



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

LAK US 006 04.61 Super PID 113000

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 10/14/2022

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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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C2

PID:	113000
Project Sponsor:	ODOT SPONSORING AGENCY
ODOT District:	12
Funding Source:	Federal
Private Funding:	No
Project Description:	



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The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in cooperation with the city of Willoughby Hills proposes to replace the superstructure of the existing bridge on U. S. 6 over the Chagrin River in the city of Willoughby Hills, Lake County. The project will bring the bridge up to current design standards. The existing bridge is a 28-foot wide continuous steel girder with concrete deck and concrete substructure. Work within the Chagrin River will include restoring the piers and channel bottom to pre-scour condition. The forward abutment will be removed and a new abutment will be placed behind the existing abutment's location. For stability concerns, the existing abutment below the bridge seat will stay in place. The new structure will be a 30-foot wide 4 span continuous steel girder bridge with reinforced concrete deck on existing piers and proposed semi-integral abutments.

No temporary or permanent right-of-way will be required for construction. All work will take place within the existing right-of-way. Two utilities will need relocated: a CEI utility pole and a Diversified Gas and Oil line.

Construction will require closure of Chardon Road for 12 months. The official detour will be SR 91 (SOM Center Road) north, I-90 east, SR 306 (Chillicothe Road) south to U.S. 6 (Chardon Road) east.

An ecological survey was completed for the project area. There are three streams and three wetlands within the study area. 62 feet of linear impacts are expected to the Chagrin River. No impacts to streams 1 and 2 are anticipated. The project is located within the corporation limits of the city of Willoughby Hills. Chagrin River is a designated state scenic river, however the ODNR Scenic River Program's jurisdiction does not extend through corporation limits. 0.007 Acres of wetland impacts are expected to wetland B. Impact details to all 3 wetlands were unknown at the time of report submittal. A USACE permit is required.

The project is located within the floodplain. The project will have no impact on the floodplain. FloodPlain permit pending.

The Chagrin River is a Group 3 stream according to the 2020 Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol. The mussel reconnaissance survey did not find suitable mussel habitat. ODNR concurred that no mussel survey is required.

Approximately 0.58 acre of SWH is located within construction limits and is proposed to be impacted, all of which is located within 100 feet from EOP. The underside of the US 6 bridge was visually inspected from the ground. There was no evidence of staining or droppings and no bats were seen or heard. The project is not located in a USFWS bat buffer zone. All tree removal will occur between October 1 and March 31. No impacts to any other federally or state listed species are expected. The black-crowned night-heron is not likely to be impacted.

Pleasant Valley Park is a recognized Section 4(f) property is located within the project area. The project will require construction access through Pleasant Valley Park using the existing entrance and drive. Accommodations will be made to maintain the existing access under U.S. 6 between the various parcels of private property. Based on coordination with the Official with Jurisdiction and in accordance with 23 CFR 774.13(d), ODOT-OES Policy Staff determined on September 21, 2022 that the temporary occupancy of land and/or access for the project will not constitute a use upon the protected recreational activities, features, or attributes associated with the Pleasant Valley Park.

No other environmental, cultural resources, hazardous materials, Section 6(f), or underserved population impacts will result from this project.

Letters were sent to adjacent property owners on March 2, 2021 to provide notice of work crews potentially entering their property to collect field data. The letter also invited property owners to reach out with any comments and questions about the project. An email was sent on February 8, 2022 notifying local emergency management agencies and schools of the project and inviting any questions and comments. No comments or questions were received from either notification. A press release was sent on June 6, 2022 and the ODOT website was created. Four (4) comments were received. No revisions or additions to project have been made based on public input. PI documents and responses are uploaded to EnviroNet. ODOT has decided to proceed with the project as currently designed.

The environmental document and associated studies are being approved using Stage 2 Documents. A copy of the plans is included in the project file.

Construction is currently scheduled to begin at the end of fall in 2023 and last approximately 12 months.

STIP Reference #:

113000: 21-24 STIP

Select the appropriate project type:

(28) Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings, if the actions meet the constraints in 23 CFR 771.117(e). **Examples include: Railroad projects that close or relocate at-grade crossings**

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117(e), the proposed project cannot be processed as a C2 CE, if it involves -

1. a. Acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way



2. b. Residential or non-residential displacements
3. c. A Coast Guard, Individual Section 404 and/or a Section 10 permit
4. d. A Section 106 finding of *Adverse Effect*
5. e. A Section 4(f) Programmatic or Individual Evaluation
6. f. A finding of *May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect* to Threatened and Endangered Species
7. g. Construction of temporary access, or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions
8. h. Changes in access control
9. 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)
10. 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
11. k. No minor public or agency controversy on environmental grounds (no opposition from any organized groups or agencies and no unresolved environmental coordination)
12. 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
Waterways Permit Type:	Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending
Isolated Wetland Permit	No
Will any wetlands be impacted?	Yes
Endangered Species:	Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect
Endangered Species - Coordination	May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Endangered Species - Coordination Date	04/14/2022
Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted	
Indiana bat	
Northern long-eared bat	
Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted:	No
100-Year Floodplain:	Encroachment Within the SFHA is a Functionally Dependent Use
EO 11988/NFIP Coordination and Documentation Completed:	Yes



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NFIP Local Floodplain Coordinator Notification Date: 06/02/2022

Section 4(f): Present; No Programmatic Evaluation or Individual Evaluation Required

Section 4(f) Determination:

Temporary No Use Exception - 774.13(d)

Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(d) 09/21/2022

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 01/19/2022

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: No

Noise: Studies Not Required

Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date: 10/14/2022

Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted Yes

Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date: 09/26/2022

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.

Underserved Populations Present; No UPIAR Required, Does Not Exceed UP Guidance Criteria, and No Issues Raised During Public Involvement



Identified Underserved Populations

Census Block Group #	% Minority	% Low Income	% Older Adults	% Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
390852011001	0	13	21	0
390852011003	9	12	28	3

Underserved Populations Remarks

According to the ODOT's TIMS, the EJ population percentages are low in the project area. The Minority population is 0 - 9 percent. The Low Income population is 12 - 13 percent. The older adult population is 21 - 28 percent and the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) is 0- 3 percent population.

The proposed project will have no disproportionately high and adverse effects to minority or low-income populations or disparate impacts to a Title VI population based upon the table above, the attached mapping, and the answers to the questions above. No concerns related to impacts on Environmental Justice or Title VI populations were raised as a result of public involvement activities conducted as part of the proposed project. Therefore, in accordance with the protections of Executive Order 12898, FHWA Order 6640.23A and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, no further analysis is required.

The proposed project will have no substantial impacts to Limited English Proficiency, Older Adults, and Individuals with Disabilities Populations based upon the table above, the attached mapping, and the answers to the questions above. No concerns related to impacts on these Underserved Populations were raised as a result of public involvement activities conducted as part of the proposed project. Therefore, in accordance with the protections of the Age Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Discrimination Act of 1975, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Executive Order 13166, no further analysis is required.

Based on the above findings an Underserved Populations Impact Analysis Report is not required.

The Census mapping may be found in the project file under Underserved Populations.

Public Involvement:

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

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Ecological

Wetlands

ESR Name:	Wetland ID:	Hydrologic connection:	Wetland category:	Estimated total size (ac.):	Total estimated impact area by alternative (ac.):
LAK-6-4.61	Wetland A	Adjacent	Category 2	0.110	0
	Wetland B	Adjacent	Category 1	0.013	0.007
	Wetland C	Adjacent	Category 1	0.005	0

Has an Approved and/or Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination been made by the USACE? No

Total impact to all wetlands (ac.): 0.007

Total acres of non-isolated wetlands impacted: 0.007

Total acres of isolated wetlands impacted: 0

In accordance with Executive Order 11990 - USDOT Order 5660.1A, this Wetland Finding has been prepared to document that wetlands have been avoided to the extent possible to minimize the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands, and to document that there are no practicable alternatives to avoid construction in wetlands.

An analysis of the 'Do Nothing' alternative indicates that it is not practicable because (check all that apply):

It Would Not Correct Existing Condition and Maintenance Problems.

An analysis of improvements that avoid all wetland impacts indicates that they are not practicable because (check all that apply):

They Will Result in Unique Engineering, Traffic, Maintenance, or Safety Problems.

They Will Not Meet the Identified Needs of the Project.

Include justification supporting the decisions noted above:

Due to the nature of the project (bridge superstructure replacement), its location adjacent to wetlands, and the need for stormwater conduit installation, alternatives that do not impact the wetlands will not address the project's purpose & need.

All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to avoid, minimize, wetland impacts. The wetland impact minimization measures that will be followed for the project are documented in the environmental commitments for the project. Wetland mitigation for unavoidable impacts will be provided if required by the Clean Water Act or Ohio isolated wetland law, as regulated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio EPA regulations (33 CFR parts 325 and 332 and 40 CFR part 230, and OAC 3745-01-54), and (ORC 6111.027). No practicable alternatives exist for the proposed construction in wetlands, and the proposed action includes all practicable measures to



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minimize harm to the wetlands that may result from such use.

Remarks:

N/A



Environmental Commitments

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- 1) Maintain safe public access to Pleasant Valley Park at all times during construction activities, except within the construction limits. The Contractor may only restrict access under U.S. 6 for the minimum time needed.
- 2) Install and maintain temporary construction fencing along the known boundaries of Pleasant Valley Park within the project construction limits prior to the start of construction activities.
- 3) Prior to the start of construction activities, install signage approved by the Engineer to alert Pleasant Valley Park users of construction activities and access restrictions or closures, and to direct users to secondary access points.
- 4) Provide the construction schedule to the Department and Lake Metroparks 30 days prior to the start of construction activities.
- 5) Any land to be disturbed will be fully restored and returned to a condition which is at least as good as that which existed prior to the project.
- 6) 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
- 7) Floodplain coordination must be completed prior to filing the project with ODOT Central Office.
- 8) Asbestos Plan note must be included in the final plans.
- 9) Tree Removal AMM 1: Modify all phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) to avoid tree removal in excess of what is required to implement the project safely.
- 10) Tree Removal AMM 2(a) (OH PBO: A-1). Time of year restrictions for tree removal when bats are not likely to be present - To avoid impacts to summer roosting bats, SWH will be cleared only between 1 October and 31 March, when the species would not be present.
- 11) Tree Removal AMM 3. Ensure tree removal is limited to that specified in project plans by clearly marking clearing limits. Ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field.
- 12) Within one year prior to the start of work involving the removal, repair, retrofit, maintenance, and/or rehabilitation, the bridge (over water) will be examined for the presence of bats if the work will occur from April 1 through September 30 (outside of the winter hibernation period). If evidence of bats are observed during this inspection additional coordination with the USFWS will occur, and the appropriate AMM from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Range-wide Programmatic Informal Consultation for Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat will be considered.



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Preparers and Approvals

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	10/14/2022



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

STIP Listing.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

ESA

OES Recommendations - Screening.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Comment - Mussel Recon - report accepted.pdf

ODNR Coordination - Mussel Recon.pdf

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Other Resources

Urbanized Area Map.pdf

Water Source Protection Area Map.pdf

Well Log Data.pdf

Section 4(f)

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination.pdf

Section 6(f)

LWCF Grant Listing.pdf

Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Press Release.pdf

Project Website.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter.pdf



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Response to Public Comments.pdf

Permits

Correspondence with Local Floodplain Administrator.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf

Statement of Findings.pdf