

Resolution 2026-090

The Board of Trustees of Howland Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, met in regular session on July 8, 2026, with the following members present:

Frank Dillon, Matthew Vansuch, Dr. James LaPolla

Matthew Vansuch moved for adoption of the following Resolution by the Howland Township Trustees

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR TO PREPARE AND TRANSMIT CORRESPONDENCE TO STATE, FEDERAL, AND COUNTY OFFICIALS REGARDING FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE INSTALLATION SAFETY AND LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Howland Township recognizes the importance of expanding broadband and fiber optic infrastructure to serve residents, businesses, and public institutions; and

WHEREAS, the installation of fiber optic infrastructure within Howland Township has resulted in numerous utility strikes, service interruptions, roadway impacts, and public safety concerns affecting residents and essential utility services; and

WHEREAS, Ohio townships possess limited authority to regulate or prohibit the installation of telecommunications infrastructure beyond the authority granted under the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, following discussions with Lumos and its contractors, enhanced safety measures and operational improvements have been implemented to strengthen utility locating procedures, improve contractor oversight and accountability, enhance communication with local officials, and reduce the likelihood of future utility strikes; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees believes these enhanced safety measures represent best practices that should be considered for statewide implementation to better protect public infrastructure, underground utilities, and the citizens of Ohio;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Howland Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, that:

The Township Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and transmit formal correspondence to State Representative Nick Santucci, State Senator Sandra O'Brien, Congressman Dave Joyce, and the Trumbull County Board of Commissioners outlining the public safety concerns and operational impacts associated with fiber optic infrastructure installation activities in Howland Township.

The correspondence shall summarize the enhanced safety procedures, operational improvements, and best management practices implemented by Lumos to reduce utility strikes, improve excavation safety, strengthen contractor accountability, and enhance coordination with local governments and utility providers.

The correspondence to State Representative Nick Santucci and State Senator Sandra O'Brien shall respectfully request consideration of amendments to the Ohio Revised Code establishing uniform statewide safety standards, contractor accountability measures,

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and minimum operational requirements for all companies engaged in fiber optic infrastructure installation and underground utility excavation.

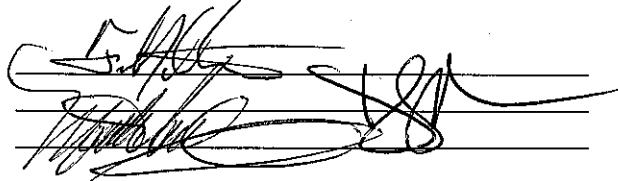
The correspondence to Congressman Dave Joyce shall respectfully request support for federal broadband infrastructure policies and funding initiatives that encourage or require enhanced excavation safety standards, utility protection measures, and contractor accountability for projects receiving federal assistance.

The correspondence to the Trumbull County Board of Commissioners shall request the Commissioners' support in advocating for legislative and regulatory reforms that improve public safety, protect critical infrastructure, and provide local governments with additional tools to address the impacts of fiber optic infrastructure installation.

The Township Administrator is further authorized to communicate with appropriate governmental agencies, legislative committees, utility providers, and other stakeholders regarding these matters and to provide copies of the correspondence as deemed appropriate.

Section 7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Dr. James LaPolla seconded the motion to pass the Resolution, and upon roll call, the vote resulted as follows:



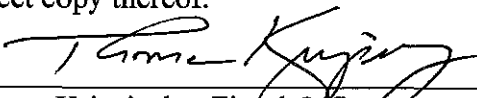
Yea
Yea
Yea

Adopted: July 8, 2026

State of Ohio)
) ss:
County of Trumbull)

CERTIFICATE OF THE FISCAL OFFICER

I, Thomas Krispinsky, Fiscal Officer of the Board of Trustees of Howland Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, in whose custody and control the files and records of such Board are required by the Laws of the State of Ohio to be kept, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is taken and copied from the original Resolution and that the same is a true and correct copy thereof.



Thomas Krispinsky, Fiscal Officer

Date: 7/9/26