



Commissioners of Ross County

THE GREAT SEAL COUNTY OF OHIO * THE STATE'S FIRST CAPITAL

2 NORTH PAINT STREET, SUITE H, COURTHOUSE • CHILlicothe, OHIO 45601

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December 21, 2009

JAMES M. CALDWELL
306 Fairway Avenue
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
Phone: 740-775-9141

FRANK HIRSCH
12866 State Route 772
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
Phone: 740-775-7056

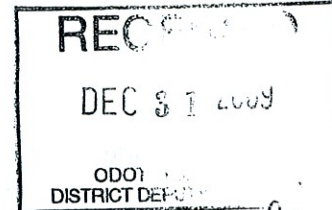
R. DOUGLAS CORCORAN
271 Granite Cliff Drive
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
Phone: 740-773-9279

Ohio Department of Transportation
Division 9
Deputy Director James A. Brushart
650 Eastern Avenue
Chillicothe, Ohio 45691

Dear Mr. Brushart:

The Ross County Board of Commissioners wishes to express its opposition to the removal or downgrade to flash of the traffic signal located on SR – 159/Bridge Street at Aldis and Tire Discounters. This particular signal is a key element in our long range access management goals. Our thoroughfare plan envisions access roads to service existing and future businesses while utilizing key access points, this signal being one, and eliminating unnecessary access points such as the access to the new Church of Latter Day Saints and Bridge Street Landing Apartments. Negotiations with all of the landowners have produced positive results. All landowners out there are open to the plan to have their access redirected to the signal. In fact, Bunnell Hill Development agreed to grant the County easement for the first leg of the interior access. The Beery, Corcoran et al owners have verbally agreed to do the same. However, due to the signal review, some troubling events have occurred.

1. The owners of the Beery, Corcoran et al property is currently in negotiation with a buyer that requires primary access at the signalized intersection. The potential buyer is a high traffic volume establishment. The landowners are troubled by the change in the signal and fear that they will not be able to sell the property to the potential buyer.
2. The Ross County Engineer surveyed the Bunnell Hill Development easement for conveyance to Ross County and the Prosecutor prepared the legal work. The Deed of Easement was sent to Bunnell Hill in early November after your review started and they have for some reason ceased all contact since. We can only conclude it is because of the signal review and their perception that we are telling them one thing (to fully utilize the signal and channel all traffic to the signal) and ODOT is saying another (the signal is not warranted).



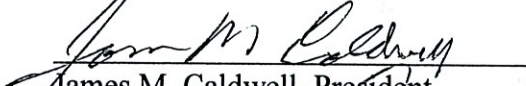
G. Baird
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Under normal circumstances, the Board of Commissioners by no means supports keeping unwarranted traffic signals. However, in this situation this signal greatly enhances the success of our thoroughfare plan which members of your staff helped carefully develop. Furthermore, removal of this signal would be in direct conflict of this plan.

Please feel free to call us at 740 702-3085 if you would have any questions.

Sincerely,
Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio


James M. Caldwell, President


R. Douglas Corcoran, Vice President


Frank Hirsch