



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

GEA SR 528 10.71/14.87 PID 115048

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 4/10/2024

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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C2

Project Information

PID:	115048
Project Sponsor:	ODOT SPONSORING AGENCY
ODOT District:	12
Funding Source:	Federal

C2 Section

Project Description:



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Replace 2 deficient culverts along SR-528 in Geauga County. Location 1, 41.52361, -81.05174. Location 2, 4158378, -81.05177.

Temporary and permanent right-of-way is required for this project. Utility impacts are unlikely.

Construction will require Maintenance of Traffic Plan (MOT).

Ecological impacts. Location 1, Stream 1 (Tributary to South Branch Phelps Creek), perennial, small drainage warmwater (Class II); 356 feet located in the Study Area, 42 feet of impacts. Stream 1 will be impacted from the replacement of the drainage structure during construction. At location 2, Stream 2 (Tributary to North Branch Phelps Creek), perennial, small drainage warmwater (Class II); 288 feet located in the Study Area, 42 feet of impacts. Stream 2 will be impacted from the replacement of the drainage structure during construction. No bat habitat tree removal for this entire project, bat coordination not required. There is no suitable habitat for any other federally or state listed species within the project areas. ODOT has made the determination to proceed with the project as currently designed. All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to minimize the impacts to Stream 1 and Stream 2 as best as possible. Permit Determination Request (PDR) is pending.

A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by district environmental staff Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist, using the SHPO Records Request via email. 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 B 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. OES approval date 04/04/24.

Cultural Resources Cont. The undertaking will replace two modern steel culverts in Huntsburg and Montville townships located in the northeastern part of Geauga County, Ohio. The GEA-528-10.71 structure is found about three miles east of East Claridon, Ohio and the GEA-528-14.87 structure is found about five miles northeast of East Claridon, Ohio. Both are in rural settings and construction activities will focus on the existing operational right-of-way. However, overall construction will require minor new right-of-way from the two existing stream channels. The occurrence of intact archaeological remains is unlikely given the disturbed nature of the project area. Furthermore, no buildings will be involved in construction and no relocations will be required. The literature search concluded there are no inventoried buildings (OHI), no known archaeological sites (OAI), and no listed or eligible historic properties found in the project area or in the area of potential effects (APE). The existing culverts are modern structure including an elliptical Corrugated Metal Pipe constructed in 1963 (GEA-528-10.71) and a circular Corrugated Metal Pipe (GEA-528-14.87). Though unrecorded, it is likely that the latter pipe was also installed in the 1960s. The replacement of non-historic culverts made of modern materials is a construction activity which is exempt from further cultural resource consideration by the 6/29/23 Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 38503), as long as the project is not within the boundaries of any historic property or N. R. district.

The project is not located in a regulated floodplain, therefore, no coordination was required.

Regulated Materials Review Screening was prepared by Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist, approved Regulated Materials Review on 04/03/2024.

No other environmental, hazardous materials, Section 4(f)/6(f), or environmental justice impacts will result from this project.

Property Owner Notification Letters were sent out on June 29, 2023. No responses were received. Property Owner Notification letter can be found in the Project File under Public Involvement/Project Information. ODOT has determined to proceed with the project as currently designed.

Construction: \$655,000.00: 80% federal, 20% state.

The project has been designed by Chagrin Valley Engineering.

The environmental documentation and associated studies are being approved using Stage 2 design. A copy of the plans is included in the project file.

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

Yes

Ellis STIP Details



Phase	Current STIP Reference
9BJ	115048: 24-27 STIP
FK	115048: 24-27 STIP
7C	115048: 24-27 STIP
88	115048: 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

Waterways:

Present; No Coast Guard, Individual 404, and/or Section 10 Permit required



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Waterways Permit Type:	Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending
Isolated Wetland Permit	No
Will any wetlands be impacted?	No
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	
No scenic rivers within 1000-feet of the project.	
Floodplains	
100-Year Floodplain:	No Encroachment Within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
Floodplain Remarks	
The project is not located in a regulated floodplain. FEMA mapping can be found in the Project File under Permits/Floodplains.	
Section 4(f)	
Section 4(f):	Not present
Section 4(f) Remarks	
No Section 4(f) resources are present within the project area.	
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	04/04/2024
Cultural Resources Remarks	



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The undertaking will replace two modern steel culverts in Huntsburg and Montville townships located in the northeastern part of Geauga County, Ohio. The GEA-528-10.71 structure is found about three miles east of East Claridon, Ohio and the GEA-528-14.87 structure is found about five miles northeast of East Claridon, Ohio. Both are in rural settings and construction activities will focus on the existing operational right-of-way. However, overall construction will require minor new right-of-way from the two existing stream channels. The occurrence of intact archaeological remains is unlikely given the disturbed nature of the project area. Furthermore, no buildings will be involved in construction and no relocations will be required. The literature search concluded there are no inventoried buildings (OHI), no known archaeological sites (OAI), and no listed or eligible historic properties found in the project area or in the area of potential effects (APE). The existing culverts are modern structure including an elliptical Corrugated Metal Pipe constructed in 1963 (GEA-528-10.71) and a circular Corrugated Metal Pipe (GEA-528-14.87). Though unrecorded, it is likely that the latter pipe was also installed in the 1960s. The replacement of non-historic culverts made of modern materials is a construction activity which is exempt from further cultural resource consideration by the 6/29/23 Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 38503), as long as the project is not within the boundaries of any historic property or N. R. district.

Environmental Resources Considered

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

Noise

Regulated Materials

Air Remarks

The project type of 'replacement of two (2) deficient culverts with no additional travel lanes' 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: Studies Not Required

Noise - Coordination with OES Yes

Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date: 03/19/2024

Noise Remarks

The project is a replacement of two (2) deficient culverts project. The project will not increase the traffic or traffic noise. Therefore, no noise analysis is required. The No Noise Analysis Required District Determination can be found in the Project File Under Noise/Project Information. District approval date 03/19/24.

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:

04/05/2024

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

Regulated Materials Review Screening was prepared by Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Corey Czinger, Environmental Specialist, approved Regulated Materials Review on 04/05/2024.

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
390553110002	1	59
390553102001	14	10
390553102002	9	11

Environmental Justice Remarks

Based on mapping from TIMS, the minority populations are between 1% and 9% for the US Census Block Groups located within the project area and 10% and 59% 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 or disparate impacts 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, 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 (EJAR) 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

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Environmental Commitments



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Yes



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Environmental Commitments

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1) The Ohio Department of Transportation will obtain all appropriate waterway permits prior to any work with the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all applicable waterway permit conditions will be included in the plans and adhered to during construction.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer

District 12
Contact: Corey Czinger
Corey.Czinger@dot.ohio.gov

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	4/10/2024



Appendix

General

Aerial Map 3-1.pdf

Aerial Map 3-2.pdf

County Map 1-1.pdf

County Map 1-2.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map 2-1.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map 2-2.pdf

Noise

No Noise Analysis Required - District Determination.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Records Check map 1.docx

Records Check map 2.docx

Ecological

ESR Appendices.pdf

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf