



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document for **SUM SR 0091 07.89 PID 113201** Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 5/13/2024

Prepared By: Cassandra Austin

Lawhon & Associates

Phone: 614-481-8600

E-mail: caustin@lawhon-assoc.com

District Contact: Edward Deley

Phone: 330-786-4930

E-mail: Edward.Deley@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.....	10
Preparers and Approvals.....	12
Appendix.....	13



Environmental Document Level: C2

PID 113201 SUM SR 0091 07.89

Approved: 5/13/2024

C2

Project Information

PID:	113201
Project Sponsor:	DISTRICT 4-PLANNING
ODOT District:	4
Funding Source:	Federal

C2 Section

Project Description:



Environmental Document Level: C2

PID 113201 SUM SR 0091 07.89

Approved: 5/13/2024

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes to replace the existing bridge deck and repair the substructure of the State Route (SR) 91 (North Main Street) bridge over the Cuyahoga River in the suburban city of Munroe Falls, Summit County. The bridge is located south of the North River Road and SR 91 intersection and carries one travel lane in each direction and a sidewalk on one side. It is 147 feet long and 34 feet wide. The existing bridge is a continuous steel beam with reinforced concrete deck and superstructure on concrete abutments and wall piers built in 1963.

The purpose of the project is to fix the bridge that is deteriorating based on annual bridge inspections. Additional improvements proposed by this project include abutment, wingwall, and pier repairs; new bearings and new expansion joints; replacement of the existing bridge approach slabs, including new guardrail on both sides of the road; replacing the existing sidewalk; and new support structures for the existing sanitary sewer on the east side of the bridge and the existing gas line on the west side.

Mapping that depicts the project location on United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Mapping is included in Project File/General/Project Information as *USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf*.

A full roadway closure of SR 91 will be needed between North River Road and Munroe Falls Avenue. The bridge will be closed to traffic during construction for a maximum of 45 consecutive days. The official signed detour route will use SR 59 and SR 261 while local traffic can use various local roads.

The project will require right-of-way acquisition. Approximately 0.073 acre of permanent and 0.099 acre of temporary right-of-way will be required from three properties to construct the project. Total takes and/or relocations are not proposed to construct the project. Utility impacts are expected. Coordination with the utility companies in proximity to the proposed construction activities was conducted for the project during its preliminary engineering phase and will continue during its detailed design phases. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in the summer of 2026 and last approximately 2-3 months.

The project will not impact any environmentally sensitive resources within the project study area as detailed in the narrative below and the resource-specific subsections and tabs.

A Level 1 Ecological Survey Report was completed by Lawhon ecological personnel for the project. The Cuyahoga River and one live mussel were identified during the reconnaissance survey. A total of 0.195 acre of suitable forested bat habitat were identified in the project area. The project will impact approximately 103 feet of stream and 0.061 acre of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for the federally listed Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and tricolored bat species. The project will also impact 0.061 acre of habitat for the state listed little brown bat. A bridge inspection was performed on the bridge to assess for the presence of roosting bats; no evidence of bats was observed. No other ecological resources are present within the project construction limits. See the ecological and threatened/endangered species documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Project Information and Reports subsections and the Ecological tab.

There are no active or sealed water wells located within the project area. Well log data and documentation can be found in the Project File/Other Resources/Drinking Water subsection.

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using the Stage 2 Design Plans. A copy of the Stage 2 Plans for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection.

The estimated total project cost specified in Ellis is less than 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
RW	113201: 24-27 STIP
CO	113201: 24-27 STIP
DD	113201: 24-27 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

Table with 2 columns: Question and Answer. Rows include 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), and Will any wetlands be impacted? (No).



Environmental Document Level: C2

PID 113201 SUM SR 0091 07.89

Approved: 5/13/2024

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 12/28/2023

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

There are no national or state-listed wild and scenic rivers within 1,000 feet of the project area. 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: 05/13/2024

Floodplain Remarks

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) 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. See the floodplain mapping and documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f): Present; No Programmatic Evaluation or Individual Evaluation Required

Section 4(f) Determination:

Temporary No Use Exception - 774.13(d)

de minimis - Recreational



Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(d) 04/25/2024

Section 4(f) Determination Date - de minimis - Recreational 04/25/2024

Section 4(f) Remarks

Brust Park, the Cuyahoga River Water Trail and the Bike and Hike Trail are recognized recreational properties within the vicinity of the proposed project and are afforded protections from adverse impacts. A Section 4(f)/6(f) Determination Request Form for Recreational Properties (DRF) was submitted to ODOT-OES Policy Staff on February 23, 2024, and resubmitted on April 15, 2024. On April 25, 2024, ODOT-OES determined the proposed project will not have an impact on the recognized recreational properties Brust Park and the Cuyahoga River Water Trail and therefore the project received a temporary "no use" exemption. In accordance with 23 CFR 774.13 (d), the proposed project's construction does not constitute a use of Brust Park or the Cuyahoga River Water Trail. Additionally, on April 25, 2024, ODOT-OES determined the proposed project impacts to the Bike and Hike Trail were not adverse because of avoidance, minimization, or mitigation and the project received a *de minimis* determination. In accordance with 23 CFR 774, the proposed project's construction does not permanently adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes of the Bike and Hike Trail. These determinations were made based on the proposed scope of work and concurrence received from the Official with Jurisdictions (OWJs). Additionally, a Recreational Boating Review Form was submitted to ODNR staff on February 27, 2024. On March 12, 2024, ODNR concurred with the measures to minimize harm to the Cuyahoga River.

No further Section 4(f) coordination is required for the project. See the Section 4(f) coordination for the project in the Project File/Section 4(f)/Coordination subsection.

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 B

Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date 01/26/2024

Cultural Resources Remarks

A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed using the SHPO GIS online database to determine if previously recorded cultural resources are located within the project Area of Potential Effects (APE), the footprint of the project. 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. Additionally, the existing bridge (SFN 7707142) was built in 1963 but is not considered eligible for the National Register based on the Ohio DOT Historic Bridge Inventory (accepted April 28, 2010). Therefore, in accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix B of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed June 29, 2023, Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 38503), ODOT OES determined the project is a type of undertaking that has "minimal potential to cause effects" to historic properties and is not part of a larger undertaking. No further cultural coordination is required. See the cultural documentation, including coordination, for the project in the Cultural Resource tab.

Environmental Resources Considered

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



Regulated Materials

Farmland

Air Remarks

The project is an exempt project per 40 CFR 93.126 [Exempt projects, Air Quality: Widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional travel lanes)]. The project will not impact air quality. No air quality studies, or coordination are needed for this 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: 12/14/2023

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

Based on the information in the Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Screening 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.

Farmland: Urbanized Area; No Impacts in Accordance With the Farmland MOU and 7 CFR 658

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
391535308002	6	29

Environmental Justice Remarks



Environmental Document Level: C2

PID 113201 SUM SR 0091 07.89

Approved: 5/13/2024

A review of the ODOT Transportation Information Mapping System (TIMS) indicated there are Environmental Justice populations within the proposed project 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 for the project.

Based on the above findings, an Environmental Justice Analysis Report is not required for the project.

Census mapping for the project is 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

ODOT and the city of Munroe Falls solicited for public comments through an associated press release, a series of public announcements using social media, a virtual open house and stakeholder notification letters. The virtual open house including a presentation was conducted from January 29th to February 23rd, 2024. A project specific webpage was also created to solicit for comments. Three comments were received during the public involvement activities regarding foot traffic concerns, Cuyahoga River impacts, and bridge widening. All comments were responded to on an individual basis. 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.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) The project is located within a FEMA flood zone and will be designed to comply with all applicable Local, State, and Federal floodplain protection standards. Appropriate floodplain permitting, or documentation of exemption, shall be obtained by the Ohio Department of Transportation prior to the start of project construction.
- 2) The project designer shall incorporate the following into the plans to protect Brust Park: Access to Brust Park shall be maintained at all times, except for the time needed to temporarily occupy the property, which shall be less than the time needed for construction of the project. Temporary construction fencing or cones shall be installed to protect Brust Park users from construction activities. Appropriate signage shall be installed to alert users of Brust Park of construction activities, access restrictions or closures, and to direct users to secondary access points. The contractor shall be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule with ODOT and the Director of Public Service for the City of Monroe Falls (Jim Bowery | jbowery@munroefalls.com | 330-688-7491) prior to the start of construction activities.
- 3) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans to protect the Bike & Hike Trail: Access to Bike & Hike Trail shall be maintained at all times, except for the time needed to temporarily occupy the property, which shall be less than the time needed for construction of the project. Any closures as a result of construction will be limited to night when the trail is closed to the public. The leg of the Bike & Hike Trail going under the bridge may be closed as long as the other trail leg crossing SR 91 is maintained for use by trail users. Temporary construction fencing or cones shall be installed to protect Bike & Hike Trail users from construction activities. Appropriate signage shall be installed to alert users of the Bike & Hike Trail of construction activities, access restrictions or closures, and to direct users to secondary access points. The contractor shall be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule with ODOT and Summit Metro Parks (Travis Saunier | 330-754-5589 | tsaunier@summitmetroparks.org) prior to the start of construction activities.
- 4) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans to protect the Cuyahoga River Water Trail: Recreational boating access within the project area shall be maintained at all times during construction activities, except for the time needed for temporary access restrictions associated with demolition and construction activities. Temporary access restrictions will be less than the time needed for overall project construction and will only occur when construction activities are deemed unsafe for paddlers/boaters. The Project Engineer or Contractor shall notify ODNR at kyla.maunz@dnr.ohio.gov, 48 hours in advance when restrictions lasting longer than a day will occur. The use of flaggers or other means will be used to alert paddlers/boaters when short-term restrictions (e.g. 15-30 minutes intervals) are needed. The Contractor shall place appropriate signage, markers, or buoys 300 feet upstream and 300 feet downstream of the project area to alert paddlers/boaters of construction activity and for wayfinding purposes. The Project Engineer or Contractor shall notify ODNR at kyla.maunz@dnr.ohio.gov, 14 calendar days prior to the start of construction activities to allow ODNR to post notice of the impending project construction on the appropriate ODNR webpages and associated online boating maps. As part of notification efforts, the Project Engineer shall also provide plans that indicate signage location along the waterway and any additional planned notification efforts with ODNR that will take place during or after construction.
The Contractor shall closely coordinate the construction schedule (including access restrictions) with ODOT and ODNR prior to the start of construction activities. If on-the-water law enforcement is needed during any portion of the construction activities, the Project Engineer or Contractor shall contact the ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft Law Enforcement Supervisor (Lt. Timothy Boyd at 330-260- 2448).



Environmental Document Level: C2

PID 113201 SUM SR 0091 07.89

Approved: 5/13/2024

- 5) 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.
- 6) The Ohio Department of Transportation District 4 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.
- 7) The Ohio Department of Transportation District 4 shall hire a State permitted malacologist to complete a mussel salvage and relocation in accordance with the most recent version of the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol prior to the initiation of consultation activities below the ordinary high water mark. The mussel survey must occur after May 1 and before October 1 either within the same season as the instream work or the season prior to the instream work. Submit the results of the mussel survey, salvage work, or both to the ODOT District Environmental Coordinator, Edward Deley (Edward.Deley@dot.ohio.gov, 330.786.4930). Obtain approval from the Department prior to performing work below the ordinary high water mark of the Cuyahoga River.
- 8) The project designer shall incorporate into the plans: No in-water work in the Cuyahoga River will occur from April 15th through June 30th to protect spawning season for state listed threatened and endangered fish species, unless the appropriate waiver is obtained from ODNR.
- 9) The project designer will have project plans that includes signs noting the river mile of the Cuyahoga River Water Trail added to the upstream and downstream sides of the bridge.



Environmental Document Level: C2

PID 113201 SUM SR 0091 07.89

Approved: 5/13/2024

Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer:

Cassandra Austin
Lawhon & Associates
1441 King Ave, Columbus OH 43212
614-481-8600
caustin@lawhon-assoc.com

Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Robert Lang
Connor Newsome

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	5/13/2024



Appendix

ESA

District Determination - No Additional RMR Studies Needed.pdf

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

General

Aerial Map.pdf

Correspondence Related to Utility Coordination.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

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

Section 4(f)

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination Bike and Hike Trail.pdf

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination Brust Park CRWT.pdf

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Public Comments Received and Responses Provided.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf