



ALAN BRUBAKER, P.E., P.S.

SUMMIT COUNTY ENGINEER

February 14, 2025

City of Hudson Engineering Dept.
Bradley Kosco, P.E., P.S., City Engineer
1140 Terex Road
Hudson, OH 44236

Re: Boston Mills Road Bridge over Lake Forest Pedestrian Trail

Dear Mr. Kosco:

The Summit County Engineer's staff have once again reviewed a proposal to accommodate the City's Boston Mills Road Trail Project over Lake Forest. For a variety of reasons listed below we cannot support or approve the non-standard design currently under consideration.

Your proposal suggests installing a trail across the existing 34-foot-wide Boston Mills Road County bridge. However, this bridge's current configuration already utilizes its full width. Twenty-two feet are dedicated to vehicular travel lanes, and the remaining six feet on each side meet the required lateral clearance. Therefore, incorporating a trail would necessitate reducing the width of either the travel lanes or the shoulders. Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) guidelines mandate 11-foot lanes in each direction and 6-foot shoulders on both sides, totaling the bridge's existing 34-foot width ($6 + 11 + 11 + 6 = 34$). Adding a trail would compromise the safety of both motorists and pedestrians by violating these standards..

The bridge is simply not wide enough to accommodate your trail. To add a trail on the structure would be to compromise the safety of motorists and pedestrians.

We cannot support your desire to reduce lane widths, and shoulder widths or add a pedestrian barrier between the highway and the pedestrian trail. There is no way this office can defend your actions which we would become complicit in if we agreed with the City's desire to force a trail across the structure.

This office strongly encourages the City to construct a parallel facility to carry the trail across Lake Forest. The cost of the new bridge would be significantly less than the cost of an undefendable liability suit.

Sincerely

Alan Brubaker, P.E., P.S.
Summit County Engineer