



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

CUY SRTS FY2023 Warrensville Hts PID 113825

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 9/29/2023

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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

Project Information

PID: 113825
Project Sponsor: Warrensville Heights, City of
ODOT District: 12
Funding Source: Federal

Project Description:

The Safe Routes To School (SRTS) project involves the upgrading of facilities in Warrensville Heights, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. All the proposed pedestrian enhancements will be constructed near the Warrensville Heights Elementary School. A new sidewalk will be constructed on the south side of Clarkwood Parkway and walks will be upgraded on the north side of the street. Crosswalks will be upgraded at six intersections including Warrensville Center Road and Harvard Avenue, Warrensville Center and Longwood Road, Warrensville Center Road and Ellacott Parkway and Clarkwood Parkway, Clarkwood Parkway and Green Road, and Emory Road and Green Road.

The crosswalks at these intersections will be remarked to make them more visible, Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacons (RRFB) will be installed, and curb ramps will be reevaluated and updated as needed. Some intersections will require pedestrian push-button signal controls and/or radar speed signs enhancements. Construction activities will focus on the existing right-of-way. However, small areas of new right-of-way will be needed to provide space for certain improvements.

Mapping that depicts the project location on the 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.

Permanent right of way will be needed from 12 parcels to construct the project. Total property takes or relocations are not proposed by the project. See Stage 1 Design for the project in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Stage 1 Design.pdf.

There is no anticipated relocation of existing utilities within the project study area. Coordination with the utility companies was conducted during the project's preliminary engineering phase and will continue during its design phase.

Traffic will be maintained in accordance with applicable ODOT maintenance of traffic standards. At each location a minimum of one lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained on the existing pavement during construction.

The estimated cost specified in Ellis equals the total cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years (FY) 2024 - 2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

No work in streams, wetlands, or pollinator initiative sites. No tree removal.

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using the Stage 1 design plans for the project. A copy of the Stage 1 design plans for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Stage 1 Design.pdf.

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



Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
ENV	
CO	113825: 24-27 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: No Impacts to Protected Species and Critical Habitat

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

Scenic Rivers Remarks

The proposed project is not located within 1,000 feet of a designated Scenic River. No work in streams, wetlands, or pollinator initiative sites. No tree removal.

Floodplains

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

Floodplain Remarks

GPD Group environmental personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRMs for the project study area and determined the project does not encroach within mapped special flood hazard areas (SFHAs). See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project/Permits/Floodplain subsection.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f): Not present

Section 4(f) Remarks

GPD Group environmental personnel performed an on-line review of Cuyahoga County Auditor parcel data for the project study area. Section 4(f) properties are not present within or in proximity to the project study area.

Section 6(f)

Section 6(f): Not present

Cultural Resources

Cultural Resources: Not Present

Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date 09/18/2023

Cultural Resources Remarks



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No buildings will be removed by the project and no relocations will be required. The literature search failed to identify the occurrence of any known archaeological sites (OAI), architectural resources (OHIs), or historic properties in the area of potential effects (APE). The setting is limited to relatively modern public and commercial elements particularly along Clarkwood Parkway and Warrensville Center Road. The construction of pedestrian facilities to improve walkability or safety and enhancements generally limited to the operational highway are project types exempt from further cultural resource consideration by the 6/29/23 Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 38503 -- Appendix B -- Items 1m and 2a), as long as no new permanent right-of-way will be acquired from a historic property and no contributing element of a historic district will be removed or altered by construction. Therefore, in accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix B of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on June 29, 2023 (Agreement No. 38503), ODOT-OES has determined that the proposed project is a type of undertaking that has 'minimal potential to cause effects' to historic properties and is not a part of a larger undertaking. The Section 106 Scoping Request Checklist can be found in the Project File under Cultural Resources/Project Information/Section 106 Scoping Request Form.pdf.

Environmental Resources Considered

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

Regulated Materials

Air Remarks

Air quality studies or coordination are not required for this project. Project meets 40CFR93.126 as a "traffic control devices and operating assistance other than signalization projects".

Noise Remarks

The project does not qualify as a Type I project for noise (*i.e.*, not adding capacity, not moving thru travel lanes equal to or greater than 50% closer to noise sensitive areas) and a noise analysis is not required for the project under 23 CFR 772.

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: 09/22/2023

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

ODOT OES reviewed the RMR Screening and determined no further RMR or special material management is warranted for the project. See the RMR documentation for the project in the Project File/ESA/Coordination and Reports subsections.

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
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152183	96	39
152228	90	58
152186	95	39
152187	99	72
152188	96	9
152189	92	30
152190	99	38

Environmental Justice Remarks

Based on mapping from TIMS, the minority populations is 45% for the US Census Block Groups located within the project area and 72% 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

On July 26, 2023 a press release was posted on the city's website requesting comments from the public. No comments were received during the 30-day comment period. In conclusion the public involvement has been addressed and the city of Warrensville Heights has decided to proceed with the project. See the public involvement documentation for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project information subsection.

Environmental Commitments

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Yes



Environmental Commitments

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- 1) No trees will be removed during construction.
- 2) No work will be performed in streams, wetlands, or Pollinator Initiatives sites.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer:

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	9/29/2023



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

ESA

OES Recommendations - Screening.pdf

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

Other Resources

Site Specific Resource Mapping.pdf

Sole Source Aquifer Mapping.pdf

Water Source Protection Area Map.pdf

Section 6(f)

LWCF Grant Listing.pdf

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Press Release Exhibit.pdf

Press Release.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf