

NEWS RELEASE

Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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County secures state funding for Richfield’s Wheatley Road project

SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO—County Executive Ilene Shapiro is pleased to announce the Summit County Transportation Improvement District (TID) was awarded \$175,000 to support infrastructure development in the Village of Richfield. This award is the County’s third consecutive TID award in the past year, bringing the total investment in local projects to \$1,025,000.

“It is always exciting to see hard work and collaboration pay off for the residents and businesses of our County. Infrastructure is not always the most exciting topic, but it is the backbone of economic growth that supports good paying jobs and stronger communities,” said Executive Shapiro. “We will continue to leverage the Transportation Improvement District and our track record of competitive applications as we seek to support all 31 Summit County communities.”

Richfield will use the TID funds to supplement the cost of constructing new public roadways and public utility extensions to undeveloped land off Wheatley Road. This project will support the continued development of the [Crossroads District](#), per the 2019 Crossroads District Master Plan. The Crossroads District is defined as the 550 acres intersected by Wheatley Road and Brecksville Road and bounded by I-271, I-77, and the southern boundary of parcels on the south side of Congress Parkway.

When complete, this new infrastructure will allow for a large-scale development project featuring a new 100 room hotel, a 7,500 square foot free-standing restaurant adjacent the hotel, and a 5,000 square foot event center. The three projects are expected to generate approximately 65 full-time equivalent jobs with nearly \$20 million in capital investment.

“The Village of Richfield appreciates Summit County’s efforts to support the Crossroads District. Working together, we submitted a competitive application and secured an award that will offset our local costs for this important infrastructure work,” said Mayor Michael Wheeler. “When complete, we expect this project to bring significant private investment to our village.”

Before submitting a project to ODOT, the TID staff first solicits infrastructure projects from each community in the County. They then vet each project to ensure they submit a competitive application that has a clear economic benefit. Selected projects are then shared with the Board of Directors, with recommendations on which to submit to ODOT and how much TID funding should be sought

based on the job and investment numbers of each project. Finally, the TID staff works closely with the communities to strengthen the final application.

The Executive's Office has now secured over \$4 million dollars for 17 local projects since 2015. In recent years, the TID provided critical support to major projects in other communities, including Main Street in Akron, Wooster Road in Barberton, Eastern Road in Norton and Hines Hill in Boston Heights.

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