

A Pipeline Puts A Community Jewel at Risk



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- Luke Messinger, Executive Director
Dawes Arboretum

Our Client

The Dawes Arboretum in Newark, Ohio consists of 1,800 acres of beautiful grounds dedicated to increasing the love and knowledge of trees, history, and the natural world. The Arboretum’s mission is to provide exceptional education programs and events, as well as maintain incredible horticulture collections.

The Threat

The Arboretum’s executive director, Luke Messinger, feared the ATEX pipeline’s proposed path through the Arboretum would be incredibly detrimental to their daily operations.

“I was hopeful however that if we had experienced legal help on our side we could propose an alternative route on our property that would minimize disruption to our operations,” Messinger explained.

How We Helped

Eminent domain attorneys Goldman & Braunstein were retained. Their first order of business was to tour the Arboretum, taking a close look at the proposed path and alternative routes that Messinger believed would cause less damage to both the natural habitat and the work that is done there daily.

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The Results

The attorneys were able to both demonstrate and clearly communicate the value of the land to the pipeline company. The negotiated settlement included:

- ATEX’s agreement to move the 8,500 feet of pipeline on the Arboretum’s property so research and youth education areas were not impacted
- Substantial increase in compensation

“From the start, our goal was to minimize the pipeline’s impact. The pipeline company was agreeable I think, because Goldman & Braunstein were able to communicate the passion, level of education and love the community has for this property.”