Virtual Pipe Monopoly Costs Ohio
Nearly $100,000 per Mile

Closed Competition
Franklin County, OH (Columbus)

Open Competition
Delaware County, OH

Estimated Pipeline Capital Costs by Pipeline Diameter, for Franklin County, OH (Columbus), Delaware County, and the City of Dayton. Source: BCC Research

- OPEN COMPETITION Delaware County, OH, allows all materials that meet specifications to bid on a pipe project. It enjoys lower pipe capital costs on average. However, Franklin County mandates only one material for water supply pipe, granting a virtual monopoly costing taxpayers an average of $97,680 per mile in additional pipe capital cost.

- Savings on average, for pipe capital costs in OPEN COMPETITION Delaware County, OH were 32% to 35% compared to Franklin County, OH with a virtual pipe monopoly for one material, ductile iron.

- Even considering total pipeline construction costs, OPEN COMPETITION Delaware County, OH saved 13.6%, on average, compared to Franklin County, OH on pipe projects.

- Eight to 12” pipe in Franklin County, OH, which maintains a virtual monopoly, cost on average $51.83 per foot, but in OPEN COMPETITION Delaware County, OH it cost $33.33 per foot on average, a difference of $18.50 per foot, saving $97,680 per mile in pipe capital costs alone.

- For every ten miles of pipeline, OPEN COMPETITION could save nearly $1 million in pipe capital costs alone.

A copy of the full study: Comparison of Water Main Pipeline Installation Lengths and Costs in Ohio, BCC Research, February 2016 is available at: www.greenbuildingsolutions.org/ohiopipe

Note: Columbus occupies approximately 90% of Franklin County, OH.