



## *Village of Baltimore*

*Fairfield County*

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**Robert M. Kalish**  
Mayor

**Marsha Hall**  
Village Administrator

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Clerk-Treasurer

**Jeffrey Feyko**  
Village Solicitor  
115 N. Center Street  
Pickerington, Ohio

### **Village of Baltimore Baltimore Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Project Award**

Liberty Union – Thurston Elementary and Middle School students will travel safer routes to school in the future thanks to funding awarded to the Village of Baltimore by the Ohio Department of Transportation through their federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program. With this funding sidewalks, a multi-use path and curb ramps will be constructed along SR158 connecting the elementary and middle school site located on SR158 with the rest of the village. The amount of funding awarded is \$360,281, with no local funding required.

The goal of Ohio's Safe Routes to School Program is to assist communities in developing and implementing projects and programs that encourage and enable children in grades K through 8, including those with disabilities, to walk or bike safely to school. The program includes an integrated approach that addresses 5 "E's" of engineering of infrastructure improvements, education, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation.

In 2010 a School Travel Plan was developed by a team of Village and School representatives including Baltimore Village Administrator Marsha Hall, Baltimore Police Chief Michael Tussey, Liberty Union – Thurston School Superintendent Paul Mathews, and Liberty Union – Thurston School Board President Art Brate. The Travel Plan includes a prioritized action plan to respond to the program's 5 "E's". As a result of the ODOT-approved Travel Plan, the village then submitted a request for funding for the highest prioritized infrastructure needs in November, 2010.

Marsha Hall was notified on March 31, 2011 by Julie Walcoff, ODOT SRTS Program Manager, that their requested project was approved for funding. The project is scheduled for sale in January, 2012, with construction taking place in 2012. Village and School representatives will begin working with ODOT staff to meet that schedule.