



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document for **CUY Lake/Clifton Connector PID 117892** Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 2/29/2024

Prepared By: Sumia Mohamed

Lawhon AND Associates Inc.

E-mail: smohamed@lawhon-assoc.com

District Contact: Corey Czinger

Phone:

E-mail: Corey.Czinger@dot.ohio.gov

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.

Table of Contents

C2.....	3
Environmental Commitments.....	9
Preparers and Approvals.....	10
Appendix.....	12



Environmental Document Level: C2
PID 117892 CUY Lake/Clifton Connector
Approved: 2/29/2024

C2

Project Information

PID:	117892
Project Sponsor:	CUYAHOGA COUNTY ENGINEER
ODOT District:	12
Funding Source:	Non-Federal

C2 Section

Does this project require a Federal permit or approval?	Yes
--	-----

Project Description:



Environmental Document Level: C2
PID 117892 CUY Lake/Clifton Connector

Approved: 2/29/2024

The Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works (CCDPW) in coordination with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is proposing to improve Lake Road Clifton Boulevard from Linda Street to Webb Road in the cities of Rocky River and Lakewood. The project includes reconstruction of Lake Road Clifton Boulevard, installation of a new multipurpose trail, new curb, ADA compliant curb ramps, driveway apron replacement, new sidewalk and signage, new traffic markings and signal improvements. Per the initial conceptual plans, no new right-of-way is expected. A minimum of one lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained at all times. Part width construction will be used to facilitate maintaining two-way traffic and the work will be done in phases.

One stream (Rocky River); however, there will be no impacts or in stream work are anticipated. No wetlands will be impacted. Approximately 0.38 acres of Suitable Wooded Habitat (SWH) exists within the study area. All SWH within 100 feet from the edge of pavement. There is no suitable habitat for any other federally or state listed species within the project area. Coordination with USFWS and ODNR was completed on March 23, 2023.

The project is not located within a regulated floodplain. Therefore, no further coordination is required.

The project is located adjacent to the City owned Celeste Park, a protected Section 4(f). There will be no right-of-way from the park. No impact is expected.

A Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Screening was prepared. The project will have no permanent right-of-way, no deep excavation, and is not within 300 feet of a landfill buffer. Regulated Materials Review Screening was completed on 02/28/24. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist, approved Regulated Materials Review on 02/28/2024.

A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by using the SHPO GIS online database. 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 in accordance with Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix A of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. No further coordination is required. The Records Check can be found in the Project File Under Cultural Resources/Project Information. District approval date 02/29/24.

No other environmental, hazardous materials, or environmental justice impacts will result from this project.

Two in-person public involvement meetings were conducted for the project. The first meeting was held on May 9, 2023, in the City of Lakewood, Ohio and the second meeting was held on June 27, 2023, in Rocky River, Ohio to introduce and discuss the Lake Road Clifton Boulevard Corridor Improvement project to the public. Public comments were collected during the meeting using a public feedback form and public written comments on the displayed exhibit boards. Public comments during this meeting were in favor of the project. The public shared their comments and thoughts related to pedestrian safety, cyclist concerns, and general comments on the project design. The public meetings have been announced by posting a flyer on Cuyahoga County website and yard signs including the meetings information were distributed in the proposed notification areas.

Construction: \$11,794,535.00: 100% local.

The project has been designed by OHM Advisors.

The environmental document and associated studies are being approved using conceptual design.

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

Yes

Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
ENV	
RW	
CO	117892: 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	03/23/2023



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 will not impact any Scenic River.

Floodplains

100-Year Floodplain:

No Encroachment Within a Special
Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

Floodplain Remarks

The project is not located within a regulated floodplain; therefore, no coordination is required. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f):

Present; No Impacts and/or Access
Restrictions

Section 4(f) Remarks

The project is located adjacent to the City owned Celeste Park, a protected Section 4(f). There will be no right-of-way from the park. No impact is expected.

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**

02/29/2024

Cultural Resources Remarks



Environmental Document Level: C2
PID 117892 CUY Lake/Clifton Connector

Approved: 2/29/2024

A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by using the SHPO GIS online database. 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 in accordance with Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix A of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. No further coordination is required. The Records Check can be found in the Project File Under Cultural Resources/Project Information. District approval date 02/29/24.

Environmental Resources Considered

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

Regulated Materials

Air Remarks

The project type of 'construction of a shared-used path and reduction of travel lanes, also including new roadway alignment, bridge enhancements, signal installation/upgrades, curb, median installation, and lighting upgrades' is considered insignificant from an air quality conformity perspective, as per 40 CFR 93.126. Therefore, the project is exempt from air quality coordination.

Noise Remarks

The project is a construction of a shared-used path and reduction of travel lanes project. Project also includes new roadway alignment, bridge enhancements, signal installation/upgrades, curb, median installation, and lighting upgrades. The project will not increase the traffic or traffic noise. Therefore, no noise analysis is required.

The project involves ROW acquisition, Deep Excavation, or OEPA 513 Landfill Authorization: No

Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date: 02/29/2024

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

A Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Screening was prepared. The project will have no permanent right-of-way, no deep excavation, and is not within 300 feet of a landfill buffer. Regulated Materials Review Screening was completed on 02/28/24. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist, approved Regulated Materials Review on 02/28/2024.

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
390351601001	14	4
390351811001	6	8
390351601002	6	10
390351602002	18	35
390351607001	5	24



Environmental Document Level: C2
PID 117892 CUY Lake/Clifton Connector

Approved: 2/29/2024

390351811002	0	24
--------------	---	----

Environmental Justice Remarks

Based on mapping from TIMS, the minority populations are between 5% and 18% for the US Census Block Groups located within the project area and 4% and 35% 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 based upon the table above, the attached mapping, and the answers to the questions above. No concerns related to impacts on Environmental Justice 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 is not required.

The Census mapping will 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

Two in-person public involvement meetings were conducted for the project. The first meeting was held on May 9, 2023, in the City of Lakewood, Ohio and the second meeting was held on June 27, 2023, in Rocky River, Ohio to introduce and discuss the Lake Road Clifton Boulevard Corridor Improvement project to the public. Public comments were collected during the meeting using a public feedback form and public written comments on the displayed exhibit boards. Public comments during this meeting were in favor of the project. The public shared their comments and thoughts related to pedestrian safety, cyclist concerns, and general comments on the project design. The public meetings have been announced by posting a flyer on Cuyahoga County website and yard signs including the meetings information were distributed in the proposed notification areas.

See the public involvement documentation for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

1) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: 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 FEDERALLY AND STATE LISTED BAT SPECIES AS REQUIRED BY THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. FOR THE PURPOSE 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.

2) Tree Removal AMM 1: 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.

3) Tree Removal AMM 3. 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.



Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer: Sumia Mohamed
Lawhon AND Associates Inc.
smohamed@lawhon-assoc.com

Supporting Form Preparer(s): Corey Czinger
John Ballas
Jason Earley
Matthew Pastorelle
Nicholas Viau
Ruth Klee
Susan Daniels

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	2/29/2024



Appendix

Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Cultural Resources

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Other Resources

Census Bureau Urbanized Map.pdf

Water Source Protection Area Map.pdf

Well Log Data.pdf

Public Involvement

Project Newsletter.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter-ROE.pdf

Public Comments Received summary - Attacment 6.pdf

Public Comments Received-2.pdf

Public Comments Received-3.pdf

Public Comments Received.pdf

Public Comments summary.pdf

Public Meeting Exhibits-2.pdf

Public Meeting Exhibits.pdf

Public Meeting Notification 2.pdf

Public Meeting Notification-2.pdf

Public Meeting Notification.pdf

Public Meeting Presentation-2.pdf



Environmental Document Level: C2
PID 117892 CUY Lake/Clifton Connector
Approved: 2/29/2024

Public Meeting Presentation.pdf

Public Meeting Sign In Sheet-2.pdf

Public Meeting Sign In Sheet.pdf

Public Meeting Summary.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf