



# Board of Commissioners

## *PRESS RELEASE*

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### **Lake County Commissioners Approve American Rescue Plan Act Funds for the City of Wickliffe and the City of Willowick**

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, August 15, 2023– Lake County Commissioners approve the use of ARPA funds for the Willowick/Wickliffe East 288<sup>th</sup> Street/Fairway Boulevard Storm Sewer Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$437,500.00.

The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate existing storm sewer pipe utilizing new technology that will require no excavation. The project area will yield the same structural and joint sealing benefits as open cut repairs, but will utilize a new injection method. The project benefits will reduce sink holes and reduce the overall cost as compared to open cut repairs.

“This project is a perfect example of how working together for the common good is so important for the community. I know that sometimes gets overlooked. Thank you to everyone who has helped this process move forward,” said Commission President John R. Hamercheck.

“I want to start by commending, then Mayor Regovich, for completing this project as Commissioner. This is a major infrastructure improvement for both Willowick and Wickliffe. At a time when both cities are impacted by higher sewer rates from the Euclid Sewage Treatment Plant, this allows us to take some of the burden off the local taxpayers in Willowick and Wickliffe. As a County Commissioner, I am very grateful to be able to make this investment in the future of Wickliffe and Willowick in infrastructure that will be there for not just our kids, but our grandkids,” said Commissioner John Plecnik.

“Willowick and the City of Wickliffe recently learned that it’s request for ARPA funding for the Willowick/Wickliffe E. 288<sup>th</sup> Street/Fairway Boulevard Storm Sewer Rehabilitation project was granted. The Cities will receive \$437,500 towards this important infrastructure project. I would personally like to thank Lake County Commissioners John Hamercheck, John Plecnik and Richard Regovich for their support on this project and their continued support to the City of Willowick. As a result of this funding as well as funding from Lake County Storm Water Management, the cost of this project to the City will be minimal. This will allow for an upgrade and improvement of the City’s existing infrastructure which will greatly benefit our residents as well as the residents in the City of Wickliffe,” said Michael J. Vanni, Mayor of the City of Willowick.

“We want to thank the Lake County Board of Commissioners for graciously approving these ARPA funds to help with our sewer system. This is a big burden that will be lifted off of our shoulders,” said Todd Shannon, City of Willowick Service Director.

“The City of Wickliffe and the City of Willowick would like to announce that the Willowick/Wickliffe E.288<sup>th</sup> Street/Fairway Boulevard Storm Sewer Rehabilitation Project has been approved for funding granted by the Lake County Commissioners. This joint project will receive \$437,500 through ARPA funds. Both cities worked together to create a plan to complete the critical infrastructure project which will benefit residents in both cities. The City of Wickliffe would like to thank the Lake County Commissioners: John Hamercheck, John Plecnik, and Rich Regovich for their support, and also extend thanks to Lake County Storm Water Management for additional funds. Sewers in most cities in our area require considerable rehabilitation which is accompanied by a steep cost. We are grateful for this funding which will allow us to complete this much-needed sewer repair and make a difference in our communities,” said Joe Sakacs, Mayor of the City of Wickliffe.

“When I was still Mayor of Willowick, we started this discussion and it is wonderful to be able to continue this project as Commissioner. This is an innovative approach to the project. The team thought outside the box and this will save a lot of money in the long run. I want to express my appreciation to everyone whose hard work has made this happen,” said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.

“I want to reiterate that we are overly and extremely grateful for this project that we are implementing with the City of Willowick. We did put a lot of work into this and I just wanted to say thank you to the Commissioners,” said Ron Strauser, City of Wickliffe Service Director.

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