May 9, 2019

Re: City of Chillicothe ARC Grant Support Letter

To whom it may concern:

I’m writing on behalf of the Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce, a community partner with the City of Chillicothe. Our mission is to promote economic and community development by addressing issues relevant to business.

We believe strongly that quality city services are integral to the promotion of a business-friendly climate. Wastewater is one of several expected services that must be of top quality for economic development in a community. Kenworth, one of our top employers, recently announced a significant expansion that will retain jobs and create a few hundred more.

The city is currently planning a project at the wastewater treatment plant that would replace existing equipment that has reached the end of its useful life. Failure of this equipment would limit the operations of the treatment plant, which residents and businesses rely upon to ensure proper treatment of wastewater.

In addition to that project, the city is also in great need of a significant capital project to rehabilitate the entire wastewater treatment facility. Any financial help for the equipment project would also benefit the larger plant rehabilitation project.

Please accept this letter of the Chamber’s support of this much-needed project at the city wastewater treatment plant. We believe that funding is necessary to improve the health, safety, and economic growth in our area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mike Throne
President/CEO
November 15, 2019

Re: City of Chillicothe ARC Grant Support Letter

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of Adena Health System, I am writing in support of the City of Chillicothe’s wastewater treatment plant project which will replace existing equipment that has reached the end of its useful life. Adena is an independent, not-for-profit and locally controlled health care organization dedicated to providing safe, quality care for patients living in a nine county region of south central and southern Ohio.

As this city’s largest employer, the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant would allow Adena to further support our community’s local health care needs thru continual growth and master facility planning. The potential of adding additional medical facilities within the city would allow greater access for close to home care, whereas without the expansion Adena may need to look outside the city limits to a more supporting infrastructure.

From our understanding this infrastructure is involved with pumping the city’s collected wastewater into the treatment plant, and if it were to fail there would be significant impacts that would limit the operations of the treatment facility. In addition to this project, we are also aware of the city’s need to invest in a major capital project to rehabilitate the entire wastewater treatment plant, and that any financial relief available on this project would also have benefits to the larger plant rehabilitation. The expansion would allow development of the city’s infrastructure inviting more business growth that will benefit the local economy. Failure of this plant would be catastrophic to the hospital campus and community.

Please consider this letter Adena Health System’s support of this much needed project. Any funding the city received will not only be a benefit to their facility, but the community as well. The ability to collect and treat wastewater has a direct improvement to the health, safety, and economics in our region.

Sincerely,

Jeff Graham
President & CEO
Adena Health System
RE: City of Chillicothe Waste Water Treatment – ARC Grant Request

To: Appalachian Regional Commission

The City of Chillicothe is seeking Grant funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission for a project at the wastewater treatment plant which will replace equipment that has reached the end of its useful life. It is Kenworth’s understanding that the upgrades are essential to maintaining acceptable uptime rates at the facility to ensure uninterrupted service to businesses and citizens in the community. It has been communicated to us that the upgrades planned are the minimum required at this time and a project to refurbish the entire wastewater treatment plant will be necessary in the near future.

Kenworth Truck Company, a division of PACCAR Inc., is located in Ross County and currently has 2,360 full time employees. The Kenworth Chillicothe plant builds 20% of PACCAR’s global volume with over 39,800 trucks produced in 2018. In the last five years, PACCAR has invested over $200M in capital improvements at the plant and recently announced the construction of a new $140M paint facility. PACCAR believes Southern Ohio is a great place to build our trucks due to the highly skilled workforce that is in the area. It is therefore critical that municipal services to the plant are not interrupted.

It is critical for Kenworth’s ongoing success that the City of Chillicothe successfully complete this project and continue to reliably treat our wastewater. Kenworth requests that the ARC fully consider the request to support the replacement of equipment at the Chillicothe wastewater treatment plant.

Sincerely,

Rod Spencer
Chillicothe Plant Manager
Kenworth Truck Company
November 19, 2019

Re: City of Chillicothe Wastewater Treatment Plant renovation

To: Appalachian Regional Commission

I own two Wendy’s restaurants in Chillicothe that employ a total of 60 people. I am proud that my Company has been a longtime member of the local business community. The CEO of Wendy’s International visited Chillicothe in 2013 when we re-modeled our Bridge Street location to a new proto-type building. In 2020, we plan on building a third restaurant on the North end of Bridge Street and plan to re-model our Main Street location.

The equipment upgrades and capital investment required at the wastewater treatment plant are critically important for health and safety, but also continued investment in the community. The new restaurant we are building is on an out lot of a former K-Mart location. The entire K-Mart site is currently being re-developed. I know that I would not be able to build a new Wendy’s without access to the sanitary sewer collection system and treatment plant. This new restaurant will not only provide an additional 30 jobs, but require ancillary services such as electrical, plumbing and land maintenance. I truly believe that any financial support for this project will provide a return on investment for the community at large.

Sincerely,

Benjamin H. Thompson
Primary Aim LLC
Franchisee of The Wendy’s Company
December 2, 2019

Appalachian Regional Commission

RE: City of Chillicothe ARC Grant Support Letter

To Whom it May Concern:

The City of Chillicothe is planning a project at their wastewater treatment plant which will replace existing equipment that has reached the end of its useful life. From our understanding, this infrastructure is involved with pumping the City’s collected wastewater into the treatment plant and, if it were to fail, there would be significant impacts that would limit the operations of the treatment facility. In addition to this project, we are also aware of the City’s need to invest in a major capital project to rehabilitate the entire wastewater treatment plant, and that any financial relief available on this project would also have benefit to the larger plant rehabilitation.

Rural King is a community partner in the City of Chillicothe. We have recently invested in the purchase of real estate with the intention of opening a Rural King farm and home store. In addition, we plan to further develop our center with additional tenants, and other outparcel users to join the recent Texas Road House restaurant we were able to recruit. We believe that quality city services are essential to the promotion of a business-friendly environment, which will promote the joint success of both Rural King and the City.

Please consider this letter Rural King’s support of this much needed project at the City’s wastewater treatment plant. Any funding the City receives will not only be a benefit to their facility, but also the community. The ability to collect and treat wastewater has a direct improvement to the health, safety, and economics in our region.

Sincerely,
RURAL KING

By: Blake Pierce
Director of Real Estate
May 13, 2019

RE: City of Chillicothe ARC Grant Support Letter

To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing in support of the City of Chillicothe’s proposed project at their wastewater treatment plant. Much of the existing equipment at the plant has reached the end of its useful life. The infrastructure is involved with pumping the City’s collected wastewater into the treatment plant. If this infrastructure were to fail, the operations of the treatment facility would be significantly impacted.

In addition to this project, we understand that the City of Chillicothe needs to invest in a major capital project to rehabilitate the entire wastewater treatment plant. Any financial assistance available on this project would also benefit the larger plant rehabilitation project.

There are very few options for sewer service in the unincorporated areas Ross County. Much of our past economic development projects required the County to partner with the City of Chillicothe to provide the necessary sewer service. Two of our largest employers, Kenworth Truck and Adena Health System, located and expanded in the County because the City provided sewer service to the area. Future development in Ross County will require continued assistance from Chillicothe.

The Board of Ross County Commissioners wholeheartedly support this much needed project at the City’s wastewater treatment plant. Any funding the City receives will not only be a benefit to their facility, but also the entire Ross County community. The ability to collect and treat wastewater has a direct improvement to the health, safety, and economics in our region.

Sincerely,
Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio

R. Douglas Corcoran, President

Stephen A. Neal, Vice President

Dwight A. Garrett
December 5, 2019

Honorable Bruce Arnold
President, City Council
26 W. Water Street
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Dear President Arnold,

Please assign to the appropriate committee of Council this request for a resolution supporting the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements project, and recognition of the importance of the improvements outlined in the 2018 Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Study under the selected improvement alternative. The proposed improvements will replace equipment that has reached its end of service life, improve the overall operating efficiency of the facility, maintain current permit compliance, and address future permit limits being implemented by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency which regulates the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant operations. Said Council authorizes a project team including Mayor Luke Feeney, City Auditor, Kristal Spetnagel, and Director of Utilities, David Fishel, to secure proper funding and enter into an agreement for the design services and construction of the estimated $25 million dollars in improvements. This is not meant to authorize full funding of the project, but will authorize action on the design phase.

I respectfully request that this legislation be approved by Council at its earliest convenience. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Luke M. Feeney
Mayor
City of Chillicothe

cc: Sherri Rutherford, Law Director
    Kristal Spetnagel, City Auditor