



Ohio Municipal League Applauds Governor DeWine's Leadership on Transportation Investments

This morning, the Ohio Department of Transportation released its proposed 2020-2021 budget, calling for greater investment in state and local transportation infrastructure. To accomplish this important mission, the budget calls for an increase in Ohio's transportation user fee - the state's motor fuel tax. Greater investment in transportation infrastructure will promote safety for the traveling public and strengthen our economic competitiveness.

The Ohio Municipal League supports this increase in fees. Our municipalities are home to over 8.5 million citizens and over 80 percent of Ohio businesses. Our roadways provide critical first and last mile connections for employment, commerce, social services, culture and recreation and hospital and healthcare. Our own police, fire, and EMS forces use these roadways to serve our citizens and residents of neighboring communities.

We applaud the Governor's leadership on promoting transportation investments, said Sidney Mayor Mike Barhorst, President of the Ohio Municipal League (OML). Municipalities have made this a key public policy priority, because we understand the importance of well-maintained local transportation system for our community's economy, health and safety.

Municipalities directly receive about 13% of the motor fuel tax for investment in local roadways and bridges. Cities and villages also partner with the Ohio Department of Transportation leveraging millions more in state motor fuel tax dollars with local funding in important ODOT programs designed to improve the operation and safety of Ohio's transportation system.

This proposal will provide millions of dollars more in resources directly to our municipalities to make important transportation investments. Kent Scarrett, OML Executive Director said. "It is also a great opportunity for state and municipalities work together on priority projects to promote safety and economic growth.

The OML will examine the transportation budget and discuss programming opportunities with the Department of Transportation to advance greater investment in municipal transportation infrastructure.