

NEWS RELEASE



Lt. Governor Bruce Johnson

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LT. GOVERNOR PARTICIPATES IN RIVER ROAD CEREMONY
Points to project as the type of infrastructure Issue 1 will continue funding

CINCINNATI - Lieutenant Governor Bruce Johnson joined local officials today in a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the rehabilitation of River Road from Illinois Avenue in Riverside to Dart Avenue in Sayler Park. He used the opportunity to talk about the Jobs for Ohio Bond Initiative, which will appear on the November ballot as State Issue 1. If passed by voters, the bond package will renew funding for traditional infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, and provide for high-tech job creation and research and development.

“River Road is a critical part of a local infrastructure that is essential to Cincinnati’s strength as a regional economy,” said Johnson, who also serves as Ohio’s development director. “By making the investment to improve public infrastructure, create job ready sites and further the research and development of new technologies, Issue 1 will build upon Southwest Ohio’s success and enable more firms to invest and grow in Ohio in the future.”

Approximately \$2.2 million of the total \$4.5 million cost of the River Road project was paid for through the State Capital Improvement Program. Two thirds, \$1.35 billion, of the \$2 billion Jobs for Ohio Bond Initiative would go toward continuing this program, which builds roads, bridges and water and sewer systems throughout Ohio. In addition, the initiative, which does not raise taxes, provides \$150 million to help local communities develop sites for future company location, and invests \$500 million to enhance Ohio’s technology infrastructure. To date, Hamilton County has received more than \$204 million through the State Capital Improvement Program and \$45 million in grants to strengthen the local technology sector.

The Jobs for Ohio Bond Initiative was placed on the November ballot with overwhelming bipartisan support. Former United States Senator John Glenn is the chair the bipartisan campaign effort, which has been endorsed by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Farm Bureau, the Ohio Manufacturer’s Association and the Ohio Chapter of the AFL-CIO, as well as hundreds of other communities, organizations and political leaders of both parties.

“This initiative is about investing in the infrastructure of today and tomorrow to help grow Ohio’s economy and create the jobs of the future,” said Johnson. “It will provide the much needed resources to bring new products to market, recruit world-class researchers and support existing companies and start-up enterprises through investment in public infrastructure.”

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