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Chair Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the transportation committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on HB 465.

My name is Mike Hampton, Township Administrator for Springfield Township, which is the township of origin for the proposed amendment to HB 465.

My testimony today is with the spirit of cooperation and collaboration.

As similar townships adjacent to metropolitan areas, we are a large urban township with a large school district, thriving business community and diverse residential districts. What also is similar to other large urban townships is that we have a state transportation system that traverses through our township such as Interstate 475/US 23 and State Route 2 which has a direct connection to Gene Kranz Toledo Express Airport. Due to these particular roadways, we have a cooperative relationship with ODOT District 2 however, cooperation should not be limited to convenience.

Just last August, ODOT unveiled a new interchange on I-475 within Springfield Township borders. In order for this project to come to fruition, ODOT required 50% capital participation from local jurisdictions. Local governments, including the township, had a seat at the table from the planning process to its completion. The project was a success and furthered the spirit of cooperation, as well as testimony to achieved success when stakeholders are at the table.

The spirit of that cooperation and collaboration should not be limited to capital involved projects. State, County and local transportation projects have a lifetime impact on schools, businesses and residents and should be considered due to the implications those projects have.