

NOTE: "Ohio's good financial rating and sound fiscal position make the growth of this successful program possible."



Opinion: Yes on Issue 1

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Cincinnati Enquirer Editorial

In 1987, 1995 and 2005, Ohio voters approved a state bond issue that helped local governments with critical funding to build roads, bridges, sewers and water plants.

The bond issue is up for renewal again, and it deserves another "yes" vote.

It's Issue 1 on the Ohio ballot and it will fund the State Capital Improvements Program, which helps finance infrastructure repairs and replacement in the counties, townships, cities and villages throughout the state.

More than 11,000 projects in all 88 counties have been funded through the program. Hamilton County has benefited from more than \$300 million in assistance since the program began, money that's helped pay for everything from road improvements in Anderson Township to the Western Hills Viaduct reconstruction in Cincinnati to storm sewer rehab in St. Bernard.

Issue 1 would authorize \$1.875 billion in infrastructure aid for local governments over the next 10 years. The program provides grants and loans to local governments covering up to 90 percent of project costs for infrastructure repair or replacement and up to 50 percent of the cost for new projects.

Issue 1 will not raise taxes. It would add to the state's indebtedness, but it is a modest expansion. Ohio's good financial rating and sound fiscal position make the growth of this successful program possible.

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