



*Office of the County Engineer*

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County Engineer

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January 14, 2013

TO: Board of Lucas County Commissioners  
Attention: Jody Balogh, Clerk

FROM: Keith G. Earley, P.E., P.S., Lucas County Engineer

SUBJECT: 2012 Bridge Inspection

During September thru December of 2012, our staff inspected 233 bridges - 220 vehicular and 13 non-vehicular bridges.

The 220 vehicular bridges include 162 under the jurisdiction of the Board of Lucas County Commissioners (Board) as authorized by the Ohio Revised Code, Section 5543.20. All of these bridges are open to traffic. According to our inspections, none of the 162 bridges were rated to be in critical or serious condition. Seven (7) bridges were rated as being in poor condition and all of those bridges are on the extended capital improvement program to be rehabilitated or replaced. The general condition of 11 bridges are rated as being in fair condition and 144 bridges are rated as being in satisfactory, good, very good, or excellent which is as-built condition.

Our county maintained bridges are currently in acceptable condition. However, long-term programming similar to our five-year program needs to be continued to maintain the bridges in acceptable conditions and to meet the needs of a growing suburban community. The average age of our bridges is 42 years old and ODOT estimates the average useful life of a bridge to be 50 years. Some of the bridges will need to be rehabilitated or replaced to accommodate wider pavements or other improvements, but with good maintenance, many bridges should have a useful life of 75 years. The extended Capital Improvement Program includes 10 bridge replacements and 3 major bridge repairs under the jurisdiction of the board. Also included in the extended Capital Improvement Program are 3 bridge replacements and 1 major bridge repairs on extensions of county roads inside municipalities.

53 of the vehicular bridges are under the jurisdiction of other entities and were inspected by agreement with the Villages of Berkey, Holland, Ottawa Hills and Whitehouse, with the Cities of Maumee, Sylvania, Oregon and Toledo, and with the Toledo Area Metropolitan Park District. 33 of these 53 vehicular bridges are on an extension of a county road inside a municipality. A copy of the inspection data, a report listing deficiencies observed and invoices for the inspection work has been sent to the respective agencies.

7 of the vehicular bridges are under the jurisdiction of other agencies but were inspected because Lucas County or a municipality has maintenance responsibility for part of these bridges.

The 13 non-vehicular bridges include 4 pedestrian bridges inspected by agreement with the municipalities and 4 pedestrian bridges in the Metroparks. The remaining 5 non-vehicular bridges are bike trail bridges under the jurisdiction of the Board.

Our bridge inspection field data for 213 of the vehicular bridges and 4 pedestrian bridges (on the Wabash-Cannonball Trail) was filed electronically with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) on December 4, 2012. A copy of a computer generated report prepared from ODOT's Bridge Inventory System reflecting our inspection data is attached for your information.

The information in this letter is provided to you in accordance with Section 5543.02 of the Revised Code of Ohio. Please advise us of any additional information that is needed or would be helpful to you.

Very truly yours,

Keith G. Earley, P.E., P.S.  
Lucas County Engineer

Enclosure: 6 – 8½”x11”

CC: Jeff Lohse, P.E., Chief Design Engineer; Bryan Zienta, P.E., Bridge Engineer