

CONTACT:

Knox Township – Columbiana County
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PROBLEM STATEMENT:

The Homeworth Volunteer Fire Company had responded to seventeen (17) accidents within a six-year period at a dangerous curve on County Road 401 (Homeworth Road) in Columbiana County. Out of the seventeen (17) accidents, there was one (1) fatality. This does not include the time of local EMS personnel to respond, treat and transport accident victims as well as the time of investigation by the Ohio State Patrol in Lisbon, Ohio.

**SOLUTION:**

Working as a team, Fire Chief Brian Baker and Assistant Chief Tracy Windham worked with me, Gregg Carver, Township Trustee and Homeworth Firefighter, to see how many accidents had occurred, the direction of travel, and a possible solution to help the motoring public in our township. After we had obtained the documentation on the number of accidents that had occurred in this one particular area, and the time involved by the fire department, emergency responders, Ohio State Patrol and towing services, we felt the need to move forward. Our solution was to light up the curve area with reflective arrow chevrons. We also used the expertise of Columbiana County Engineer, Bert Dawson, and his staff as the road was under his jurisdiction in Columbiana County.

LABOR/MATERIALS/COST:

Total cost of labor: County - \$42.00, Township - \$32.00, Fire - \$0.00 = \$74.00 Total cost of materials: Sign Posts - \$52.90, Chevron Arrows - \$35.66, High Intensity Strips \$32.00 = \$120.66 Total project cost for labor and materials: \$194.56

SAVINGS/BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY:

From the time of placement of the signs in February 2007 until this point, January 2012, we have had only three (3) additional accidents. In one instance, a deer ran into the path of the vehicle, and in the other two (2) accidents, weather (snow and ice) contributed to the cause of the accidents. Because of increased awareness in all cases, the motorists were uninjured and damage to the vehicles involved was minimal. By spending less than \$200 to erect simple signs time and money has been saved by parties, and possibly someone's life.