

OPWC applications OK'd by Lake leaders

■ \$1.5 million loan for Vrooman Road bridge project among applications

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Lake County commissioners have approved several final applications to the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding, including a \$1.5 million loan for the Vrooman Road Bridge Improvement project in Perry and Leroy townships.

Two other applications also were approved Thursday by commissioners for the county Engineer's Office to submit to the OPWC.

One was a \$399,900 grant application for the Hermitage Road reconstruction and safety upgrade project in Concord Township.

The other was a \$75,800 grant application for the traffic signal upgrade at the Chapel and Hubbard roads intersection in Madison Township, according to county documents.

Chief Deputy Engineer Bruce Landeg said the projects each have been preliminarily approved to receive their funding by the OPWC.

Passage of a resolution by commissioners was a part of a statutory process to authorize their final application, he said.

The projects will be bid on next summer and contracts will be awarded, Landeg said.

The \$1.5 million loan for the Vrooman Road project is a 20-year loan at 0 percent interest, he said.

The Ohio Department of Transportation estimates the project's cost is between \$28 million and \$32 million.

Commissioners also authorized two applications to the OPWC for projects by the county Utilities Department.

One project looks to receive a \$449,000 grant and a \$50,000 loan for the Mentor Marsh Sanitary Sewer Project, according to county documents.

This project is estimated to cost \$3.38 million and includes replacement of an interceptor that provides sanitary sewer service to about 1,600 homes in the area.

The other application is for a waterline replacement project for Chestnut Hill Drive between Skytop Lane and Kilarney Road in Wiloughby.

It is estimated to cost \$794,000 and officials seek a \$347,000 grant and \$50,000 loan from the OPWC.

Landeg said the Chestnut Hill Drive project isn't guaranteed to receive funding at this point, but likely will as more money becomes available to the OPWC district after entities pay back loans and therefore add money back to the available amount of funding.