



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

## **Environmental Document**

for

## **CUY IR 480 00.74/VAR Noise Wall PID 115182**

**Environmental Document Level: C2**

**Approved: 7/28/2025**

**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

<b>PID:</b>	115182
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	ODOT Sponsoring Agency
<b>ODOT District:</b>	12
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Federal

### C2 Section

#### Project Description:

Construct Type II noise barrier at two locations along IR-480 in Cuyahoga County. This project entails the installation of 4 Noise Barriers Along IR-480. One wall will be placed from the intersection of Barton Road and IR-480 WB and connect to a previously installed noise barrier in North Olmsted. Three noise barriers will be installed in Fairview Park between Clauge Road and W. 220th Street.

All work within existing ROW.

A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by district environmental staff Megan Romanchok, Environmental Specialist 2, using the online OSHPO ArcMap Resource Map. 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 Appendix A. The Record Check can be found in the Project File Under Cultural Resources/Project Information. District approval date 07/01/2025.

The project is wholly in Zone X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard. Wall 1 is on Panel 39035C0139E effective 12/3/2010 and Walls 2, 3, and 4 are on Panel 39035C0161E effective 12/3/2010.

This project will involve excavation greater than 6 feet and is not OAC Rule 3745-513 exempt. The project limits are not within 300 feet of a landfill and does not have any Remote Properties identified on the ORPS listing. No RCRA or ORPS on any of the adjacent properties and all properties are either exempt or low risk. RMR is complete. The RMR Screening Form can be found in Project File/RMR/Project Information.

No work in streams, wetlands, or pollinator initiative sites. Wetlands were identified within the study area but will not be impacted as part of this project.

Tree removal is required for this project. A total of 1.37 acres of trees will need to be removed. This 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 to avoid and minimize impacts to these species.

Property Notification Letters and Aesthetic Questionnaires were sent out with a comment deadline of 2/18/2023. The Project was covered in an article titled *ODOT Eyeing I-480 Sound Wall in Fairview Park* by Cleveland.com on 5/17/2023. All comments were responded to and uploaded to the EnviroNet Project File. After all comments were received and considered, no significant changes were made to the design of the noise barriers however, plan notes about herbicide/pesticide restrictions near the community garden and temporary fencing were added to the plan sheets. ODOT will proceed with the project as designed.

Construction: \$2,344,000.00, 90% Federal, 10% State

C2 approval is based off of Stage 3 Design Plans.

**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	115182: 26-29 STIP
DD	

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

**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 I 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.)**

**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

**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** 06/24/2025

**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

The project is not within 1000 feet of a scenic river.

## Floodplains

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

### Floodplain Remarks

The project is wholly in Zone X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard. Wall 1 is on Panel 39035C0139E effective 12/3/2010 and Walls 2, 3, and 4 are on Panel 39035C0161E effective 12/3/2010.

## Section 4(f)

**Section 4(f):** Not present

**Section 4(f) Remarks** Section 4(f) is not present.

## Section 6(f)

**Section 6(f):** Not present

## Cultural Resources



Approved: 7/28/2025

**Cultural Resources:** Not Present

**Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO  
Concurrence Date** 07/01/2025

### Cultural Resources Remarks

Wall 1 is within the area of two (2) historic surveys: H00059 *Historic and Archaeological Resources of the Urban County Block Grant Communities in Cuyahoga County* in 1977, and H00063 *North Olmsted Survey Report* in 1984. Neither have any resources listed in or adjacent to the project area.

Walls 2, 3 and 4 are within the area of the historic survey H00059 *Historic and Archaeological Resources of the Urban County Block Grant Communities in Cuyahoga County* in 1977. No resources are listed in or adjacent to the project area.

### Environmental Resources Considered

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

Regulated Materials

### Air Remarks

The project does not add capacity, add an interchange or auxiliary lane, relocate lanes or change the modality. Therefore, air analysis is not required.

### Noise Remarks

On May 18, 2020, a Type II noise analysis was submitted by EnviroScience. The study was conducted on both the north and south sides of IR-480, between Clague Road and the Rocky River, to evaluate potential of construction of noise barrier walls as a noise abatement measure. As a result of the analysis, two (2) noise sensitive areas were determined eligible, feasible and reasonable to install noise barriers with a combined total of 37 benefited receptors. Noise barriers were not recommended for the other noise sensitive areas studied because, due to topographic differences between the roadway profile grade and ground surface elevation of the receptors, the length of wall required to provide acoustic benefits would have resulted in noise wall costs that exceeded ODOT's cost threshold of \$35,000 per benefited receptor in these NSAs. A 200 foot extension to Wall 3 was approved by OES on March 9, 2023.

On October 29, 2020, OES modeled the approximately 860 foot area between the existing wall from PID 107798 west to Barton Road. It was found that, when the project is evaluated as a Type II noise wall extension, the cost per benefited receptor would be \$14,111.00. District 12 determined that they were in favor of the extension on December 22, 2020.

**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:** 07/01/2025

### Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

This project will involve excavation greater than 6 feet and is not OAC Rule 3745-513 exempt. The project limits are not within 300 feet of a landfill and does not have any Remote Properties identified on the ORPS listing. No RCRA or ORPS on any of the adjacent properties and all properties are either exempt or low risk. RMR is complete. The RMR Screening Form can be found in Project File/RMR/Project Information.



## 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

## Public Involvement

### Public Involvement:

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

## Public Involvement Remarks

Property Notification Letters and Aesthetic Questionnaires were sent out with a comment deadline of 2/18/2023.  
The Project was covered in an article titled *ODOT Eyeing I-480 Sound Wall in Fairview Park* by Cleveland.com on 5/17/2023.

A public and stakeholder comment period was held and comments were received involving:

- A question about the barrier location limits and NSA inclusion
- Multiple questions regarding tree and vegetation removal and retention
- Concerns about the community garden leased by the City of Fairview Park from ODOT (vegetation removal, spraying of herbicide/pesticides, constructed fences, and concern over impacts to bee hives)
- Construction/ Project Schedule, tree clearing schedule
- Historic opposition to the wall

All comments were responded to and uploaded to the EnviroNet Project File.

After all comments were received and considered, no significant changes were made to the design of the noise barriers however, plan notes about herbicide/pesticide restrictions near the community garden and temporary fencing were added to the plan sheets. ODOT will proceed with the project as designed.

## Environmental Commitments

### Environmental Commitments

Yes



## **Environmental Commitments**

### **C2**

- 1) Ensure wetland boundaries are included in the plan sheets and denoted as do not disturb/ no work.
- 2) An NOI is to be submitted prior to construction start.
- 3) Contractor is to add filter fabric and snow-fencing/ a boundary delineator around wetlands within project area.
- 4) 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.
- 5) 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.
- 6) Include 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.



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### Preparers and Approvals

**Form Preparer**

District 12  
Contact: Thomas Sorge  
216-584-2086  
Tom.Sorge@dot.ohio.gov

**Supporting Form Preparer(s):** Megan Romanchok

### Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Thomas Sorge (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	7/28/2025



## **Appendix**

### **General**

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

Stage 1 Design.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

### **Noise**

Application for Type II Noise Mitigation round 2.pdf

Application for Type II Noise Mitigation.pdf

OES Approval - Extending Barrier in North Olmsted.pdf

OES Approval - Noise Analysis extending noise barrier.pdf

OES Approval - Noise Analysis.pdf

OES Approval - Noise Barrier Icon design.pdf

### **Cultural Resources**

Records Check.pdf

### **Ecological**

FEMA Mapping.pdf

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

### **Public Involvement**

News Article Cleveland.com.pdf

Noise Barrier Aesthetic Questionnaire.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter.pdf

Public Comments Received - Holtshouse.pdf

Response to Public Comments - Cannon.pdf

Response to Public Comments - Holtshouse 2.pdf

Response to Public Comments - Lenhart.pdf

Response to Public Comments - Pry.pdf

Response to Public Comments - Senal.pdf

Response to Public Comments Olsen on Riviera drive.pdf



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Response to Stakeholder Comments - City Garden.pdf

Response to Stakeholder Comments Fairview Park 2.pdf

Response to Stakeholder Comments Fairview Park.pdf