Infrastructure Task Force Report

Task Force Objective

The community’s goal is to provide a strategic framework for the development of Muskingum County’s water, sewer, gas and electric infrastructure. The task force shall document present facilities make feasibility recommendations to facilitate the Steering Committee’s Comprehensive Plan and assist with future development.

Narrative Description

Electric Distribution - Electric Distribution is provided by American Electric Power, which tends to serve the urban/industrial area. Guernsey-Muskingum Electric Cooperative Inc., tends to serve the rural/agricultural areas. South Central Power Company, The Energy Cooperative and Frontier Power Company all have relatively limited service areas which “flow” into Muskingum County. Each system provides service within their respective territories in the county.

Electric Transmission - Electric Transmission is provided by American Electric Power (AEP) (see map titled “AEP Transmission Lines and Guernsey Muskingum 3 Phase Lines”).

Electric Generation - Presently there is only one electric generation facility in Muskingum County. It is a 600 Megawatt natural gas-fired generation plant in Cass Township.

Natural Gas Transmission - The natural gas infrastructure in Muskingum County consists of hundreds of miles of gathering pipelines, transmission pipelines, and distribution pipelines. The supply of natural gas is primarily brought into the county through four major interstate transmission lines. These transmission pipeline companies operate main lines that cross Muskingum County in multiple locations. Dominion Transmission crosses several of the northern townships while Texas Eastern crosses the southernmost townships. Tennessee Gas Pipeline crosses the southeastern portion of the county, while Columbia Gas Transmission operates pipelines in the northern, southern, and eastern portions of the county. In addition to these interstate pipelines, there are other regional transmission pipelines operated by the Energy Cooperative and GatherCo that transport to local markets. This supply of natural gas is supplemented by local production through various gathering pipelines.

Natural Gas Distribution - Multiple natural gas distribution utilities and cooperatives such as Columbia Gas of Ohio and The Energy Cooperative derive their supplies from the local production sources and the transmission pipelines to service all of the incorporated villages and cities as well as many of the unincorporated areas of the county. These pipelines serve the residential, commercial, and industrial needs of the county. The widespread locations of these pipelines provide the potential for gas service to most every developable area of Muskingum County.

Water Distribution - Public water distribution within Muskingum County has 10 prominent public water systems with approximately 25 water systems that support their work facility or trailer
court licensed by and under the jurisdiction of Ohio EPA. Each system has designated areas for
distribution such as villages or townships. These 10 prominent systems serve residential,
commercial, and industrial needs of Muskingum County, and are located in different areas of the
county. This section will give you an overview of the 10 prominent public water systems, their
current production and area served, along with a map of distribution areas. See map titled
“Water Systems of Muskingum County Ohio” for the systems locations.

Current Water Facilities

There are several water treatment facilities in Muskingum County. These facilities are listed as
private or public entities. Ohio EPA will list them as either Community or Non-Community. Private
entities make up churches, camping facilities, golf courses, mobile home parks, and industrial
centers. Public entities within the county include: cities, villages, and water/sewer districts.

Sewer Systems

The sewer systems within Muskingum County contain approximately 46 public
wastewater plants licensed with the Ohio EPA. These systems are villages, city, factory, schools,
motels, airports, parks, and small businesses. The county operates one satellite facility to serve
the Village of Adamsville; since it does not have a discharge it currently does not require a license
from Ohio EPA. The remainder of the County’s infrastructure consists of collection lines and
pumping stations that transport the sewage to the Zanesville Regional Plant for treatment. The
county contracts with the City of Zanesville to treat this waste through an Interagency
Agreement. The most recent major upgrade to the plant increased capacity to 11 million gallons
per day with the county having purchased 4.0 million gallons per day of that capacity. See map
titled “Sewer Systems of Muskingum County Ohio” for system locations. The various sewer
treatment facilities that are publicly owned and operated are as follows:

-Zanesville-Muskingum County
-Village of Dresden
-Village of New Concord
-Village of Frazeysburg
Recommendations from Infrastructure Committee

Infrastructure Task Force Vision

The goal for Muskingum County is to continue to expand and improve their water, sewer, gas, and electric infrastructure strategically and cost-effectively. The county will work with utility providers so as not to hinder development, but rather stimulate progress while protecting the county’s natural and agricultural resources. Through the process the county shall strive to:

1. Use planning decisions and impetus from local citizens to guide the location and intensity of development to minimize the impact of existing resources.
2. Educate citizens of the importance of water conservation and waste water planning.
3. Understand and follow the guidelines put forth by the EPA (Federal and State levels), and the impact of these laws.

 Goals

- Expand Muskingum County’s water, sewer, gas, and electric resources through coordination of infrastructure development with the demands of growth.

Infrastructure development and land use planning go hand in hand. The availability of water, sewer, gas, and electric are determinants of possible land uses. Muskingum County recognizes large portions of the county have limited water resources due to a limited aquifer or surface mining issues. As a result of these factors Muskingum County has endeavored to expand public water to numerous area of the county to provide clean potable water for the benefit of the community.

- Work with the varied sizes and structures of utility providers in Muskingum County toward proactive development rather than reactive where good reliable planning is in place and utility expansion will meet/exceed economic goals.

Utilities in Muskingum County are served by many different sized companies which are structured differently. Each entity has the responsibility of financial soundness. Development of utility infrastructure should strive to parallel progress or lead the way, so that positive gains are not hindered. For utilities to risk resources a solid defendable comprehensive plan should be in place to reduce financial risk.

- Promote conservation, planning and efficient energy use.

Consumers need to understand the value and use of their utilities. Efforts should be made to use our resources as efficiently as possible. Understanding the value of potable water along with helping conservation efforts that are in place or are being created is a significant goal for the community. We should help young people and adults understand the process of producing potable water and then returning the water back to nature without causing harm to the ecosystem. The County will work toward making the public aware of the EPA’s impact in making decisions regarding location and development. Helping educate the public about the need to conserve energy for not only the present but more important, for future generations who will work and live in Muskingum County.
Proposed Projects:
Providing Interconnections with the various Public Water Providers for an emergency back-up or provide water supply if a system should fail is a high priority.

1. Currently Muskingum County is working to provide a water supply to the Village of Roseville to allow for the curtailment of their well field and eliminate the need for a major water treatment plant upgrade.
2. An Emergency Tie-in with the Village of New Concord is part of a water project anticipated to begin construction in 2020.
3. Assess the feasibility of an Emergency Tie-in with Maysville Regional Water District
4. Adding an additional well at the County Well Field and/or secure a second well field location
5. Improve the Interconnection with the city of Zanesville
6. Assess the feasibility of an Emergency Tie-in with the village of Dresden
7. Assess the feasibility of an Emergency Tie-in with the village of Frazeysburg
8. Assess the feasibility of an Emergency Tie-in with the village of Philo

Proposed Water Line Extensions
1. Water to “the Wilds” property line
2. Southern, Sundale, Zane Grey, and Zane Trace Roads and Cove Lane
3. County Line Road
4. Sunflower Road
5. Norfield Road east of Sonora
6. Big B and Mutton Ridge Road
7. Twin Hills Road
8. Vroom Road to provide a loop for customers in the Dillon Hills area
9. Rt. 208 from Adamsville to Prospect Church Road

Proposed Sewer Projects
1. National Road Business Park
2. Weber Lift Station and Force Main Improvements
3. Licking View Sewer
4. Replace failing variable grade sewer
5. Install Telemetry and SCADA