



JANUARY 12, 2023

Amy Voigt

Communications Specialist
amy.voigt@toledo.oh.gov
cell 419-389-2260

Gretchen DeBacker

Director
gretchen.debacker@toledo.oh.gov
cell 419-297-7210

Marketing and Communications

One Government Center
Suite 2200
Toledo, Ohio 43604

→ toledo.oh.gov



Office of the Mayor and BCI/Buckeye Issue Joint Statement on Summit Street Project Resolution

Subject to approval by the City Council, the City and Block Communications/Buckeye Broadband have agreed to resolve their dispute over which party is responsible for paying to relocate Buckeye's fiber optic cables along Summit Street which was done in advance of Toledo hosting the Solheim Cup golf tournament in 2021.

The Summit Street project was designed and completed to beautify and improve a major Toledo street in advance of tens of thousands of visitors coming to Toledo for the Solheim Cup tournament. Certain City officials discussed with Buckeye which party, the City or Buckeye, was responsible for the cost of relocating Buckeye's lines because the project was focused on beautification, economic development, and traffic improvements, as well as roadway reconstruction. The City ultimately informed Buckeye that the City would pay for the cost of relocation. Based on that understanding, Buckeye assisted the City with the relocation devoting hundreds of hours of engineering time to be sure the facilities relocation was done right.

Later, however, some City officials expressed their disagreement with this decision. The City filed a lawsuit and the judge assigned to the case ordered the parties to engage in mediation. Retired Common Pleas Judge James J. McMonagle served as the mediator and was facilitative in bringing about this settlement. Both parties would be



Amy Voigt

Communications Specialist
amy.voigt@toledo.oh.gov
cell 419-389-2260

Gretchen DeBacker

Director
gretchen.debacker@toledo.oh.gov
cell 419-297-7210

Marketing and Communications

One Government Center
Suite 2200
Toledo, Ohio 43604

→ toledo.oh.gov



spending substantial legal fees to continue to litigate the case. Therefore, the City has decided to dismiss the lawsuit, and, in return, Buckeye has agreed to pay the City \$300,000.

The Mayor acknowledges that Buckeye did nothing wrong by asserting in good faith that the City, not Buckeye, was responsible for the cost of relocating Buckeye's lines under applicable law. The Mayor apologizes to Buckeye for any negative perception the filing of the City's lawsuit created. For over fifty years, Buckeye has provided top-notch local service and generous support for community organizations large and small. Buckeye is pleased that this matter is behind it and looks forward to working cooperatively with the City in the future, in particular as Buckeye continues to invest in the metropolitan Toledo area by installing an ultra-high speed fiber optic network to serve area residents and businesses with state of the art communications technology.

###