

Mayor James Layton  
934 W. Main Street  
Hebron, Ohio 43025  
(740) 928-2261  
James.Layton@hebronvillage.org



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Thornwood Drive Corridor

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,


I am writing to you regarding the City of Heath's USDOT RAISE Grant application for planning and design engineering funding for the Thornwood Drive Corridor.

Citizens of the Village of Hebron and surrounding areas navigate the current route daily to bypass the traffic lights on SR 79 and for quick access to Interstate 70, though its current design is incapable of handling the heavy volume of traffic that utilizes it. There have been multiple, sometimes serious, accidents along the current route. This project will create a long-term, safe transportation solution that is able to accommodate the volume of heavy traffic that utilizes it. A potential "park and ride" option is also being considered, which would reduce the number of vehicles, as well as a study to determine the feasibility of connecting existing bike paths in the area.

The anticipated future growth of Intel and the Silicon Heartland companies is generating an imminent need for additional means of safe and efficient travel, and this project will help to fulfill that need in a sustainable way, creating a lasting impact for travelers. The corridor will also create a channel for new job growth and increased industry prospects, which will bring with it new housing and employment opportunities in all surrounding areas. The Village of Hebron, in collaboration with surrounding communities, has partnered with Neighborhood Strategies, LLC to gain insight and direction, and to create a Comprehensive Plan that will cumulatively foster economic growth solutions. Hebron feels this corridor is a good reflection of the type of projects the Comprehensive Plan will incorporate, to enhance travel for all of our communities, as many employees of the Newark Industrial Park on SR 79 in Hebron travel through this area daily to bring in raw goods and send out finished products. We not only support, but applaud, the City of Heath for spearheading this important long-term investment that will greatly benefit many communities, businesses and agencies throughout Licking County.

We will continue to search for ways to aid our community in providing transportation means as we grow, and we look forward to new opportunities to work with the surrounding areas as well, including the City of Heath. The Village of Hebron concurs that this project would be beneficial to the entire community, and we ask that the US Department of Transportation give the City of Heath's application for funding its full consideration.

Sincerely,



James Layton  
Mayor  
Village of Hebron