

The City of Grove City

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Richard L. "Ike" Stage, Mayor

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grove City Awarded \$2 Million Grant for Orders Road Safety Improvements

The City of Grove City has secured a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) to construct important safety infrastructure improvements to Orders Road just west of the intersection at Old Haughn Road and Southern Grove and Discovery drives, the entry point for Fryer Park. The City recently completed a plan to address the need for safe bicycle and pedestrian travel through the Orders Road corridor and the increasing vehicle traffic now approaching 6,000 vehicles daily. The project includes improving safe access to one of the city's premier parks and its amenities, including the Grove City YMCA, historic Century Village, Eagle Pavilion, Rotary Lake, the Discovery Frontier playground and a softball complex.

The project involves these key improvements:

- Annexation of the roadway between Fryer Park and Old Haughn Road to facilitate lowering the speed limit to 35 mph.
- Construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Orders Road and the new section of Haughn Road.
- Installation of a traffic signal at the entry to Fryer Park.
- Widening Orders Road to three lanes within the project limits to support a center turn lane to improve safety and maintain traffic flow.
- Adding bike path/trail connectivity from Haughn Road into Fryer Park.
- Storm sewer and drainage improvements in Fryer Park and along Orders Road, significantly reducing drainage issues at Century Village.

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The cost of the entire project is estimated to exceed \$3 million. The grant from the OPWC will cover nearly two-thirds of the necessary funding. Much of the balance of the financing for the project will be provided from the permissive county license tax, local and county license fees, the street fund and approximately \$490,000 from the Grove City general fund.

“The City has been aggressive and extremely successful in seeking infrastructure grants. Since 2008 our community has been awarded more than \$34 million in grants,” said Mayor Richard L. “Ike” Stage. “This successful partnership effort with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Franklin County and OPWC will permit us to accelerate this vital project.”

Several key steps must be executed before the project can begin, including passage of legislation for funding of design work and land acquisition. Once the pre-bidding processes are completed, construction is scheduled to begin as early as spring 2015.

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