

## OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 9 • 650 EASTERN AVENUE • CHILLICOTHE, OHIO 45601 • (740) 773-2691 JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR • JERRY WRAY, DIRECTOR • VAUGHN WILSON, P.E., DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 14, 2012

Dr. Todd Burkitt Scioto Valley Local School District 1414 Township Road 621 Piketon, Ohio 45661

Dear Dr. Burkitt:

The Ohio Department of Transportation is currently undertaking a project to relocate a section of state Route 220 in Pike County, whereby County Road 81 (Schuster Road) is being upgraded to the state highway system and the existing or former S.R. 220 is being relinquished to the county.

Along with other features, the project includes installing a flashing signal at the new intersection of S.R. 220 and S.R. 32 and changing traffic patterns at the intersections of County Road 116 (Beaver Creek Road) and County Road 78 (Zahn's Corner Road). As a result of this project, the Zahn's Corner Middle School will now be situated along a state highway, which will include all signing and pavement markings to alert motorists of the school zone as mandated for all routes passing near schools.

Although the safety devices for the school zone conform to state standards, school districts may choose to install flashing beacons onto the restricted speed limit signs. While the department would incur the cost of the equipment and labor to install the beacons, the school district would be responsible for providing the utility service to operate these signals. In addition, the school district would be responsible for maintaining the timing and programming of the beacons' schedule through computer software. Most generally, it is the department's recommendation that school districts install solar panels, whereby the school would be required to pay for the initial materials and compensation for battery replacement on an as-needed basis. Conventional power is also an option; however, the school district would be required to pay a monthly fee to the service provider.

If you would like to pursue the installation of flashing beacons within the school zone or have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Eric Beery, P.E., at 740-774-9045, and he will work with you to address your needs.

Respectfully,

Vaughn E. Wilson, P.E. District Deputy Director

cc: W. Bloomfield, E. Beery, T. Huff, G. Baird, P. Wetzel, J. Phillips