



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

SUM E Steels Corners Rd (Stow) PID 118730

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 6/1/2023

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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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Project Information

PID:	118730
Project Sponsor:	SUMMIT COUNTY ENGINEER
ODOT District:	4
Funding Source:	Federal
Project Description:	



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The Summit County Engineer proposes to rehabilitate the Steels Corners Road bridge over Mud Brook, Bridge Number STW-100-0490, in the city of Stow, Summit County. The project includes deck and parapet repairs, new expansion joints, pier pile encasement, concrete patching and sealing, guardrail replacement and pavement marking 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.

The project will be constructed part-width to maintain westbound traffic on Steels Corners Road while eastbound traffic shall be detoured to Wyoga Lake Road and Seasons Road. Construction and detour information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction.

Access shall be maintained to all adjacent properties, businesses and intersecting side streets during project construction. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected during project construction.

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

Minor relocations of existing utilities within the project study area will be necessary to construct the project. These minor utility relocations will occur within the existing roadway right-of-way. Utilities will not be permanently removed to construct the project.

Coordination with the utility companies affected by the proposed construction activities was conducted for the project during its preliminary engineering phase and will continue during its detailed design phase.

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 which 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.

The project proposes to impact approximately 73 linear feet of one stream, Mud Brook, and a total of approximately 0.264 acre of four wetlands. Approximately 0.195 acre of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for bats is located within 100 feet from the edge of pavement. However, no SWH is located within the construction limits of the project. According to the USFWS, the project is not located within a known bat buffer. There is no suitable habitat for any other federally or state listed species within the project study area. An official reconnaissance survey for mussels was not performed as the ecological survey was conducted outside the approved mussel survey season. However, a fresh dead mussel shell was observed along the eastern bank of Mud Brook. A relocation of mussels will be conducted prior to starting of instream construction activities. See the ecological and threatened/endangered species documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Reports subsection and the Ecological tab.

The project is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area Zone AE. Coordination with the local floodplain administrator was completed for the project. The project does not require a floodplain permit. No further coordination is required for the project. The project will be designed to meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. See the floodplains 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.

The Summit County Engineer's office conducted various public involvement activities for the project, including issuance of a news release and letters to nearby property owners. One public comment was received by email and a response was provided in a phone call. See the public involvement documentation for the project in 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 agrees with the total project cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2021 - 2024 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
CO	118730: 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:

(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 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:	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?	Yes



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 project will not impact any scenic river.

Floodplains

100-Year Floodplain: Encroachment Within the SFHA is a Functionally Dependent Use

EO 11988 Compliance Met Yes

NFIP Coordination and Documentation Completed Yes

NFIP Local Floodplain Coordinator Notification Date: 03/10/2023

Floodplain Remarks

The project is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area Zone AE. Coordination with the local floodplain administrator was completed for the project. The project does not require a floodplain permit. No further coordination is required for the project. The project will be designed to meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f): Not present

Section 4(f) Determination Date - de minimis - Cultural 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 03/31/2023

Cultural Resources Remarks



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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 which 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.

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.

Noise Remarks

The project will not cause traffic noise impacts.

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

Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date: 04/03/2023

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
391535306031	19	28

Environmental Justice Remarks



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Based on mapping from TIMS, the minority populations are 19% for the US Census Block Groups located within the project area and 28% 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, 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 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

The Summit County Engineer's office conducted various public involvement activities for the project, including issuance of a news release and letters to nearby property owners. One public comment was received by email and a response was provided in a phone call. See the public involvement documentation for the project in Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Ecological

Wetlands

ESR Name:	Wetland ID:	Hydrologic connection:	Wetland category:	Estimated total size (ac.):	Total estimated impact area by alternative (ac.):
SUM-CR100-4.90	Wetland A	Adjacent	Category 2	72.7	0.089
	Wetland B	Adjacent	Category 2	72.7	0.041
	Wetland C	Adjacent	Category 2	72.7	0.087
	Wetland D	Adjacent	Category 2	72.7	0.047

Has an Approved and/or Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination been made by the USACE? No

Total impact to all wetlands (ac.): 0.264

Total acres of non-isolated wetlands impacted: 0.264

Total acres of isolated wetlands impacted: 0

In accordance with Executive Order 11990 - USDOT Order 5660.1A, this Wetland Finding has been prepared to document that wetlands have been avoided to the extent possible to minimize the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands, and to document that there are no practicable alternatives to avoid construction in wetlands.

An analysis of the 'Do Nothing' alternative indicates that it is not practicable because (check all that apply):

It Would Not Correct Safety Hazards.

It Would Not Correct Existing Condition and Maintenance Problems.

An analysis of improvements that avoid all wetland impacts indicates that they are not practicable because (check all that apply):

They Will Not Meet the Identified Needs of the Project.

Include justification supporting the decisions noted above:

The Do Nothing alternative would not correct the condition of the existing bridge. The Do Nothing alternative would result in the roadway being closed due to the condition of the bridge leading to serious impacts to the traveling public and the general welfare of the economy in the area.

Avoidance of impacts is not possible due to the wetlands being located where bridge maintenance is needed. Avoidance of impacts does not meet the identified need of the project (improving the deteriorated bridge) and will result in substantial social and economic impacts resulting from the roadway being closed due to the condition of the bridge over Mud Brook. Impacts to wetlands will be



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minimized to the extent practicable. While the impact will likely be considered permanent for the purposes of CWA waterway permitting, it is also likely that the wetland will recover within the construction limits following construction. As such, it is not feasible to consider costly extraordinary measures or construction practices to avoid this wetland and still meet the purpose and need of the project.

All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to avoid, minimize, wetland impacts. The wetland impact minimization measures that will be followed for the project are documented in the environmental commitments for the project. Wetland mitigation for unavoidable impacts will be provided if required by the Clean Water Act or Ohio isolated wetland law, as regulated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio EPA regulations (33 CFR parts 325 and 332 and 40 CFR part 230, and OAC 3745-01-54), and (ORC 6111.027). No practicable alternatives exist for the proposed construction in wetlands, and the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to the wetlands that may result from such use.

Remarks:

Minor impacts to wetlands are necessary to implement the project. These impacts will be accounted for in the CWA waterway permitting process and necessary impact minimization measures implemented during construction.



Environmental Commitments

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- 1)
1) A mussel survey following the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol will be conducted during the field season and prior to construction activities.
- 2) 2) The Summit County Engineer will obtain all appropriate waterway permits prior to any construction work within the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all applicable waterway permits to be included in the plans and adhered to during construction.



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Preparers and Approvals

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Supporting Form Preparer(s): Joshua Sturges
Robert Lang
Libby Rushley

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	6/1/2023



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

ESA

ODOT Review Screening.pdf

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Other Resources

Census Bureau Urbanized Area Map.pdf

Water Source Protection Area Map.pdf

Well Log Data.pdf

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Correspondence with Stakeholders.pdf

Press Release.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter.pdf

Public Comments Received.pdf

Public Notification Mailing List.pdf

Response to Public Comments.pdf

Permits

Coordination with Local Floodplain Administrator.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf

Local Floodplain Administrator Approval.pdf