

For Immediate Release: August 18, 2023

MEDIA STATEMENT

The following statement can be attributed to Fairfield County Commissioner Steve Davis in response to the draft county land use plan that is currently available for public review and comment:

We appreciate the feedback we have received so far on the county land use plan. That's exactly why we released this draft – to get more conversations going. We started this process almost a year ago, and had more than a dozen meetings with township trustees and village leaders and had public meetings and open houses to get input as we put it together. And now we're asking for more input on the draft. We want to have a plan that can be a tool and a guide for local communities – trustees and villages – to use in whatever way they think is best for their people. It's also something we hope will help our county be smart as development heads this way – so that our townships and villages get the benefits of the development and not just the side effects.

We are specifically hearing a lot of feedback about the possible corridor for a Route 33 to Interstate 70 connector. We want to assure the community that it is simply a concept that has been discussed that could alleviate truck and other traffic on county roads. There is no definitive road alignment, timing or funding determined right now. This would be a long-term project that would require a significant state and federal investment that is currently estimated at over \$240 million.

The plan can be found <u>here</u>. Please give us your feedback on this <u>form</u> or <u>email us</u> anytime. We welcome your comments.

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