



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

CUY SR 021/Valley Pkwy Crossing PID 113702

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 3/26/2021

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

PID: 113702
Project Sponsor: Cleveland Metroparks
ODOT District: 12
Funding Source: Federal
Private Funding: No

Project Description:

Project Description:

The proposed project involves the installation of a new, enhanced offset median refuge crossing with Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) at Brecksville Road (SR-21) and Valley Parkway. This intersection modification will enable safer crossing for bicyclists and pedestrians on the Valley Parkway Connector Trail into the main portion of Cleveland Metroparks Brecksville Reservation compared to the existing crossing along the busy Brecksville Road.

The Valley Parkway Connector Trail is a six-mile section of Cleveland Metroparks Emerald Necklace 10' paved all purpose trail that was constructed in two phases between Brecksville Road in the city of Brecksville to Ridge Road in the city of North Royalton that opened in October 2018. The portion of the trail between Brecksville Road and Broadview Road received Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) funds through the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) (PID 97888) and was the subject of the original Categorical Exclusion Document that is being amended with this detail of the new intersection modification project that covers the small area between the east side of Brecksville Road and the west side, the original eastern extent of the project area.

The project is located in southeastern Cuyahoga County in the city of Brecksville, Ohio, and it is located entirely on land owned by Cleveland Metroparks as part of Brecksville Reservation or is part of the SR-21 (Brecksville Road) right-of-way. The immediate project area is a level, mowed right-of-way and the terminus of the Valley Parkway Connector Trail on the west and the main reservation all purpose trail on the east. Areas outside the project area is mostly forested. The project will utilize the existing raised median that is just south of the intersection on Brecksville Road; the existing left-turn bay for vehicles entering Valley Parkway from northbound Brecksville Road will not be affected or otherwise modified.

During installation of the enhanced intersection crossing Valley Parkway and Brecksville Road will remain open to traffic; however, for brief periods Brecksville Road, which is two lanes in each direction, may be temporarily taken down to one lane of through traffic while crosswalk striping is installed or work is performed in the median.

All right-of-way required for the construction of the proposed intersection enhancement is owned by Cleveland Metroparks or is part of SR-21 right-of-way. No temporary or permanent right-of-way will be acquired in order to construct the proposed improvements.

The Brecksville Reservation is subject to Section 6(f). OES determined that due the project work and the length of construction that it meets the criteria for Section 6(f) Maintenance.

A map of the intersection is included, and there is additional mapping that was developed as part of the original CE that details the topography and alignment of the Valley Parkway Connector Trail. Additional photos are also provided.

Public Involvement Conclusion: The project has been design based on the public comments received. The



median refuge island was the request of several members of the public and had been included in the project design. Cleveland Metroparks has determined to proceed with the current design of the project.

Remarks:

The existing Valley Parkway and Brecksville Road roadways will remain open during construction, with no closures needed for the project. During the entire construction of the project, there will be no roadway detours or closures.

To ensure that the public is notified of construction activities, the following plan note will be added to the project plans:

CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION

The Contractor will advise the project engineer a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the start of construction activities and seven (7) days prior to lane closures and/or shifts in traffic patterns. The Project Engineer will then notify the Public, the Local Emergency Services, affected Schools and Businesses, and any other impacted Local Public Agency of any of the above mentioned items, via media sources.

Environmental Commitments, Maintenance of Traffic During Construction

CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION

The Contractor will advise the project engineer a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the start of construction activities and seven (7) days prior to lane closures and/or shifts in traffic patterns. The Project Engineer will then notify the Public, the Local Emergency Services, affected Schools and Businesses, and any other impacted Local Public Agency of any of the above mentioned items, via media sources.

Right-of-Way and Utility Involvement

The project will not require the relocation of any utilities. Coordination with any utilities in the project area will occur prior to construction.

The C2 approval is based on Stage 3 Design plans. Plans are included in Project File/General/Project Information/Stage3 Design.pdf.

STIP Reference #:

113702: 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.



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Waterways:	Not Present
Will any wetlands be impacted?	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):	Present; No Impacts and/or Access Restrictions
Cultural Resources:	Not Present
Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrent Date	02/11/2021
Since no Tribe was interested in this project based on their customized preferences, no formal 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:	03/02/2021
Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted	Studies Not Required
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	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



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) The existing Valley Parkway and Brecksville Road roadways will remain open during construction, with no closures needed for the project. During the entire construction of the project, there will be no roadway detours or closures.
- 2) Appropriate signage will be installed to alert users of construction activities.
- 3) Staging and/or storage of construction equipment will all take place within the proposed construction limits.
- 4) Cleveland Metroparks will coordinate the construction and installation schedule with ODOT.
- 5) The Contractor will advise the project engineer a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the start of construction activities and seven (7) days prior to lane closures and/or shifts in traffic patterns. The Project Engineer will then notify the Public, the Local Emergency Services, affected Schools and Businesses, and any other impacted Local Public Agency of any of the above mentioned items, via media sources.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer

District 12
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Mark.Carpenter@dot.ohio.gov

Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Mark Carpenter
Steven Tyneski

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	3/26/2021



Appendix

General

Cleveland Metroparks Board Minutes Excerpt 180918.pdf

NOACA award and application.pdf

Project Map.pdf

Purpose and Need

Purpose and Need.pdf

Noise

District Determination - No Noise Analysis Required.pdf

ESA

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Section 106 Scoping Request Form.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

Section 4(f)

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination.pdf

Section 6(f)

OES Approval - Maintenance.pdf

Public Involvement

Public Involvement Activities.pdf