

**PRELIMINARY REPORT**  
OF THE  
**HANCOCK COUNTY ENGINEER**

Ohio Revised Code, Section 6131.14

*In the Matter of the*     Single     *County Engineer's Office*

*County Ditch No.* \_\_\_\_\_ *to be known as*     *Hancock County, Ohio*

*the*     **FOREST LAKE SINGLE DITCH**     August 16, 2022

*Petitioned for by:*     *Proceedings to:*

Jason Fisher     Construct, reconstruct, widen, repair, replace,  
clean, locate, enlarge and maintain existing open  
ditch and storm sewer

*To the Board of County Commissioners:*

*The undersigned County Engineer, in obedience to the order of your Board, made on the 5th day of May, 2022, proceeded in the above matter, and visited the site of the proposed location of said improvement, and in my opinion based upon the actual view and under requirements of Section 6131.09 of the Ohio Revised Code, I have estimated the costs for construction of said improvement with my further findings as follows:*

**\$487,507.95 as shown on the attached preliminary estimate**

*On August 23, 1957, Ohio Legislature passed a law whereby ditches petitioned and approved would be placed on permanent county maintenance and a special assessment would be placed on the tax bill of all benefited property owners in the watershed for maintenance. Currently, any drainage structures that are outside of road right of way is the responsibility of the homeowner to maintain. For example, if a 30" pipe collapses in a property owners back yard, they are responsible for the repair. If the drainage is Petitioned, Hancock County Soil and Water would be notified of any issues and setup a contract to perform the work and then assess the cost back to the benefitting property owners in the watershed.*

*Based on the project area outlined in the Petition, a visual inspection of the drainage system makes it apparent that the drainage system has not been maintained by the property owners of the watercourse in some areas. By petitioning the drainage, it will be put this on a more regularly scheduled maintenance program. As a side note, it is now a requirement in the Hancock Subdivision Regulations for any new subdivision, or additions to a subdivision, petition their drainage system for permanent maintenance prior to approval of the final plat.*

*Past petitions filed with County Commissioners and Board of Soil & Water District to solve surface and subsurface drainage impairments to residential and commercial developments, have shown that those developments were built when subdivision regulations did not exist and minimum stormwater design criteria were not required.*

We propose the following improvements to provide basis for perpetual maintenance of the watercourse and storm sewer system:

1. Remove all brush, invasive vegetation and trees above 4 inches in diameter and smaller located above the ordinary high water mark of the watercourse.
2. Remove all trees leaning at an angle greater than 45 degrees.
3. Remove all dead trees
4. Remove all debris and obstructions in the watercourse.
5. Evaluate the hydraulic capacity of the entire system.
6. Construct necessary hydraulic improvements to maintain current and future flow capacities.
7. Clean and inspect enclosed storm sewers and culverts throughout the entire reach.

The assessment methodology is not established until the engineering and construction plans are completed and just prior to the Final Hearing and have many factors that affect these calculations including acreage, remoteness to the project, volume of water produced by the property, benefit to the property and several other factors. Using the simplest methodology of per parcel assessment as an example to cost would be \$514.79 per parcel (947 parcels) or if the project is financed, \$69.94 per year over 10 years. According to FEMA, on average water damage restoration after flooding cost between \$1,243 and \$5,347, with an average price of \$3,293.

In conclusion, it is our opinion that the ditch should proceed to the Engineering Phase as it meets all of the criteria listed in Section 6131.12 of the Ohio Revised Code to grant the petition:

1. A proposed improvement is necessary
2. The proposed improvement is conducive to the public welfare
3. It is reasonably certain that the benefits of the proposed improvement will outweigh the costs

Respectfully submitted to the Board of County Commissioners of Hancock County on  
this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022



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Douglas Cade, PE, PS  
Hancock County Engineer

# Engineers Estimate

| Approximate Quantities | ITEM   | Estimate    |                     |
|------------------------|--|-------------|---------------------|
|                        |  | Unit Prices | Total               |
| <b>Main Petition</b>   |  |             |                     |
|                        | Clean and Scope Storm Sewer                            | \$50,000.00 | \$50,000.00         |
| Lump                   |  |             |                     |
| 150                    | CY Embankment  | \$40.00     | \$6,000.00          |
|                        | Clear and Grub existing Brush                          | \$8,125.00  | \$8,125.00          |
| Lump                   |  |             |                     |
| Lump                   | Dip Existing Ditch                                     | \$7,688.00  | \$7,688.00          |
| 144                    | CY Riprap  | \$95.00     | \$13,680.00         |
| 6                      | Catch Basins   | \$1,200.00  | \$7,200.00          |
| 1                      | Manhole Reconstruct                                    | \$1,500.00  | \$1,500.00          |
| 2,304                  | 15" Conduit, Type C                                    | \$45.00     | \$103,680.00        |
| 1,889                  | 12" Conduit, Type C                                    | \$45.00     | \$85,005.00         |
| 110                    | 12" Conduit, Type B                                    | \$45.00     | \$4,950.00          |
| Lump                   | Asphalt Concrete Repair                                | \$8,000.00  | \$8,000.00          |
| 1                      | Seeding and Mulching                                   | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00         |
| 1                      | Maintaining Traffic                                    | \$4,500.00  | \$4,500.00          |
|                        |  |             |                     |
|                        | 2.5% Performance Bond                                  |             | \$8,008.20          |
|                        |  |             |                     |
|                        | Estimated Construction Cost                            |             | \$328,336.20        |
|                        | 10% Establish Maintenance Account                      |             | \$32,833.62         |
|                        | 20% Contingencies                                      |             | \$65,667.24         |
|                        | 1.5% Administrative Costs (Mailings, Printing, etc)    |             | \$4,925.05          |
|                        | 15% Engineering, Surveying, Plans, Staking, Inspection |             | \$49,250.43         |
|                        | Actual CE Costs for Preliminary Engineering and Report |             | \$3,624.96          |
|                        | Actual BOCC Reimbursement for Mailings and Copies      |             | \$2,870.45          |
|                        | <b>Total Cost for Main Petition</b>                    |             | <b>\$487,507.95</b> |