



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

## **Environmental Document**

for

### **ATB SR 0307 03.21 PID 111133**

**Environmental Document Level: C2**

**Approved: 8/26/2021**

**Prepared By: Robert Lang**

ODOT DISTRICT 4

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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

<b>PID:</b>	111133
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	DISTRICT 4-PLANNING
<b>ODOT District:</b>	4
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Federal
<b>Private Funding:</b>	No

**Project Description:**

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes to construct a modern single-lane roundabout at the existing two-way stop-controlled State Route (SR) 307/SR 534 intersection in Harpersfield Township, Ashtabula County. Proposed roundabout design elements at this intersection include a 140-foot inscribed diameter island, 12.9-foot to 19.1-foot wide variable width approach roadway lanes and approach roadway splitter islands. The project also proposes to construct a new enclosed storm drainage system with new catch basins, storm sewers and culverts, new concrete curb/gutter and new center islands, install new guardrails, install new traffic signs, install new storm water runoff vegetated biofilters and vegetated filter strips, install new landscaping, install new roundabout lighting, resurface SR 307 from Straight Line Mile (SLM) 3.22 to SLM 3.44 immediately east of the proposed roundabout, reconstruct driveways and apply new pavement markings.

Mapping that depicts the project on a United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Map is included in Project File/General/Project Information as USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf.

The SR 307/SR 534 intersection will be closed for a maximum of 60 consecutive days to construct the project. The proposed SR 307 detour will be posted along SR 528, SR 84 and SR 45 while the proposed SR 534 detour will be posted along SR 166, SR 528 and SR 84. The total intersection closure cannot start before April 15. Prior to the total intersection closure, SR 307 will be closed for 14 consecutive days and SR 534 will also be closed for 14 consecutive days to install drainage features. These 14-day closures will not occur concurrently or during the Geneva Grape Jamboree Festival, will not start until after Labor Day and will be completed by November 1. Construction and intersection closure/detour information will be posted prior to the start of project construction and updated/posted prior to each construction phase with a traffic pattern change. Access shall be maintained to all adjacent properties and businesses for the duration of project construction. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected during project construction.

A total of 0.363 acre of standard highway easement/permanent right-of-way will be acquired from eight (8) parcels and a total of 0.435 acre of temporary right-of-way will be acquired from nine (9) parcels to construct the project. See the right-of-way plan information for the project in the Project File/General/Project Information and Right-of-Way and Utility Involvement subsections as Schematic Plan Proposed ROW Locations.pdf and Acreage of Proposed Right of Way.pdf.

Minor relocations of existing utilities within the project study area will be necessary to construct the project. These minor utility relocations will occur within the existing and proposed new permanent roadway right-of-way. Utilities will not be permanently removed to construct the project. 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.

Based on the results of the literature review and the results of the cultural resource field reviews, no further



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cultural resource investigations are warranted. In accordance with Stipulation V(C)(2) of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement between FHWA, ODOT, Ohio SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office), and ACHP (Advisory Council on Historic Preservation) executed November 08, 2017 (Agreement No. 19319) and amended on July 11, 2019, ODOT-OES determined that 'no historic properties affected' is the appropriate finding for the subject undertaking. No further cultural resource investigations are required pending completion of a 15-day review and comment period at Ohio's SHPO. The Ohio SHPO did not comment on nor object to the project during the 15-day review/comment period for the project. See the cultural resources documentation for the project in the Project File/Cultural Resources/Project Information subsection and the Cultural Resources Tab.

Based on the information in the Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Form completed for the project, 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 subsection.

Construction of the proposed roundabout will permanently impact approximately 725 feet of an intermittent captured stream, approximately 0.17 acre of a Category 1 wetland and approximately 0.61 acre of suitable wooded habitat for the Federally listed Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) within 100 feet of the edge of the existing pavement. See the ecological and threatened/endangered species documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Reports subsection and in the Ecological tab.

ODOT District 4 Environmental Section personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM for the project study area and determined the project is not located within a special flood hazard area. 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. A live virtual public involvement meeting was conducted for the project by ODOT District 4 to present and discuss the proposed improvements with local residents, business owners, public officials and the general public. Activities conducted by ODOT District 4 to notify the public about the project and the public involvement meeting included the direct mailing of a public involvement meeting notification letter to 107 area property owners, residents, stakeholders, emergency/public services representatives, preparing and publishing two paid notification advertisements that announced the live virtual public involvement meeting for the project in the local media outlet, *Star Beacon*, releasing to the local media outlets a news release announcing the virtual public involvement meeting and a project-specific website posted with project/public involvement meeting information was available to the public and establishing a project website with project/public involvement meeting information. Moreover, a flyer with project/public involvement meeting information was distributed to local businesses. An online news article about the project/public involvement meeting was also published on the *Star Beacon* website.

The virtual public involvement meeting included a presentation with a question/answer session. Comments were received from 48 individuals. Comments primarily involved preferences for other alternatives (traffic signal; four-way stop), reducing speed limits, concerns about large vehicles/agriculture equipment navigating the roundabout and aesthetic considerations for the center island. Responses were provided to all comments in a document distributed by email correspondence and posted on the 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 2 Design plans for the project. A copy of the Stage 2 Design plans for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Stage 2 Design.pdf.

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



STIP Reference #:

111133: 21-24 STIP/SLI Group  
Project. Fiscal constraint is at SLI  
Group level.

**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

**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** 05/13/2021

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

Indiana bat

Northern long-eared bat

**Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted:** No

**100-Year Floodplain:** No Encroachment Within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)



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<b>Section 4(f):</b>	Not present
<b>Section 6(f):</b>	Not present
<b>Cultural Resources:</b>	Present; No Finding of Adverse Effect
<b>Cultural Resources Coordination:</b>	No Historic Properties Affected
<b>Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrent Date</b>	05/03/2021

**Tribal Consultation Summary/Remarks:**

Based on the customized preferences configured by the tribe, the ODOT EnviroNet System notified the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma about the project on 05/03/2021. No comment or objection was received from the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma concerning this project within 30 days of the project notification date.

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.

<b>Air Quality:</b>	Studies Not Required
<b>Air Quality - Coordination with OES:</b>	No
<b>Noise:</b>	Studies Not Required
<b>Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date:</b>	
<b>Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted</b>	Yes
<b>Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date:</b>	07/26/2021
<b>Phase I ESA Warranted Based on Coordination with OES:</b>	No Further Studies Warranted

**Farmland:** Non-Urbanized Area; No Impacts in Accordance With the Farmland MOU, 7 CFR 658, and ORC 929.05

**Scenic Rivers** The project is within 1000 feet of a National Wild or Scenic River, but no impacts will occur to the river or its tributaries.

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



## Ecological

### Wetlands

ESR Name:	Wetland ID:	Hydrologic connection:	Wetland category:	Estimated total size (ac.):	Total estimated impact area by alternative (ac.):
ATB-307-3.21	Wetland 1	Adjacent	Category 1	0.32	.17

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

Total impact to all wetlands (ac.): 0.17

Total acres of non-isolated wetlands impacted: 0.17

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 Safety Hazards.

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

They Will Substantially Increase Project Costs.

They Will Not Meet the Identified Needs of the Project.

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

Proposed wetland impacts are the result of accommodating the roundabout and extending the toe of slope into the wetland. Significant project costs would result from use of retaining walls to reduce wetland impacts. The Do-Nothing alternative would not address the safety issues that are the need for the project.

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, regulated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio EPA regulations (33 CFR parts 325 and 332 and 4 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:**

See ESR subsection for Ecological Survey Report



## Environmental Commitments

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1) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note for the Unnamed Tributary to the Grand River and Wetland 1:

The Contractor shall not discharge toxic or hazardous materials such as sealants, paint, solvents, cleaning agents, earthen materials, waste-water, fuels or debris of any kind to a scenic river, its tributaries, or drainage ways. If refueling of immobile equipment is necessary within the floodplain or near any tributary drainage ways, ditches, or stream, the contractor shall provide secondary containment with enough capacity to completely contain and collect all potential liquid wastes in the event of a spill.

2) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note to the plans:

Any and all construction debris, earthen debris, excess asphalt or concrete, wood debris from clearing, excess fill material, and trash shall be disposed at an approved upland site or land fill above FEMA 100-year flood elevations and not from STA 965+75 to STA 970+25.

3) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note to the plans:

In accordance with ORC 3750.06, reportable spills must be reported to the local fire department (911), the local emergency coordinator (440-576-0055), and the Ohio Spill Line (800-282-9378).

4) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note in the plans:

The Contractor shall keep all idle equipment, fuels, lubricants, and any storage for/of potentially toxic or hazardous materials out of STA 965+75 to STA 970+25.

5) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans:

The Contractor shall notify the Project Engineer 40 days prior to work between STA 965+75 and STA 970+25. The Project Engineer shall notify the District 4 Environmental Specialist, Robert Lang, 35 days prior to work between STA 965+75 and STA 970+25. The District Environmental Specialist shall coordinate with ODNR Scenic Rivers a minimum of 30 days prior to any work between STA 965+75 and STA 970+25.

6) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note in the plans.

The Contractor shall develop and implement a SWPPP, per SS 832, before earthwork commences. Sediment and erosion controls shall be properly installed and maintained throughout the duration of the project. Straw bales shall not be permitted as a form of sediment control. Ensure timely adherence to the Construction Storm Water General Permit for all sediment and erosion controls, including seeding and mulching. Particular attention shall be given to any drainage ways, unprotected slopes, ditches, and streams that could convey sediment laden waters directly to the Grand River.

7) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note in the plans:

When cutting and clearing of any vegetation from STA 965+75 to STA 970+25, the Contractor shall limit the amount of vegetation being cleared to the absolute minimum necessary to accomplish the goal of the project. Vertical pruning of trees is permitted if any overhanging limbs cause a safety hazard or obstruct view. The Contractor shall not use a flail mower for vertical pruning. The Contractor must avoid girdling or scuffing tree trunks.



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8) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans:

The project is located within the known habitat ranges of the federally listed and protected Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. The Contractor shall not remove trees 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.

9) ODOT District 4 will conduct additional stakeholder outreach project plan development concerning project aesthetic treatments, timing of construction and closures and project design considerations for farming equipment.



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### Preparers and Approvals

**Form Preparer:**

Robert Lang  
ODOT DISTRICT 4  
330-786-4975  
Robert.Lang@dot.ohio.gov

**Supporting Form Preparer(s):**

Elizabeth Stober  
Robert Lang

### Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	8/26/2021



## Appendix

### General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

Project Study Area Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

### Cultural Resources

Project Related OES Decision - Cultural Resources - Graphic.pdf

Project Related OES Decision - Cultural Resources.pdf

SHPO Comments

Transmittal 1 - Effect Determination

Tribal Consultation

### Ecological

ODNR Comments

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

### Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

Underserved Populations Documentation Form.pdf

### Public Involvement

Correspondence with Stakeholders.pdf

News Article.pdf

Project Website - ODOT.pdf

Project Website - Public Input.pdf

Public Comments Received - Email and Mail.pdf

Public Comments Received - Public Meeting Chat Box.pdf

Public Comments Received - PublicInput.pdf

Public Meeting Comment Form.pdf

Public Meeting Flyer.pdf

Public Meeting Notification - Flyer Letter Mailing List.pdf



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Public Meeting Notification - Flyer Letter.pdf

Public Meeting Notification Scenic River Committee.pdf

Public Meeting Paid Ad.pdf

Public Meeting Presentation.pdf

Public Meeting Press Release.pdf

Public Notification Mailing List.pdf

Response to Public Comments.pdf