

March 7, 2011

Ohio House of Representatives
Honorable Matthew Huffman
District 4 State Representative
540 West Market Street
Lima, Ohio 45801

Representative Huffman,

We are writing to you as the principal officers in the Allen County Township Association, an association that represents the Trustees and Fiscal Officers in all twelve townships in Allen County.

It has come to our attention through the Allen County Engineer, Tim Piper, that funding for the State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) is in jeopardy, as Substitute House Bill 114 is currently written. SCIP funding makes up a large portion of funding for Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Issue I program and without the continuance of the Issue I program, roadway paving in all of Allen County's twelve townships would literally come to a halt.

All twelve townships work closely with the Allen County Engineer's office to develop their annual road maintenance programs. By working in this cooperative fashion they are able to stretch their thin resources in the most efficient manner possible. Mr. Piper works diligently to secure Issue I funding on our behalf and fairly distributes this funding to us for our road paving programs.

We understand that you are faced with tough decisions in resolving Ohio's General Fund deficit and we appreciate the work you do in Columbus on our behalf. We are asking though that you consider the impact the loss of the SCIP funds will have on every township in Allen County. Please consider carefully our request to continue SCIP funding, the only source of funding for the paving of the streets and roads in our townships.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Gilden, President

Roy Hollenbacher, Secretary/Treasurer

cc: Tim Piper
Ohio Township Association