



# City of Lima, Ohio

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David J. Berger, Mayor

## NEWS RELEASE

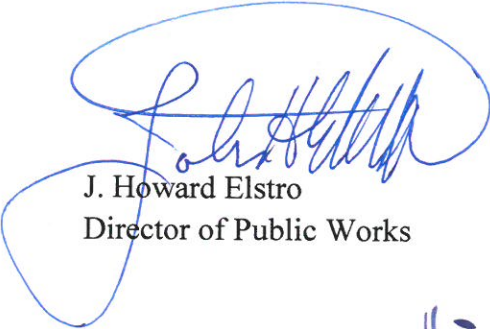
The City of Lima is advised the Ohio Department of Transportation, Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) has approved its Draft 2017-2020 Major New Construction Program List. The new list includes \$52 million in new development and construction commitments including \$4 million for the Allen County-Lima Railroad Grade Separation. ODOT has also approved \$2.5 million from the Safety Program for upgrades of Elm, Bellefontaine, and Calumet (SR 117/309).

Construction of the Allen County-Lima Railroad I&O Grade Separation and intersection is estimated at \$20 million including planning, preliminary engineering, detail design, right-of-way, and construction. The City of Lima is completing the detailed design and is acquiring right-of-way in 2017. The construction phase of the project is estimated at \$15 million. The proposed TRAC and Safety Fund assistance of \$6.5 million leaves \$2.9 million of unidentified funds to complete the project. Project could commence as early as 2018 should the additional \$2.9 million be identified. Mayor David Berger stated "This project will reduce delay and improve safety. These new grant awards are terrific incentives to find the last piece of funding for this project. Persistence in pursuing quality projects is important." He notes that the combined local funding match of \$5 million pledged by the City, Lima Allen County Regional Planning, St Rita's Health Partners, and Lima Memorial Health Systems were key in leveraging this new \$2.5 million Safety Grant and \$4 million TRAC commitment.

The TRAC Draft 2017-2020 Major New Construction Program is subject to a public comment period. Comments of support for the \$4 million Construction Grant are being accepted by the TRAC Committee through January 13, 2017 and can be sent to: [james.gates@dot.state.oh.us](mailto:james.gates@dot.state.oh.us), [TRAC@dot.state.oh.us](mailto:TRAC@dot.state.oh.us), or ODOT TRAC Committee, Attention Jim Gates, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223.

The City is pursuing additional state and federal funding opportunities for the final segment of funds needed to complete the project.

For additional information, please contact Howard Elstro, Director of Public Works (419-221-5288) or Kirk Niemeyer, City Engineer (419-998-5508).

  
J. Howard Elstro  
Director of Public Works

