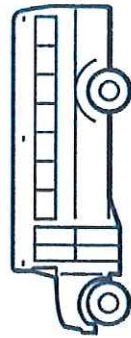
2200 Students



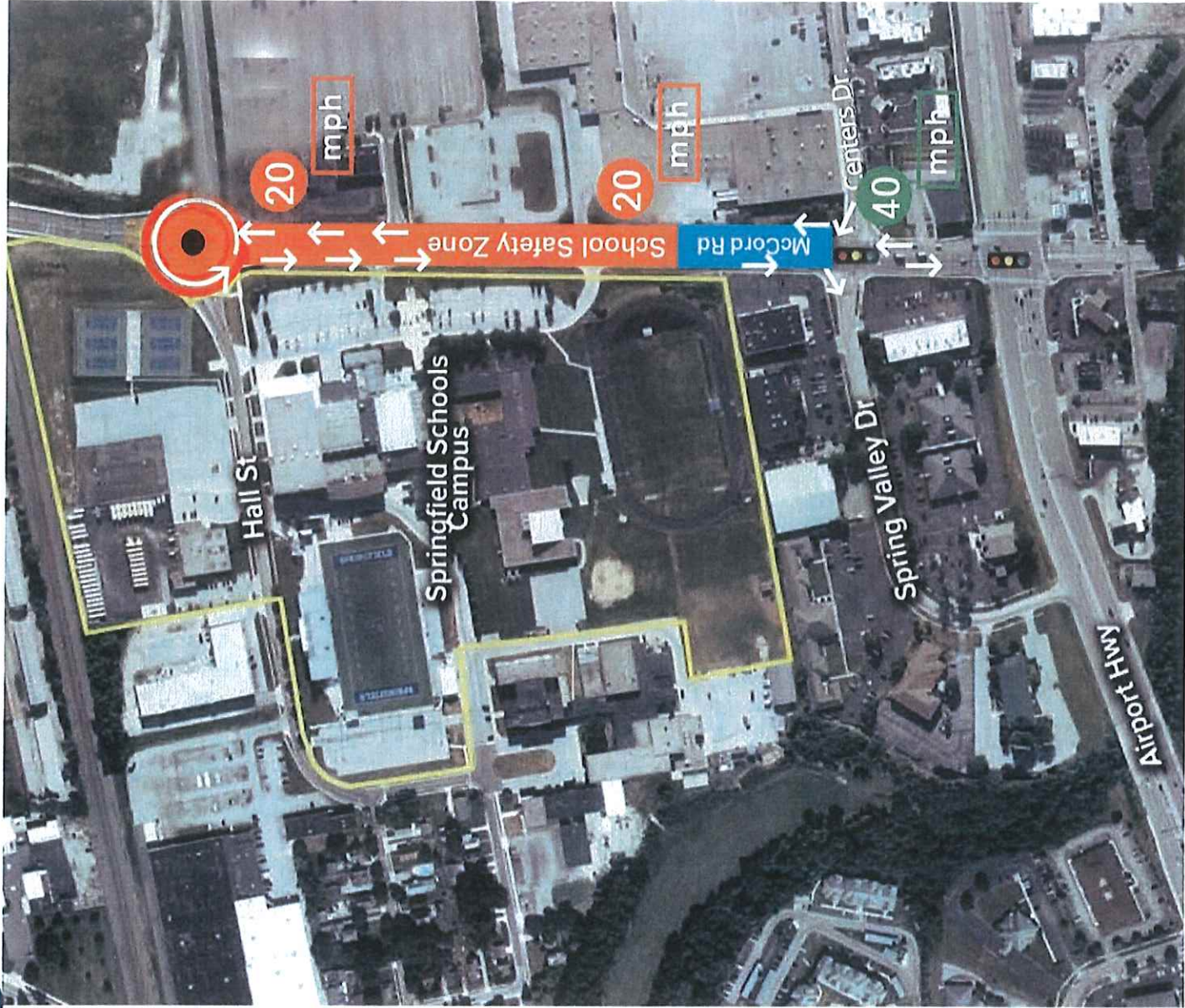
400 +  
Parent Drivers



300 Staff



27 Buses



**ODOT plans to eliminate left turns on McCord Road at Spring Valley Drive & Centers Drive. Their plan would redirect all those cars to the north through the school safety zone to the traffic circle, and back through the school safety zone a second time to access local businesses.**

**The Springfield Local School District and local businesses were never consulted on the proposal—which has broad opposition in the community. ODOT can accomplish their goal of eliminating accidents on McCord road, without causing safety problems in the school zones.**

