



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 12
5500 TRANSPORTATION BLVD. • GARFIELD HGTS., OH 44125 • 216-581-2100

Environmental Document

for

CUY IR 071 18.29 Safety PID 110851

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 10/18/2021

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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 December 14, 2020, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.

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PID: 110851
Project Sponsor: ODOT SPONSORING AGENCY
ODOT District: 12
Funding Source: Federal
Private Funding: No

Project Description:

ODOT proposes to construct CUY-71-18.29, a highway safety project located along Interstate 71 Southbound (I-71 SB) between a point just south of the Interstate-90/490 (I-90) interchange and the State Route 176 (SR 176) exit. The project will plane and overlay the pavement of the southbound collector-distributor road (CD Road) and restripe the CD Road just south of the I-90 ramp merge to add a third lane. The project will either clean and reconstruct or remove and replace storm sewer inlets in select locations. The project will reconstruct and revise guide signs on the CD Road, including replacing or constructing new overhead sign trusses on new foundations where required. No work will be performed on mainline I-71.

The project will reconstruct and realign the ramp from Valentine Avenue and West 14th Street to southbound SR 176 and convert it from a lane-add to a merge condition. This enables two through lanes from the CD Road to SR 176 to mitigate capacity constraints to the north. Realignment and modification to the profile of the intersection of Valentine Avenue, West 14th Street and the ramp to W 25th Street / I-71 South is necessary. Existing storm sewer and catchbasins will be relocated. A minimum of one lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction at all times except for one period of less than 30 days when the eastbound lane of Valentine Avenue east of West 17th Street may be detoured. Southbound West 14th Street and Westbound Valentine Avenue is an ambulance route and will be maintained at all times. The work will be accomplished entirely within existing right of way.

The purpose of this project is to provide a safety benefit to eastbound I-90 through addressing capacity constraints on the southbound CD Road that result in queues extending onto eastbound I-90, by constructing the above-described improvements. This project has been determined to generate minimal air quality impacts for Clean Air Act criteria pollutants and has not been linked with any special mobile source air toxic (MSAT) concerns. As such, this project will not result in changes in traffic volumes, vehicle mix, basic project location, or any other factor that would cause a meaningful increase in MSAT impacts of the project from that of the no-build alternative.

Moreover, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations for vehicle engines and fuels will cause overall MSAT emissions to decline significantly over the next several decades. Based on regulations now in effect, an analysis of national trends with EPA's MOVES2014 model forecasts a combined reduction of over 90 percent in the total annual emissions rate for the priority MSAT from 2010 to 2050 while vehicle-miles of travel are projected to increase by over 45 percent (Updated Interim Guidance on Mobile Source Air Toxic Analysis in NEPA Documents, Federal Highway Administration, October 12, 2016). This will both reduce the background level of MSAT as well as the possibility of even minor MSAT emissions from this project.

The project is located in Cuyahoga County which is an ozone maintenance area for the 1997 and 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standards and a nonattainment area for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard. The proposed project is listed in the STIP/TIP, therefore ozone is addressed.

The project is located in Cuyahoga County which is a PM2.5 maintenance area for the PM2.5 24-hour standard and in a PM2.5 nonattainment area for the annual standard. On March 2, 2021 ODOT requested concurrence from OEPA, USEPA and FHWA that the project is not a project of air quality concern and no PM2.5 hotspot analysis is required.



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FHWA concurred with ODOT on March 2 and OEPA and USEPA concurred with ODOT on March 4, 2021.

The project area was reviewed and no recreational properties were identified within or immediately adjacent to the proposed project. The proposed project will not restrict access to and/or permanently incorporate land into a transportation facility or temporarily occupy land from the Scranton South Side Historic District (NR # 15000371). No Section 4(f) coordination is required in accordance with 23 CFR 774 and the OES Section 4(f) Manual.

OES determined the project was non-notifying for ecological resource impacts. The current design will impact 0.001 acres of wetland impacts. ODOT will obtain the required waterway permits for the project.

As the project is constructing 2 separate auxiliary lanes that are each less than a mile in length, a Noise Analysis was required

The 2019 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant List for Cuyahoga County was reviewed. No Section 6(f) sites are present in the project vicinity.

The Regulated Materials Review identified two historical landfills in the project area. ODOT OES coordination with OEPA concluded that no 513 permits, additional RMR or special material management is warranted for the project. PONL letters were sent out when the project was initiated. No public comments were received at that time. A Press Release was sent out after design and several public comments were received. a Public Involvement Summary was prepared and included in the Project File. Based on public comments, The project design does not preclude any future pedestrian access improvements in the area and ODOT will attend Block Club meetings in Winter 2022/2023 to present project specifics. ODOT has determined that the project can proceed as currently designed.

The C2 environmental approval and associated studies are based on Stage 2 Design. A copy of the plans can be found in the project file.

STIP Reference #:

110851: 21-24 STIP

Select the appropriate project type:

(27) Highway safety or traffic operations improvement projects, including the installation of ramp metering control devices and lighting, if the project meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section. ***Examples include: Lane reduction ("road diet") changes provided traffic analysis is completed; Railroad projects that close at-grade crossings to improve safety or traffic operations.***

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117(e), the proposed project cannot be processed as a C2 CE, if it involves -
a. Acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way
b. Residential or non-residential displacements
c. A Coast Guard, Individual Section 404 and/or a Section 10 permit
d. A Section 106 finding of Adverse Effect
e. A Section 4(f) Programmatic or Individual Evaluation
f. A finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect to Threatened and Endangered Species
g. Construction of temporary access, or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions
h. Changes in access control
i. Floodplain encroachment other than functionally dependent uses (e.g., bridges, wetlands) or actions that facilitate open space use (e.g., recreational trails, bicycle and pedestrian paths)
j. Construction activities in, across or adjacent to a river component designated or proposed for inclusion in the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers
k. No minor public or agency controversy on environmental grounds (no opposition from any organized groups or agencies and no unresolved environmental coordination)
l. If an EJ Analysis Report is required, the project must be processed as a D-level CE or higher level document For certification purposes, documentation is required to illustrate no significant impacts will occur to the following environmental resources and that no unusual circumstances exist that would warrant a higher level of NEPA document. Upload all supporting documentation to the project file.

Waterways:

Present; No Coast Guard, Individual 404, and/or Section 10 Permit required



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Waterways Permit Type:	Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending
Isolated Wetland Permit	No
Endangered Species:	No Impacts to Protected Species and Critical Habitat
100-Year Floodplain:	No Encroachment Within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
Section 4(f):	Present; No Impacts and/or Access Restrictions
Section 6(f):	Not present
Cultural Resources:	Present; No Finding of Adverse Effect
Cultural Resources Coordination:	Minimum Potential to Cause Effect Appendix B
Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date	04/20/2021
Since no Tribe was interested in this project based on their customized preferences, no further Tribal consultation was conducted.	
Projects that meet C2 criteria are not anticipated to have impacts to the following environmental resources. If resources are present, documentation is only required if there is a potential for impacts.	
Air Quality:	Studies Not Required
Air Quality - Coordination with OES:	Yes
Air Quality - OES Approval Date:	03/04/2021
Noise:	Studies Not Required
Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date:	02/24/2021
Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted	Yes
Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date:	06/07/2021
Phase I ESA Warranted Based on Coordination with OES:	No Further Studies Warranted
Farmland:	Urbanized Area; No Impacts in Accordance With the Farmland MOU and 7 CFR 658
Scenic Rivers	No National Wild and Scenic River Within 1000 Feet of the Proposed Project Area

Projects that meet C2 criteria must be in accordance with ODOT's UP Guidance and activities conducted for Public Involvement are commensurate to the project's type and scope of work.



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Underserved Populations

Does Not Exceed UP Guidance
Criteria; No UP Analysis Report
Required and No UP Issues Raised
During Public Involvement

Public Involvement:

Minimum PI Requirements Met; No
Minor Public or Agency Controversy
on Environmental Grounds

Environmental Commitments

Yes



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Environmental Commitments

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- 1) ODOT will obtain all appropriate waterway permits prior to any work within the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all Waterway Permit Special Provisions will be noted under Special Provisions in the plans and adhered to during construction.
- 2) ODOT will attend Block Club Meetings, if necessary, to present project specifics to residents and business.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer:

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	10/18/2021



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Air

FHWA Approval - PM2.5.pdf

OEPA Acceptance - PM 2.5.pdf

USEPA Acceptance - PM2.5.pdf

Noise

OES Approval - No Analysis Required.pdf

ESA

Coordination with OEPA.pdf

Environmental Database Search Results.pdf

Landfills.pdf

OES Recommendations - RMR Screening and Landfills .pdf

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Ecological

OES Approval - No ODNR or USFWS coordination required.pdf

Other Resources

Census Bureau Urbanized Area Map.pdf

Section 6(f)

LWCF Grant Listing.pdf

Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

Underserved Populations Documentation Form.pdf

Public Involvement

Property Owner Notification Letter - Recipient List.pdf



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Property Owner Notification Letter.pdf

Public Involvement Summary.pdf

Response to Stakeholder Comments.msg

Stakeholder Meeting Minutes or Notes.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM - North.pdf

FEMA FIRM - South.pdf