



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CRAIG A. STOUGH, MAYOR

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Craig Stough
Mayor, City of Sylvania
September 23, 2022

Governor DeWine, it is time to continue your legacy of leadership for Northwest Ohio by improving the highway connection between Columbus and NW Ohio. This connection is vital and has a long history of improvement during our lifetimes. The improvements should not stop now.

As a graduate of The Ohio State University and a frequent traveler to Columbus, I am very familiar with the route. The connection has been regularly improved and made safer and more efficient with limited access highway segments, grade separations and removal of traffic lights.

In recent years, however, economic development north of I-270 has lead to the installation of 38 traffic lights between Waldo and I-270. The route is clogged with traffic every day, both local and intercity. The closer you get to Columbus, the more urban sprawl has taken place, and US23 is no longer a viable and timely path to the State Capital.

It is time to continue improving this important highway connection, by building the Delaware bypass. The Gordie Howe International Bridge from Detroit to Windsor, ONT will provide many more lanes for moving freight efficiently between the United States and Canada. The only obstacle for Ohio to fully accessing this expanded international trade connection is the bottleneck north of Columbus, Ohio in Delaware County.

Governor DeWine, you have shown great leadership for NW Ohio with your H2Ohio program to improve Lake Erie, and for all of Ohio by bringing Intel to Central Ohio. Now continue your legacy of leadership by overruling ODOT's recommendation and improving this vital highway connection.

Craig A. Stough, Mayor
City of Sylvania, Ohio