



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

SUM IR 271/SR 8 8.49/VAR PID 93101

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 3/9/2023

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

PID: 93101
Project Sponsor: DISTRICT 4-PLANNING
ODOT District: 4
Funding Source: Federal

Project Description:

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes various pavement and structure improvements to approximately 4 miles of Interstate Route (IR) 271 from the IR 271 bridges over Boston Mills Road to the IR 271 bridges over State Route (SR) 82, including the IR 271/SR 8 interchange ramps, in Boston and Northfield Center Townships and the city of Macedonia, Summit County. The pavement improvements proposed by this project include pavement planing, partial and full depth pavement repairs and pavement resurfacing. The structure improvements proposed by the project include various maintenance activities on 12 bridges and 5 culverts. See the bridge information and the proposed bridge maintenance activities for each bridge in the Proposed Work Table on Structure Notes Plan Sheet P.23 of the Stage 3 Design plans for the project in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection. See the culvert information and the proposed culvert maintenance activities for each culvert on Drainage Notes Plan Sheet P.18 and Drainage Subsummary Plan Sheet P.19 of the Stage 3 Design plans for the project in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection. Additional improvements proposed by the project include linear grading, mechanically stabilized earth wall repair, rumble strip installation, raised pavement marker installation, traffic sign installation and edge line/lane line/channelizing line/stop line/transverse-diagonal line/dotted line/other pavement markings applications.

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 10-foot lane of traffic in each direction shall be maintained on the existing pavement or completed pavement during project construction. A five-day closure of Brandywine Road and Hines Hills Road will be necessary to complete proposed IR 271 bridge maintenance activities. The detour route for Brandywine Road is along Olde 8 Road and Highland Road while the detour route for Hines Hill Road is along Boston Mills Road and Olde 8 Road. Access shall be maintained to all driveways for the duration of project construction. Ramps at the IR 271/SR 8 interchange will also have overnight closures for no more than three nights at a time. Construction, lane restriction/reduction and road/ramp closure/detour information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction and this information will be updated/posted prior to each change in construction phase/travel pattern during project construction. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected during project construction.

Based on the project scope of work and the proposed maintenance of traffic measures, emergency/public services contact activities were conducted for project stakeholders.

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

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

A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by district environmental staff 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 that has minimal potential to cause effects to historic properties. No further coordination is required in accordance with the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. In accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix A of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on November 8, 2017 (Agreement No. 19319), amended on July 11, 2019, ODOT 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 the cultural resources documentation for the project in the Project File/Cultural Resources/Project Information subsection and the Cultural Resources Tab.

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.

With the exception of the proposed culvert maintenance activities and bridge maintenance at SUM-271-8.94, other proposed construction activities are considered ecologically exempt under the Ecological MOA (Agreement 19394). The proposed culvert maintenance activities and bridge maintenance at SUM-271-8.94 will permanently impact a total 270 linear feet of open



channel of six small streams from the installation of rock channel protection, scour and erosion repairs, headwall repairs, pipe end replacements and dewatering to install spray applied structural liners. An assessment of impacts to ecological resources for the proposed culvert maintenance activities and bridge maintenance at SUM-271-8.94 are described in six non-notifying Level 1 Ecological Survey Reports. See the ecological documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Reports subsection and the Ecological tab.

ODOT District 4 Environmental Section personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM mapping for the project study areas and found some of the proposed construction activities are located within a designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) Zone AE floodplain. However, the proposed construction activities are considered maintenance and, therefore, are exempt from the normal permit process required for work encroaching on a SFHA. As a courtesy, ODOT District 4 notified the Summit County Floodplain Administrator about the project. See the floodplain mapping and documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

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

ODOT District 4 conducted various public involvement activities for the project, including creation of a website with project information and public commenting feature, issuance of a news release and stakeholder consultation with local community leaders, the Summit County Engineer and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). Comments were requested by the public involvement activities conducted for the project. Comments were received from the Summit County Engineer's Office and the CVNP as a result of the public involvement activities conducted for the project. See the public involvement documentation, including the received comments and responses to comments, for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

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 is 5.95% greater than the total project cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2021 - 2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). However, fiscal constraint is at the Statewide Line Item (SLI) Group level. Therefore, an individual project utilizing a SLI does not require a STIP/TIP amendment.

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

Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
PE Environmental	
Construction	93101: 21-24 STIP
PE Detailed Design	

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 (e) 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.)*

(28) Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings, if the actions meet the constraints in 23 CFR 771.117(e). *Examples include: Railroad projects that close or relocate at-grade crossings*



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:	Present; No Coast Guard, Individual 404, and/or Section 10 Permit required
Waterways Permit Type:	Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending
Isolated Wetland Permit	No
Will any wetlands be impacted?	No
Endangered Species:	Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect
Endangered Species - Coordination	No Effect
100-Year Floodplain:	Encroachment Within the SFHA is a Functionally Dependent Use
EO 11988/NFIP Coordination and Documentation Completed:	Yes
NFIP Local Floodplain Coordinator Notification Date:	03/01/2023
Section 4(f):	Not present
Section 6(f):	Not present



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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	02/28/2023
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:	
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 UPIAR Required, Does Not Exceed UP Guidance Criteria, and No Issues Raised During Public Involvement
Public Involvement:	Minimum PI Requirements Met; No Minor Public or Agency Controversy on Environmental Grounds
Environmental Commitments	Yes



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Environmental Commitments

C2

1) The Project Designer will add the following note to the plans to protect threatened/endangered bat species: TREE CUTTING RESTRICTIONS:
THE PROJECT IS LOCATED WITHIN THE KNOWN HABITAT RANGES OF THE FEDERALLY LISTED AND PROTECTED INDIANA BAT AND NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT REMOVE TREES 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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Edward.Deley@dot.ohio.gov

Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Mark Andrasik
Robert Lang

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	3/9/2023



Appendix

Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

General

Aerial Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

ESA

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Public Involvement

Correspondence with Stakeholders_CVNP.pdf

Correspondence with Stakeholders_SCE.pdf

Emergency and Public Services Notification.pdf

Press Release.pdf

Project Website.pdf

Permits

Correspondence with Local Floodplain Administrator.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf