



December 18, 2007

Mr. John Haseley
Chief of Staff
Office of the Governor
77 S. High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Dear John:

On behalf of the Columbus - Pittsburgh Corridor Committee, we thank you for being very generous with your time and meeting with us last week in the Statehouse. Our collective interests are to continue the various development stages of each unfinished gap project along the corridor.

The seven-county coalition that we've launched includes bipartisan representatives of local officials, state and federal legislators, and business leaders in the interest of strongly advocating for continued planning and ultimate construction of the four key remaining projects along the corridor between Columbus and Steubenville. There are major employers including American Electric Power, Wal-Mart, AK Steel, The Longaberger Company, Coshocton Ethanol, and State Farm, which rely on this corridor. Senator Wilson also made it known that a 5,000-acre industrial park in Jefferson County is serviced by this corridor along with thousands of other, developable industrial property.

As we discussed, we agree the state needs to look more closely at its overall transportation plan and focus on corridors that spark economic development. The turnaround of Ohio's economy relies on regionally-impactful highway corridor investments that connect major markets and open new growth opportunities.

Both of us, as well as the Corridor Committee, are grateful that you listened to our concerns. We look forward to hearing back from you in hopes that the administration will join us in reversing the decision to halt the planning and development of on each of the gap projects along this important corridor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Platt", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Rick Platt
Columbus - Pittsburgh Corridor Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T.J. Justice", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

T.J. Justice
Columbus - Pittsburgh Corridor Committee

cc: Congressman Zack Space
Senator Jason Wilson
Senator Joy Padgett