



First Suburbs Consortium
of Southwest Ohio

Good Morning,

I am writing you today to talk about our First Suburbs Consortium of Southwest Ohio (FSC-SWO). We work to bring together local mayors, trustees, council members, and administrators of the 48 jurisdictions in Hamilton County. We are advocates for the interests of "inner-ring suburbs" within local, county, and state government.

No matter our location or economic status, we all share the same concerns of aging infrastructure and housing stock, and project funding, among others. I cordially invite you and your community to join us as a member of FSC-SWO and to work together with our other member communities to make a difference.

Our quarterly meetings bring elected officials together for timely, topical dialogue with county officials, state office holders, and leaders from regional entities. We have also supported several federal funding programs for blight removal, business restoration, and economic development. At the state level, we have engaged with the tax changes, loss of the Local Government Fund and other alterations that impacted our funding. In 2024, FSC-SWO received the federal Reconnecting Communities Grant (RCN). This grant seeks to study east-west connectivity in some of our central Hamilton County communities. In 2025, we worked hard on the grant in partnership with Hamilton County Planning + Development and our consultant team of Perkins & Will. We hope to bring you the final plan in early to mid-2026. As you probably know, we also started a partnership with Soapbox Media for the *First Suburbs - Beyond Borders* series to highlight first suburban communities. We are excited to announce we will be continuing our partnership with Soapbox Media in 2026. Your contribution to the FSC-SWO helps fund this endeavor.

I know we all struggle to identify the programs that bring our communities the most value. FSC works hard to keep our membership dues at \$200 per year. This will enable you to stay "in the loop" with us as we deal with state, federal, and local influences which impact our future and that of our residents.

You will find an invoice attached, and I urge you to please join with us to make our suburban communities stronger and better funded. As one member of our executive committee said, "Let's Not Leave Any More Grant Money on the Table!" I look forward to your questions or comments on our 2026 lists of priority projects. Thanks in advance for your leadership!

Sincerely,

Ruby Kinsey-Mumphrey, Mayor
Village of Lincoln Heights

First Suburbs Consortium of Southwest Ohio Executive Committee

President: Ruby Kinsey-Mumphrey, Lincoln Heights

Vice President: John Smith, Silverton

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