



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

STA CR 0231 06.62 Strausser RAB PID 111050

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 1/11/2023

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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: 111050
Project Sponsor: STARK COUNTY ENGINEER
ODOT District: 4
Funding Source: Federal
Private Funding: No

Project Description:

The Stark County Engineer (SCE) proposes to construct a modern single-lane roundabout at the Strausser Street (County Road 231)/Lake O'Springs Avenue (Township Road 227) intersection in Jackson Township, Stark County. The proposed roundabout will include a 64-foot outside radius circulatory roadway (inscribed circle), a 42-foot radius central island with a 10-foot-wide truck apron, concrete splitter islands along all roadway approaches and driveway access modifications to residential parcels in the northwest, southwest and southeast quadrants. Additional improvements proposed by this project include new catch basin/manhole/storm sewer/manufactured storm runoff treatment system construction, new concrete curb/gutter construction, new landscaping installation, new traffic sign installation, new lighting installation, approach roadway vertical alignment adjustments, new pavement construction, existing pavement resurfacing, drive culvert replacements and new pavement marking applications.

Mapping that depicts the project location on United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Mapping is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf*. Project construction is expected to require full closure of the Strausser Street/Lake O'Springs Avenue intersection for a maximum duration of 4 consecutive months during the roundabout construction and the reconstruction of the approach roadways. During the intersection closure, a detour will be posted utilizing Huckleberry Street, Frank Avenue, Shuffel Street and Wales Avenue. Construction and intersection closure/detour information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction. Access shall be maintained to all adjacent properties during project construction. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected during project construction.

Acquisitions of new permanent and temporary rights-of-way are required to construct the project. Based on the preliminary right-of-way plan, the project will acquire approximately 0.97 acre of new permanent right-of-way from seven (7) parcels and approximately 0.13 acre of temporary right-of-way from eight (8) parcels to construct the project. See the preliminary right-of-way plan information for the project in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *Preliminary Right of Way Plan Sheets.pdf*.

Minor relocations of existing utilities will be necessary to construct the project. Utility relocations will occur within the existing and proposed new roadway rights-of-way. Coordination with the utility companies affected by the proposed construction activities was conducted for the project during its preliminary engineering phase and will continue during its detailed design phase. Utilities will not be permanently removed to construct the project.

A records check was conducted to determine if previously recorded cultural resources have been identified within the project area. The records check included a review of electronic data from Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office (OSHP) GIS database to identify properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The database also includes records from the Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI), Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI), as well as properties that have previously received a Determination of Eligibility (DOE). The SHPO GIS database shows no previous cultural resource survey and no inventoried cultural resource in the immediate vicinity of the project area of potential effects (APE). ODOT Office of Environmental Services (OES) Cultural Resources personnel completed an archaeological field review for the project and performed archaeological testing. Cultural items were not encountered during the archaeological field review/testing conducted. No architecturally significant properties were identified as a result of the project review. No resources within the APE are considered eligible for the NRHP, and no additional research was recommended for the project. In accordance with Stipulation V(C)(2) of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement between FHWA, ODOT, Ohio SHPO, and ACHP executed November 08, 2017 (Agreement No. 19319) as amended on July 11, 2019, ODOT OES determined 'no historic property affected' as the appropriate finding for the proposed roundabout based on the following.

- No archaeological resource occurs in the project APE



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- No significant history/architecture resource occurs in the project APE.

OSHPO was afforded a 15-day review/comment period for the project. ODOT OES did not receive any OSHPO comment on the project. See the Cultural Resources documentation for the project in the Project File/Cultural Resources/Project Information and Reports subsections and the Cultural Resources tab.

Tribal consultation was performed for the project. The Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma stated the Peoria Tribe has no objection to the proposed project. The Seneca Nation stated the Seneca Nation had determined "No Adverse Effects" for the project. See the tribal consultation and response documentation for the project in the Project File/Cultural Resources/Coordination subsection and the Cultural Resources tab.

A Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Screening was completed by ODOT D4 ES personnel for the project. Based on their review, current and past land use on all abutting/affected properties is exempt and further RMR activities or special materials management are not warranted for the project. See the RMR documentation for the project in the Project File/ESA/Reports, Project Information and Coordination subsections.

A Level 1 Ecological Survey Report was completed by ODOT D4 ES personnel for the project. The project will remove approximately 0.1 acre of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for the federally-listed Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, and state-listed little brown bat and tricolored bat species. Streams, wetlands or other ecological resources are not present within the project construction limits. See the ecological and threatened/endangered species documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Project Information and Reports subsections and the Ecological tab.

ODOT D4 ES personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM for the project study area and determined the project will not impact a special flood hazard area (SFHA). See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

The project will not impact any other environmentally sensitive resources within the project study area.

The SCE conducted a virtual open house public involvement event facilitated through the SCE website to present the proposed improvements and solicit comments from local residents, business owners, public officials, local public/emergency services and the general public. Notification letters announcing the virtual open house public involvement event and providing project information were mailed to property owners within the project area. A news release and social media posts about the virtual open house public involvement event and project/public involvement information were released and posted for the project. Moreover, a notification advertisement about the project and its virtual open house public involvement event was purchased and published in the Canton Repository, a local newspaper serving Stark County. A news article about the project was also published on the WHBC website. Four (4) written comments were received by the SCE as a result of the public involvement activities conducted for the project. Comments were related to questions on potential re-routing of a natural gas line, roundabout location, removal of trees, grading, turns from residential driveway, and support for the project. The SCE provided written responses to comments by e-mail message correspondence and posted comment summary and response information on the SCE project website. See the public involvement documentation, including the received comments and responses to comments, for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using the Stage 1 Design plans and preliminary right-of-way plan information for the project. A copy of the Stage 1 Design plan and preliminary right-of-way plan information for the project are included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *Stage 1 Design.pdf* and *Preliminary Right-of-way Plan Sheets.pdf*, respectively.

The estimated total project cost specified in Ellis is less than the total project cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2021 - 2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

STIP Reference #:

111050: 21-24 STIP/SLI Group Project. Fiscal constraint is at SLI Group level.

Select the appropriate project type:

(26) Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (including parking, weaving, turning, and climbing lanes), if the action meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section. ***Examples include: Joint or limited use of right-of-way where the proposed use would have minimal or no adverse social (including highway safety), economic or environmental impacts; Installation of new noise walls and other new noise mitigation projects; Construction of highway safety and truck escape ramps; Construction of bicycle lanes and pedestrian walkways, sidewalks, shared-use paths, or facilities and trailhead parking that do not otherwise qualify for a C1 designation; Beautification or facility improvement projects (i.e. landscaping, curb and gutter installation and replacement, ADA ramps/curb ramps, installation of park benches, decorative lighting, etc.); Construction of alternative energy facilities (fuel tank farms, wind turbines, etc.)***



(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 -

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: Not Present

Will any wetlands be impacted? No

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 10/07/2022

Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted

Indiana bat

Northern long-eared bat

Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted: No



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100-Year Floodplain:	No Encroachment Within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
Section 4(f):	Not present
Section 6(f):	Not present
Cultural Resources:	Present; No Finding of Adverse Effect
Cultural Resources Coordination:	No Historic Properties Affected
Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date	04/13/2022
Tribal Consultation Summary/Remarks:	
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma does not object to the Section 106 effect determination and wishes to consult further if cultural resources or items falling under Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) are uncovered during the course of the project.	
The Seneca Nation of Indians stated the Seneca Nation had determined "No Adverse Effects" for the project.	
No comments or objections were received by the Delaware Tribe within the 30-day comment period.	
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:	04/27/2022
Noise:	Studies Not Required
Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date:	04/27/2022
Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted	Yes
Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date:	02/28/2022
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)
391517113112	5	26	24	0
391517113111	7	13	22	3

Underserved Populations Remarks

A review of the ODOT Transportation Information Mapping System (TIMS) indicated Underserved Populations (UP) within the proposed project area. UPs identified included Minority, Low Income, and Older Adults. No businesses or residences will be acquired or relocated as part of the project.

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, 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. Census mapping is saved in the Project File/Underserved Populations/Project Information.

Public Involvement:

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

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

1) 1. The project may result in removal of suitable wooded habitat for threatened and endangered bat species. The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT - INDIANA BAT/NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT - THE PROJECT IS LOCATED WITHIN THE KNOWN HABITAT RANGES OF THE FEDERALLY LISTED AND PROTECTED INDIANA BAT AND NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT. 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 THESE SPECIES AS REQUIRED BY THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. FOR THE PURPOSES 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.



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Preparers and Approvals

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	1/11/2023



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Air

Project Related OES Decision - Air.pdf

Noise

Project Related OES Decision - Noise.pdf

ESA

ODOT Recommendations - RMR Screening.pdf

Cultural Resources

Records Check.pdf

SHPO Comments

Transmittal 1 - Effect Determination

Tribal Consultation

Tribal Response - Peoria Tribe.pdf

Tribal Response - Seneca Nation.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Public Involvement

Public Comments Received.pdf

Response to Public Comments - Email Correspondence.pdf

Response to Public Comments.pdf

Virtual Open House - Press Release Distribution List.pdf

Virtual Open House - Press Release.pdf

Virtual Open House - SCE Website Snap Shot 11-21-2022.pdf

Virtual Open House - YouTube Link Snap Shot 11-22-2022.pdf

Virtual Open House Coverage - WHBC.pdf



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Virtual Open House Exhibits - Comment Form.pdf

Virtual Open House Exhibits - Frequently Asked Questions.pdf

Virtual Open House Exhibits - Plan View Sheets.pdf

Virtual Open House Exhibits - Recorded Presentation.pdf

Virtual Open House Exhibits - Schematic.pdf

Virtual Open House Notification - Twitter Snap Shot.pdf

Virtual Open House Notification Letter Addresses.pdf

Virtual Open House Notification Paid Ad - Canton Repository.pdf

Virtual Open House Notification letter.pdf

Website Snap Shot - 1-10-2023 Comment Summary and Response.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf