



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

D12 MNT FY2024 Tree Removal PID 117880

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 5/18/2023

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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PID: 117880
Project Sponsor: ODOT SPONSORING AGENCY
ODOT District: 12
Funding Source: Non-Federal
Does this project require a Federal permit or approval? Yes

Project Description:

General tree and brush clearing throughout the District, at thirteen (13) locations in Cuyahoga, Geauga and Lake County. This project only involves the removal of trees that pose a hazard to the traveling public along ODOT roadways along with general shrub clearing for visibility. Majority of the trees are located within the current roadway right-of-way. Stage 1 plans lists how many acres of trees are slated for removal at each location. Impacts include cutting of suitable wooded habitat for the federally listed Indiana bats and Northern long-eared bat and state endangered tricolor and little brown bats. All trees are located within 100 ft of the edge of pavement. To avoid impacts to bat foraging and swarming activities, SWH will be cleared only between October 1 and March 31, when bats would be hibernating. As proposed this project should not impacts any other federal listed or state listed species. Further, no wetlands, streams, ponds, ditches, or lakes will be impacted by this project. No permanent or temporary right-of-way is required for this project. Utility impacts are not likely. Construction will not require a maintenance of traffic (MOT). No work in streams or wetlands. No deep excavation. Coordination with USFWS was completed 05/17/2023 for removal of trees. SWH will be cleared only between October 1 and March 31, when bats would be hibernating. Cultural Resources was coordinated as Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix A. The undertaking is a type which has minimal potential to cause effects to historic properties. No other environmental, hazardous materials, Section 4(f)/6(f), or environmental justice impacts will result from this project. Construction Cost Estimate: \$440,000.00 State funding
 The C2 approval is based on Stage 1 Design plans. Stage 1 plans are included in Project File/General/Project Information/Stage 1 Design.pdf

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

Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
Construction	117880: 21-24 STIP

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

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.**



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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 right-of-way
2. b. Residential or non-residential displacements
3. c. A Coast Guard, Individual Section 404 and/or a Section 10 permit
4. d. A Section 106 finding of *Adverse Effect*
5. e. A Section 4(f) Programmatic or Individual Evaluation
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. 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:	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	05/17/2023
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)
Section 4(f):	Not present
Section 6(f):	Not present



Cultural Resources: Not Present

Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date 05/18/2023

Since no Tribe was interested in this project based on their customized preferences, no further Tribal consultation was conducted.

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.

Air Quality: Studies Not Required

Air Quality - Coordination with OES: No

Noise: Studies Not Required

Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date: 05/18/2023

Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted Studies Not Required

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

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

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
Lake County	8.7	7
Cuyahoga	48.5	16.2
Geauga County	5.1	6.2

Environmental Justice Remarks

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 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, FHWA Order 6640.23A, no further analysis is required.

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



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Environmental Commitments

Yes



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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) No work within 1000-ft of the Scenic Grand River.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer

District 12
Contact: Mark Carpenter
216-584-2089
Mark.Carpenter@dot.ohio.gov

Supporting Form Preparer(s): Thomas Sorge

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	5/18/2023



Appendix

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions