



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

## Environmental Document

for

### CUY IR 480 17.87WN/17.90ES Decks PID 110810

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 7/14/2023

Prepared By: District 12

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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**

**Project Information**

**PID:** 110810  
**Project Sponsor:** ODOT SPONSORING AGENCY  
**ODOT District:** 12  
**Funding Source:** Federal  
**Project Description:**

Replace the decks of the IR-480 EB & WB ramp bridges to IR-77 over mainline IR-480 in Independence.

No permanent or temporary right-of-way is required for this project. Utility impacts are unlikely. Construction will require a maintenance of traffic (MOT). The ramps will be closed during project construction. Two (2) wetlands (Wetland A and B) will have approximately 0.90 acres (Wetland A 0.77 acres, Wetland B 0.13 acres) of permanent impacts due to construction activities to replace the decks for IR-480 EB and WB ramp bridges. All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to minimize the wetland impacts to Wetland A and Wetland B as best as possible. Permit Determination Request (PDR) is pending.

A total of 0.50 acres of trees are within the Study Area and will involve 0.50 acres of tree impacts, 0.50 acres is SWH. The project is not within a bat buffer. No hibernacula were noted during field investigations. All trees will be removed prior construction between October 1-March 31 when the species would not be present. A copy of the ODNr and USFWS mapping is included in Appendix 4. Coordination with USFWS was completed 04/17/2023.

The project is not located in a regulated floodplain; therefore, no coordination is required. Cultural Resources was coordinated as ORC 149.53 Appendix A - A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by district environmental staff using the SHPO GIS online database. No Cultural Resources listed on or determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places were identified within and/or immediately adjacent to the proposed project area. The undertaking is a type which has minimal potential to cause effects to historic properties. No further coordination is required in accordance with the ORC 149.53 Appendix A. The Record Check can be found in the Project File Under Cultural Resources/Project Information.

Regulated Materials Review Screening was created by Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist 2. The project is on the 513 Exemption List. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Mark Carpenter, District Environmental Coordinator, approved Regulated Materials Review on February 22, 2023.

No other environmental, Section 4(f)/6(f), or environmental justice impacts will result from this project. Property Owner Notification Letters were sent out on 05/22/23. No comments were received.

The environmental documentation and associated studies are being approved using Stage 1 design. A copy of the plans is included in the project file.

**The next phase of the proposed project is listed on the STIP:** Yes

**Ellis STIP Details**

Phase	Current STIP Reference
ENV	On Previous STIP
CO	110810: 24-27 STIP
DD	110810: 24-27 STIP

**The current cost estimate is in line with existing federal procedures for Ohio STIP Amendments and Administration Modifications:** Yes



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**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 ROW (exceeds strip takes)
2. **b.** Residential or non-residential displacements
3. **c.** A U.S. Coast Guard permit or an Individual Section 404 permit under the Clean Water Act
4. **d.** A Section 106 finding of *Adverse Effect*
5. **e.** Section 4(f) impacts greater than de minimis
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.** A full Environmental Justice Analysis Report (EJAR) is required (the project must be processed as a D-level CE or higher-level document). If a memo-to-file/letter/IOC-format EJAR Short Report is determined to be the appropriate level of documentation, contact OES regarding NEPA document level.

**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.**

**Ecological**

<b>Waterways:</b>	Present; No Coast Guard, Individual 404, and/or Section 10 Permit required
<b>Waterways Permit Type:</b>	Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending
<b>Isolated Wetland Permit</b>	No
<b>Will any wetlands be impacted?</b>	Yes
<b>Endangered Species:</b>	Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect



**Endangered Species - Coordination**

May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect

**Endangered Species - Coordination Date**

04/17/2023

**Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted**

Indiana bat

Northern long-eared bat

**Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted:**

No

**Scenic Rivers**

No National Wild and Scenic River Within 1000 Feet of the Proposed Project Area

**Scenic Rivers Remarks**

No scenic river.

**Floodplains**

**100-Year Floodplain:**

No Encroachment Within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

**Floodplain Remarks**

The project is not located in a regulated floodplain; therefore, no coordination is required.

**Section 4(f)**

**Section 4(f):**

Not present

**Section 4(f) Remarks**

No Section 4(f) impacts.

**Section 6(f)**

**Section 6(f):**

Not present

**Cultural Resources**

**Cultural Resources:**

Not Present

**Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date**

03/17/2023

**Cultural Resources Remarks**



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Cultural Resources was coordinated as ORC 149.53 Appendix A - A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by district environmental staff using the SHPO GIS online database. No Cultural Resources listed on or determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places were identified within and/or immediately adjacent to the proposed project area. The undertaking is a type which has minimal potential to cause effects to historic properties. No further coordination is required in accordance with the ORC 149.53 Appendix A. The Record Check can be found in the Project File Under Cultural Resources/Project Information.

**Environmental Resources Considered**

The following environmental resources are present and have been studied for potential impacts:

Regulated Materials

**Air Remarks**

No Air Quality impacts.

**Noise Remarks**

No Noise impacts.

**The project involves ROW acquisition, Deep Excavation, or OEPA 513 Landfill Authorization:** Yes - Screening

**Regulated Materials Review Screening:**

No Further Regulated Materials Review

**Regulated Materials Review Screening - DEC/OES Approval Date:** 06/10/2023

**Regulated Materials Review Remarks:**

Regulated Materials Review Screening was created by Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist 2. The project is on the 513 Exemption List. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Mark Carpenter, District Environmental Coordinator, approved Regulated Materials Review on February 22, 2023.

**Environmental Justice**

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

**Environmental Justice Populations** Present; No EJAR Required, Does Not Exceed EJ Guidance Criteria, and No Issues Raised During Public Involvement

**Identified Environmental Justice Populations**

Census Block Group #	% Minority	% Low Income
151809	8	7
152223	8	18

**Environmental Justice Remarks**



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Based on mapping from TIMS, the minority populations are 8% for the US Census Block Groups located within the project area and 7% and 18% of the population is designated as low income.

The proposed project will have no disproportionately high and adverse effects to minority or low-income populations or disparate impacts based upon the table above, the attached mapping, and the answers to the questions above. No concerns related to impacts on Environmental Justice 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, DOT Order 5610.2(a), and FHWA Order 6640.23A, no further analysis is required.

Based on the above findings an Environmental Justice Analysis Report (EJAR) is not required.

The Census mapping may be found in the Project File under Environmental Justice.

**Public Involvement**

**Public Involvement:**

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

**Public Involvement Remarks**

Property Owner Notification Letters were sent out on 05/22/23. No comments were received.

**Environmental Commitments**

**Environmental Commitments**

Yes



## Ecological

### Wetlands

ESR Name:	Wetland ID:	Hydrologic connection:	Wetland category:	Estimated total size (ac.):	Total estimated impact area by alternative (ac.):
CUY IR 480 1787/1790 Deck	Wetland A	Adjacent	Category 1	0.77	0.77
	Wetland B	Adjacent	Category 1	0.13	0.13

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

Total impact to all wetlands (ac.): 0.90

Total acres of non-isolated wetlands impacted: 0.90

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 Not Meet the Identified Needs of the Project.

**Include justification supporting the decisions noted above:**

Minimal impacts are needed towards Wetland A and Wetland B, due to replacing the decks of the IR-480 EB & WB ramp bridges to IR-77 over mainline IR-480 in Independence.

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



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**Remarks:**

All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to minimize the impacts to Wetland A and Wetland B as best as possible.



## Environmental Commitments

### C2

1) The Ohio Department of Transportation will obtain all appropriate waterway permits prior to any work with the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all applicable waterway permit conditions will be included in the plans and adhered to during construction.

2) A CERTIFIED ASBESTOS HAZARD EVALUATION SPECIALIST SURVEYED THE BRIDGE STRUCTURE SCHEDULED FOR DEMOLITION AND/OR REHABILITATION; THE SURVEY DETERMINED THAT NO ASBESTOS IS PRESENT ON THE BRIDGE STRUCTURE.

ODOT SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (OEPA) NOTIFICATION OF DEMOLITION AND RENOVATION FORM, PARTIALLY COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY THE BRIDGE OWNER, TO THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL COMPLETE THE FORM AND SUBMIT IT TO ONE OF THE ADDRESSES BELOW AT LEAST TEN (10) WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE START OF ANY DEMOLITION AND/OR RENOVATION.

ASBESTOS PROGRAM  
OHIO EPA, DAPC  
P.O. BOX 1049  
COLUMBUS, OH 43216-1049  
OR

ASBESTOS PROGRAM  
OHIO EPA, DAPC  
50 W. TOWN ST., SUITE 700  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE ENGINEER AT LEAST TEN (10) WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE START OF ANY DEMOLITION AND/OR RENOVATION. THE FORM SHALL INCLUDE: 1) THE CONTRACTORS NAME AND ADDRESS, 2) THE SCHEDULED DATES FOR THE START AND COMPLETION OF THE BRIDGE REMOVAL AND 3) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNED DEMOLITION WORK AND THE METHOD(S) TO BE USED. COPIES OF THE OEPA FORM AND BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE ODOT DISTRICT 12 OFFICE, 5500 TRANSPORTATION BOULEVARD, GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO 44125.

BASIS FOR PAYMENT THE CONTRACTOR SHALL FURNISH ALL FEES, LABOR, AND MATERIAL NECESSARY TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE OEPA NOTIFICATION FORM. PAYMENT FOR THIS WORK SHALL BE INCLUDED IN: ITEM 202 PORTIONS OF STRUCTURE REMOVED, AS PER PLAN.

3) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: NO TREES SHALL BE REMOVED UNDER THIS PROJECT FROM APRIL 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30. ALL NECESSARY TREE REMOVAL SHALL OCCUR FROM OCTOBER 1 THROUGH MARCH 31. THIS REQUIREMENT IS NECESSARY TO AVOID AND MINIMIZE IMPACTS TO FEDERALLY AND STATE LISTED BAT SPECIES AS REQUIRED BY THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS NOTE, 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.

4) 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.

5) 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.



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6) The Ohio Department of Transportation will obtain all appropriate waterway permits prior to any work with the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all applicable waterway permit conditions will be included in the plans and adhered to during construction.



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### Preparers and Approvals

**Form Preparer**

District 12  
Contact: Mark Carpenter  
216-584-2089  
Mark.Carpenter@dot.ohio.gov

**Supporting Form Preparer(s):**

Corey Czinger  
Stephen Tomsic

### Approvals & Electronic Signatures

<b>Approved &amp; Electronically Signed By:</b>	<b>Approval Date:</b>
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	7/14/2023



## **Appendix**

### **General**

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

### **Noise**

No Noise Analysis Required - District Determination .pdf

### **ESA**

OEPA Demolition and Renovation Notification Form ES.pdf

OEPA Demolition and Renovation Notification Form WN.pdf

### **Cultural Resources**

Section 106 Scoping Request Form.pdf

### **Ecological**

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

### **Public Involvement**

Property Owner Notification Letter and Mailing List.pdf