



**Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee**  
House Bill 96, Operating Budget for FY 26-27

Linda Bailiff, Director  
Ohio Public Works Commission

May 13, 2025

Good morning, Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chair Koehler, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Commission's Operating Budget for Fiscal Years 26-27.

The Commission helps local governments in all of Ohio's 88 counties build necessary and critical infrastructure that communities depend on every day, and provides funds to communities and conservation organizations to preserve and protect greenspace and river and stream corridors. The operating budget contains funding for operations and for debt service on the bonds that provide for the State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) and the Clean Ohio Conservation Program. These items will allow the Commission to continue to assist with the needs of Ohio's local governments, park districts, and conservancies.

The Commission's total operating budget - administrative, maintenance, and equipment - is prorated between the three programs it administers, 60% SCIP, 20% Clean Ohio, and 20% Local Transportation Improvement Program, the latter which is contained in the recently enacted transportation budget. The total budget retains all nine existing staff that manage the three programs. The Commission has more than 1,500 active infrastructure projects, 250 active Clean Ohio projects, and a portfolio of more than 3,400 loans.

Capital funds for SCIP and Clean Ohio are authorized by the capital budget, and, of course, Ohio's voters approved SCIP for renewal just last week thereby allowing this critical program to proceed without interruption. The Commission is appreciative of the Ohio General Assembly's continued support.

We are pleased to respond to any questions.