



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 04  
2088 SOUTH ARLINGTON RD. • AKRON, OH 44306 • 330-786-3100

## **Environmental Document**

for

## **MAH IR76 03.03 Noise Wall PID 106849**

**Environmental Document Level: C1**

**Approved: 12/16/2020**

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*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ODOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated June 6, 2018, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.*

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## C1

<b>PID:</b>	106849
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	DISTRICT 4-PLANNING
<b>ODOT District:</b>	4
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Federal
<b>Private Funding:</b>	No
<b>Project Description:</b>	

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes to construct a Type II retrofit noise wall along Interstate Route (IR) 76 westbound and the IR 76 westbound exit ramp to State Route (SR) 534 in Milton Township, Mahoning County.

Additional improvements proposed by the project include clearing/grubbing of vegetation within the construction limits, linear grading, guardrail upgrades/replacements, including Type B anchor end terminal assembly replacements, new barrier reflector installations and the relocation of overhead and ground mounted signs.

A Type II traffic noise analysis was completed for the project study area in 2018. The noise analysis was initiated by ODOT District 4 in response to local interest in mitigating highway noise along Interstate Route (IR) 76 between State Route (SR) 534 and Bailey Road, a distance of approximately 3.2 miles. The noise analysis area extends 500 feet from the edge of pavement to the north and south of IR 76. Land uses within the noise analysis area were identified using aerial photographs and verified and refined during a site visit on March 19, 2018. Based on these land uses and on the location of roads and terrain features, the noise analysis area was divided into four noise sensitive areas (NSAs). The noise analysis determined a single noise wall for NSA 1 would provide a level of noise reduction that would be considered feasible and reasonable and met the criteria of a Type II Noise Mitigation Program project, a federal or state-funded project that provides acoustic protection for receptors in the Green Acres Trailer Park/Campground that were in existence prior to the construction of the highway and when it was open to traffic. Noise abatement measures were not recommended for the other NSAs as none were found to be feasible and reasonable.

The proposed noise wall at NSA 1 is located in the northeast quadrant of the existing IR 76/SR 534 interchange. This noise wall is proposed along the IR 76 westbound exit ramp edge of shoulder (EOS) beginning approximately 500 feet east of the IR 76 westbound exit ramp/SR 534 intersection and extending southeastwardly along the IR 76 westbound exit ramp to provide noise abatement for the Green Acres Trailer Park/Campground, a privately-owned facility. The proposed noise wall is approximately 12 feet high, on average, and approximately 2,080 feet long.

The project did not require a noise survey to determine the Green Acres Trailer Park/Campgrounds' desire to have noise walls constructed as their desire for noise wall construction was previously completed in 2018 via the ODOT Type II Noise Mitigation Application/Petition process. Consequently, the benefited receptors



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within NSA 1 were not contacted to solicit their concerns/comments regarding the proposed noise wall construction. The only survey necessary for the project was to determine the noise wall color/texture preferences for the trailer park/campground side of the proposed noise wall.

See continuation of the project description in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Project Description Continued.pdf.

STIP Reference #: 106849: 21-24 STIP/SLI Group Project. Fiscal constraint is at SLI Group level.

Cultural Resources Coordination: Minimal Potential to Cause Effect Appendix A

Cultural Resources Coordination Date: 12/03/2020

Since no Tribe was interested in this project based on their customized preferences, no further Tribal consultation was conducted.

Supporting documentation has been uploaded to Project File: Yes

Select the appropriate project type (more than one can be selected):

(6) The installation of noise barriers or alterations to existing publicly owned buildings to provide for noise reduction. **Examples include: Maintenance and/or replacement of existing noise wall panels and/or posts.**

(22) Projects, as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101 that would take place entirely within the existing operational right-of-way. Existing operational right-of-way refers to right-of-way that has been disturbed for an existing transportation facility or is maintained for a transportation purpose. This area includes the features associated with the physical footprint of the transportation facility (including the roadway, bridges, interchanges, culverts, drainage, fixed guideways, mitigation areas, etc.) and other areas maintained for transportation purposes such as clear zone, traffic control signage, landscaping, any rest areas with direct access to a controlled access highway, areas maintained for safety and security of a transportation facility, parking facilities with direct access to an existing transportation facility, transit power substations, transit venting structures, and transit maintenance facilities. Portions of the right-of-way that have not been disturbed or that are not maintained for transportation purposes are not in the existing operational right-of-way. **Examples include: Tower lighting within the existing operational right-of-way; Guardrail installation and replacement (including median cable barriers) where roadway ditches and backslopes will not be relocated; Improvements to existing ODOT/County maintenance facilities; Construction of new ODOT/County maintenance facilities within existing operational right-of-way; Environmental mitigation activities within existing operational right-of-way; Work on pedestrian and vehicle transfer structures and associated utilities, buildings, and terminals within existing operational right-of-way; Construction of alternative energy facilities (fuel tank farms, wind turbines, etc.)**

Environmental Commitments: Yes



## Environmental Commitments

### C1

1) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans:

**STREAM AVOIDANCE:** UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL ANY EQUIPMENT (LIFT, BACKHOE, EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT, ETC.) AND/OR MATERIALS ENTER THE STREAM(S) AT THE STREAMS DELINEATED BEYOND THE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION LIMITS AND DEPICTED IN THE PROJECT PLANS. NO FILL MATERIAL (INCLUDING TEMPORARY FILLS) SHALL BE PLACED BELOW THE IDENTIFIED ORDINARY HIGH WATER MARK (OHWM) OF THE STREAM(S). THE CONTRACTOR SHALL TAKE ALL PRECAUTIONS NECESSARY TO PREVENT ALL CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, WASTE MATERIALS, WATER CHEMICALS OR OTHER SUBSTANCES USED TO CONSTRUCT THE PROJECT FROM ENTERING THE STREAM(S).

2) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans:

**TREE CUTTING/REMOVAL PROHIBITED:** THE AFOREMENTIONED PROJECT SITE IS LOCATED WITHIN THE KNOWN HABITAT RANGES OF THE FEDERALLY LISTED AND PROTECTED INDIANA BAT AND NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT. TREE TRIMMING IS PERMITTED AT THIS LOCATION AS DIRECTED BY THE PROJECT ENGINEER, HOWEVER, NO TREES SHALL BE REMOVED AT THIS LOCATION. A TREE IS DEFINED AS A LIVE, DYING, OR DEAD WOODY PLANT, WITH A TRUNK THREE INCHES OR GREATER IN DIAMETER AT A HEIGHT OF 4.5 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND SURFACE, AND WITH A MINIMUM HEIGHT OF 13 FEET.



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### **Preparers and Approvals**

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### **Approvals & Electronic Signatures**

<b>Approved &amp; Electronically Signed By:</b>	<b>Approval Date:</b>
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	12/16/2020



## **Appendix**

### **General**

Project Description Continued.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

### **Noise**

Noise Related Public Inquiry.pdf

OES Approval - Noise Analysis.pdf

OES Approval - Noise Wall Preliminary Placement Plan.pdf

### **Cultural Resources**

Records Check.pdf

### **Ecological**

Ecological Review Form - Ecologically Exempt Project.pdf

### **Public Involvement**

Noise Wall Aesthetics Survey.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter - Aesthetics Survey.pdf