



**Council:**  
Ariel Isaacs  
Dottie Scott  
Krissy Kauf

Tina Killion  
Tom Dilgard  
Justin Isaacs

**Mayor:**  
John R. Benshoff

**Fiscal Officer:**  
Leighanna Cawrse

**Zoning Inspector:**  
Patrick Miller

April 25, 2025

The Honorable Bernie Willis  
Ohio House of Representatives  
77 S. High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Representative Willis:

On behalf of the Village of Bailey Lakes, I am writing to express our support for **House Bill 83**, sponsored by Representatives Ferguson and McClain. This bill provides necessary clarification and modernization of the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) responsibilities with regard to state highways located within municipal boundaries.

Most significantly, House Bill 83 removes the requirement for villages to formally request ODOT maintenance and pavement marking services on state highways. Instead, ODOT would be required to perform these services automatically, in consultation with the village. This simple but important change will help ensure public safety, preserve roadway quality, and reduce administrative burden on smaller communities like ours, which often lack the personnel or resources to manage such infrastructure independently.

The bill also retains vital local control for municipalities, upholding a longstanding principle that they must approve state involvement in most state highway activities within their limits. We appreciate the sponsors' recognition of the differences in municipal capacity across Ohio and support this balanced approach.

This bill will help municipal officials and state partners better understand their roles and responsibilities when it comes to cooperative infrastructure projects.

As the General Assembly continues its consideration of House Bill 83, we urge you to support its passage and help strengthen state-local partnerships for transportation across Ohio. Thank you for your continued service and support of Ohio communities.

Sincerely,

**John Benshoff**  
**Mayor**  
Village of Bailey Lakes  
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