

# SYMMES TOWNSHIP SIDEWALK

## PLAN

### 2013



# SYMMES TOWNSHIP SIDEWALK PLAN – 2013



## HISTORY OF SIDEWALK PLANNING IN SYMMES TOWNSHIP

In 1998 the Symmes Township Board of Trustees adopted the Township’s first sidewalk plan, entitled, “Symmes Township Community Enhancement and Safety Sidewalk Plan” (“98 Plan”). The 98 Plan recommended a number of new sidewalks within the township, many of which were constructed or are now funded for construction, including along Montgomery Road, Lebanon Road and Rich Road.



## COMMUNITY CHANGES

Since the 98 Plan, notable changes have occurred affecting sidewalk placement, in particular, construction of Hopewell Meadows

Park dedicated in 2001 and Home of the Brave Park dedicated in 2012. These parks modified community demand for sidewalks as well as provided new opportunities for access.



## THE PLANNING PROCESS

Taking advantage of new means for modern community input in the planning process, the Board of Trustees authorized the township’s first “virtual” planning meeting to accept public input on the questions of sidewalk placement and prioritization. Commenters were provided a questionnaire and map to describe where they desired and sidewalks, and the reasoning for the sidewalk placement. They also provided thoughts on what criteria should help determine priority of sidewalk construction. Over 50 comments were received during the virtual process.

In addition, a traditional meeting to gather similar public comment was held at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees on December 4, 2012.

These public remarks were taken into account by Symmes Township planning staff in forming their recommendations to the Board of Trustees, as well as by the Board of Trustees in its final adoption of this Plan. A summary of public input and staff comment is contained in the table shown in Attachment “A”.



## PLANNED ROUTES

From these community input sessions, a recommended sidewalk plan map was developed. As approved by the Board of Trustees, this sidewalk map is incorporated into this Plan as Attachment “B”. The sidewalks shown in Attachment “B” represent the adopted policy of Symmes Township of planned locations for future sidewalk construction.



## SIDEWALK POLICY

This Plan represents the adopted policy of Symmes Township with regard to sidewalks, and sets forth the policy that sidewalk construction and maintenance are an important

part of the Symmes Township community. This Plan supersedes the 98 Plan.

The township shall continue to construct sidewalks consistent with this Plan, as well as maintain residential oriented sidewalks as long as funding such activities remains feasible. The township shall continue to designate a portion of funds raised from the road and sidewalk levy for sidewalk construction and maintenance.

It should be noted that the Board of Trustees may approve construction of sidewalks beyond those identified in this Plan if provided through development regulations such as zoning, as part of another project (such as in association with a road program) or through other means not presently anticipated.



## CRITERIA FOR SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION PRIORITIZATION

The following criteria will be evaluated by the Board of Trustees in deciding the prioritization of sidewalks to be constructed under this Plan.

- Safety of the pedestrian
- Connecting residential areas to points of interest
- “Bang for the buck” (achieving the most connectivity at least cost)
- The greatest number of residents served by the connection

- Availability of grants and funding beyond local resources
- Availability of engineered plans



## CONCLUSION

Providing sidewalks with key points of connectivity will keep Symmes Township competitive, making it a place where people want to locate, improving property values and encouraging a healthy community.

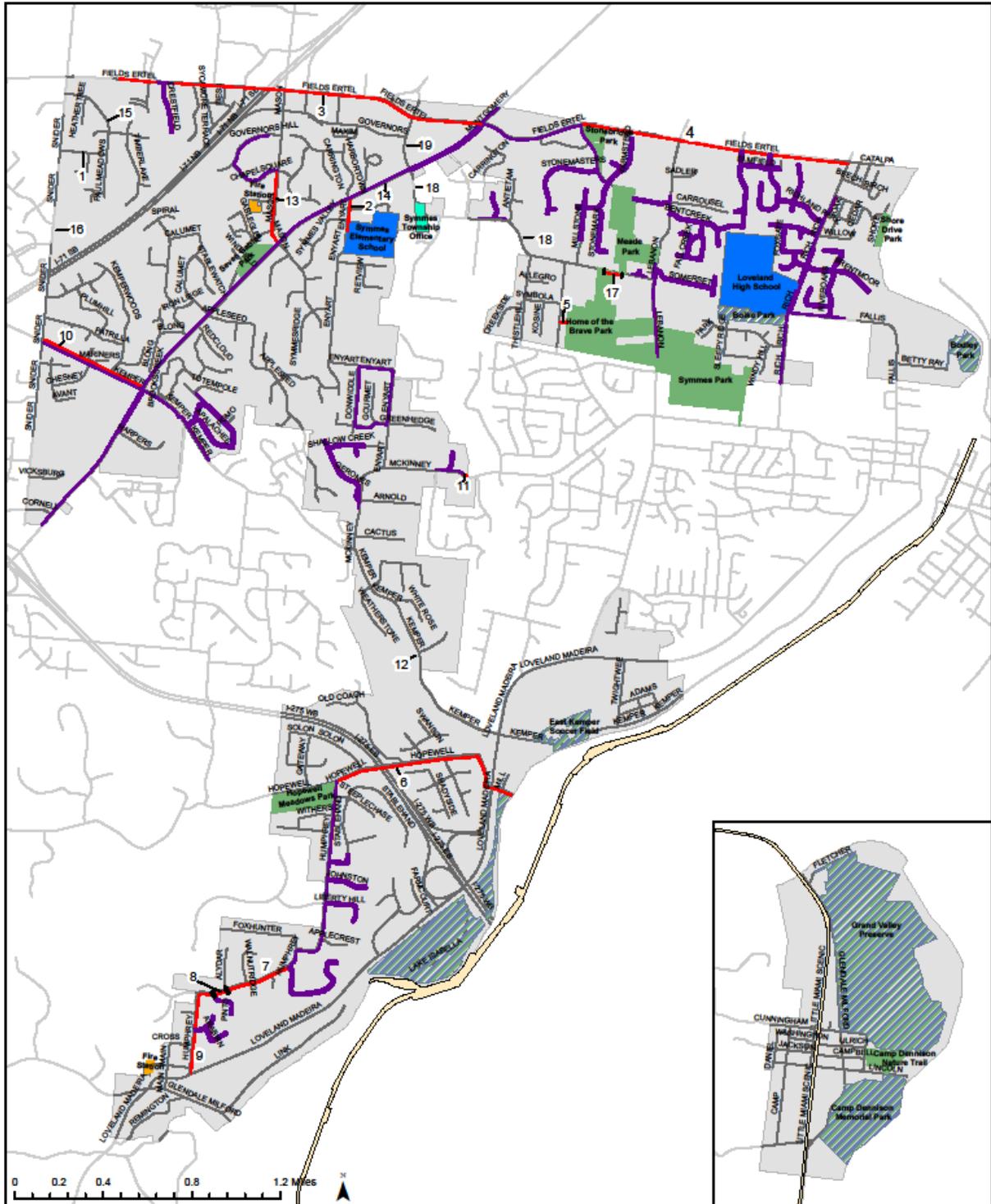
**ATTACHMENT A**

**2013 Symmes Sidewalk Plan - Public Input/Staff Summary Table**

Map Number	Road (alphabetical order)	Description	Submitted by	Citizen and Staff Reasoning* *Staff reasoning in "( )"	Staff Recommendation	Staff Comments
1	Cypresswood	Cypresswood	Citizen	Safety for all of its night time walkers	no	Currently residential level street
2	Enyart	Montgomery Road to Symmes Elementary	Citizen/Staff	Safety and connectivity (In 1998 Sidewalk Plan, will connect new Montgomery sidewalk to points of interest; library, school)	yes	Agree with reasoning
3	Fields Ertel	Fields Ertel from Snider to Montgomery	Citizen	For people walking to work (feasibility limited, staff concurs if outside funding source available, would provide connectivity, pedestrian facilities already installed at main intersections)	yes	Agree with reasoning but noting challenges, not recommended generally west of Woodland Hollow due to limited connectivity
4	Fields Ertel	Fields Ertel from Stonebridge to Rich	Citizen	For people walking to work (provides residential access to commercial points of interest, staff concurs if outside funding source available)	yes	Agree with reasoning
5	Home of the Brave Park	Home of the Brave Park entrance off of Woodwind	Staff	(Connects large residential area to parks and trails)	yes	Agree with reasoning
6	Hopewell	Hopewell Road from Humphrey to Little Miami River/Bike Trail	Citizen	To provide citizen access to both Hopewell Park and the Little Miami Bike Trail. Also safety from a busy road (connectivity good but challenges with topo especially near I-275 and down hill, lack of existing walkways or room for walks on bridges and at railroad)	yes	Agree with reasoning but noting challenges
7	Humphrey	Humphrey from Mistymorn to Alydar	Citizen/Staff	Safety and connections to neighborhoods and park (already engineered)	yes	Agree with reasoning, needs to be on north side due to topo
8	Humphrey	Humphrey from Mistymorn to Pinto	Citizen/Staff	Safety from the road and a connection to other residents and park (already engineered)	yes	Agree with reasoning, needs to be on north side due to topo
9	Humphrey	Humphrey from Loveland Madeira to existing sidewalk on Mistymorn	Citizen	Safety for walkers and cyclists. Also connects neighborhoods to the Hopewell park (connectivity good, residential and to commercial areas, challenges with topo and drainage crossings)	yes	Agree with reasoning but noting challenges
10	Kemper	Snider to Montgomery Road (north side)	Staff	(Partially in 1998 Sidewalk Plan and provides future connectivity)	yes	Agree with Reasoning
11	McKinney	From Loveland Trace until edge of Symmes	Citizen	The number of people that would benefit as well as safety (provides connectivity to parks, partially built, topo and jurisdictional issues)	yes	Agree with Reasoning but noting challenges
12	Kemper	Kemper Road from McKinney to Loveland Madeira	Citizen	Necessary for safety to connect neighborhoods with trails	no	Lack of room, drainage conflicts, limited connectivity
13	Mason	From Chapel Square to Montgomery (west side)	Staff	(Grant applied for previously, section would connect Safety Center and park with residential area, business park and Montgomery Rd. sidewalk)	yes	Agree with Reasoning
14	Montgomery	Enyart to Union Cemetery(east side)	Citizen	Safety and access to businesses on that side of the street	no	Limited additional connectivity due to walks being installed on west side
15	Paul Meadows	Paul Meadows from Snider to Cypresswood	Citizen	Safety for all of its night time walkers	no	Currently residential level street
16	Snider	Snider from Kemper to Fields Ertel	Citizen	To tie into Montgomery Road sidewalks and CHCA	no	Challenges with topo/mature vegetation, limited connectivity
17	Union Cemetery	From Home of the Brave park entrance to Meade Park entrance (south side)	Staff	(Connects existing trails and parks and provides a north/ south connection)	yes	Agree with Reasoning
18	Union Cemetery	From Fields Ertel to Montgomery	Citizen	Safety from the road and a connection to residents	no	Primarily commercial areas, limited connectivity
19	Union Cemetery	Lebanon to Montgomery	Citizen	Safety from the road and a connection to residents	no	Provides minimal connectivity, park trails and planned alternative walks provide similar routes

# Symmes Township Sidewalk Plan

Attachment B



**Legend**

Existing / Funded Sidewalk	Proposed Sidewalk	Little Miami Bike Trail
Park	School	Park (Other Jurisdictions)
Fire Stations	Symmes Township	Symmes Township Office



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