



City of Bluff City
Mayor Percy J. Brown

Office of the Mayor

City Hall / 100 Broad Avenue
Bluff City, Ohio

March 31, 2008

Dear Bluff City Citizens:

Fellow citizens, crisis has once again reared its ugly head in Bluff City. You see, our latest dilemma stems from the Bluff County Correctional Facility (BCCF) out on Highway 26 and involves a high rash of prison escape attempts. Many of those attempts have resulted in actual escapes and that costs all of us, people, in police overtime for the manhunts and extra kibble for the tracking dogs!

This year alone, BCCF has seen 43 escape attempts with a total of 22 successful escapes. Of the 22 successful escapes, only eight of the prisoners have been recaptured. But rest assured that our police department is working closely with local bounty hunters to collect the remaining prisoners.

In the interest of public safety, I have initiated a study to determine why so many of these escapes are successful. The findings may alarm you. You see, it's been determined that all these escapes are successful because of the prison's close proximity to the highway. The outer fence at BCCF is right next to the highway and this close proximity appears to make it easy for prisoners to escape with outside assistance.

The state Department of Transportation (DOT) tried to correct the problem by posting highway signs reading "Do Not Pick Up Hitchhikers – Prison Nearby". According to our studies, those signs do not appear to be working. We think the biggest problem is that DOT's freeway signage is not clear enough, thus confusing drivers.

So the Mayor's Office here at Bluff City city hall has provided DOT with some well-reasoned recommendations for improvement, which will eliminate any driver confusion.

What did we recommend, you ask? Simple. The highway signs should read thusly:

"DO NOT PICK UP HITCHHIKERS IN ORANGE JUMPSUITS – PRISON NEARBY!"

Keep your doors locked when driving Highway 26 and heed the signs!

Sincerely,
Percy J. Brown
Your Honorable Mayor