



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

STA IR 0077 02.57 PID 116128

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 8/31/2023

Prepared By: 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

Project Information

PID: 116128
Project Sponsor: DISTRICT 4-MAINTENANCE
ODOT District: 4
Funding Source: Federal

Project Description:

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes slope embankment repair/reconstruction along approximately 0.05 mile of Interstate Route (IR) 77 in Pike Township, Stark County, Ohio. The work will focus on embankment slope west of the IR 77 southbound lanes within the existing limited access right-of-way. Embankment repair work includes removal of an existing geosynthetic reinforced retaining wall, installation of soil nails with reinforced shotcrete facing, subsurface drainage installation (conduit and prefabricated concrete drainage outlet), and installation of storm water runoff scour protection flumes consisting of three-dimensional GEOWEB slope protection system. Additional improvements proposed by this project include repair/reconstruction of the paved shoulder including installation of a porous backfill drainage trench, guardrail replacement and edge line pavement marking applications within the project construction limits.

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*.

A minimum of one lane of traffic shall be maintained on southbound IR 77 during project construction. No lane closures or restrictions will occur on northbound IR 77. Construction and lane restriction/reduction information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected during project construction.

The project will be constructed within the existing highway limited access right-of-way.

Existing utilities within the project study area will not be impacted/relocated to construct the project.

The project may remove 0.10 acre of potential suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for the federally listed Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, and the federally proposed for listing tricolored bat species and the state listed little brown bat. Streams, wetlands or other substantive 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/Reports subsection and the Ecological tab.

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

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using the Stage 3 Design plans for the project. A copy of the Stage 3 Design plans for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *Stage 3 Design.pdf*.

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

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	116128: 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: Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect

Endangered Species - Coordination May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect

Endangered Species - Coordination Date 07/14/2023

Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted

Indiana bat

Northern long-eared bat

Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted: Yes

Endangered Species - Other Description:

Federally proposed for listing tricolored bat.

Scenic Rivers

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

Scenic Rivers Remarks

National or state-listed wild and scenic rivers are not located within 1,000 feet of the project study area. The project will not impact any scenic river.

Floodplains

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

Floodplain Remarks

ODOT District 4 Environmental Section personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM mapping for the project study area and found the proposed construction activities are not located within a designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) . See the floodplain documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f): Not present

Section 4(f) Remarks



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A review of maps and property ownership did not identify any Section 4(f) properties within the project study area. The project will be constructed within the existing highway limited access right-of-way. The project will not impact any Section 4(f) resources.

Section 6(f)

Section 6(f): Not present

Cultural Resources

Cultural Resources: Present; No Finding of Adverse Effect

Cultural Resources Coordination: Minimum Potential to Cause Effect
Appendix A

**Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO
Concurrence Date** 08/31/2023

Cultural Resources Remarks

The undertaking is limited to embankment repair along approximately 0.05 mile of IR 77 in Pike Township, Stark County, Ohio. The work will include embankment repair work includes removal of an existing geosynthetic reinforced retaining wall, installation of soil nails with shotcrete facing, storm water runoff scour protection. No buildings will be involved, and no relocations will be required for the project. The literature search determined no eligible Historic Properties located in the proposed construction area or the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Slip repair projects where the work project is not within the boundaries of any Historic Property or National Register District. In accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix A, it was determined the 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. See Cultural Resources/Project Information subsection and the Cultural Resources Tab.

Environmental Resources Considered

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

Regulated Materials

Air Remarks

The project will not impact air quality. Air quality studies/coordination are not required for the project.

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: 06/26/2023



Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

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.

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
391517149014	6.3	<40

Environmental Justice Remarks

A review of the ODOT Transportation Information Mapping System (TIMS) indicated Environmental Justice populations within the Census Block Group for the project study area. 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 based upon the table above and attached mapping. 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 and FHWA Order 6640.23A, no further analysis is required.

Based on the above findings an Environmental Justice Analysis Report is not required for the project. Census mapping is saved in the Project File/Environmental Justice/Project Information subsection.

Public Involvement

Public Involvement:

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

Public Involvement Remarks

The project is identified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), that is available for public review and comment on the ODOT STIP webpage (<https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/programs/stip/stip-landing>).

Based on the project scope of work, its Path 1 Project Development Process (PDP) Classification and the proposed maintenance of traffic measures, emergency/public services contact activities were not conducted for the project.

Environmental Commitments

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Yes



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Environmental Commitments

C2

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

Form Preparer

District 4
Contact: Edward Deley
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Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Brian Peck
Thomas Powell

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	8/31/2023



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Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

Cultural Resources

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf