

11 November 2024

Dear City Council,

I am sure you are upset but not surprised by the defeat of the income tax increase at last week's election. I would strongly discourage you from saying that the citizens did not know on what they voted. We did.

Do we need road repairs? Yes, we do. But you need the public support to achieve that. Here is what I would support:

1. A commitment and plan to make the airport an enterprise fund, so that those who use it do the most to support it, and not all taxpayers.
2. Reduction in the Fire Department's income tax. A portion can and should be moved to property tax so that non-resident property owners (i.e. landlords) also pay for this service that protects their properties.
3. A commitment to pursue and plan for high-wage jobs (150-200% the state average), in order to diversify the tax base, similar to what was done in Dublin, Ohio.
4. A five- to seven- year income tax increase for road resurfacing only, in order to catch up on the backlog *only*. This should be calculated in such a way as to clearly show that the tax will be used for this purpose only.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these matters. I hope that you can, truly, move this city forward.

Sincerely,

Stacy Chaney-Blankenship,

943 Executive Blvd, Delaware, Ohio