



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

## **Environmental Document**

for

## **POR SR 0225 11.04 PID 116749**

**Environmental Document Level: C2**

**Approved: 1/18/2024**

**Prepared By: District 4**

**Brian Peck**  
**Phone: 330-786-4931**  
**E-mail: [Brian.Peck@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Brian.Peck@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.....	9
Preparers and Approvals.....	10
Appendix.....	11



## Environmental Document Level: C2

PID 116749 POR SR 0225 11.04

Approved: 1/18/2024

### C2

#### Project Information

**PID:** 116749  
**Project Sponsor:** DISTRICT 4-PLANNING  
**ODOT District:** 4  
**Funding Source:** Federal

#### C2 Section

#### Project Description:

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes to perform pavement and structure maintenance on State Route (SR) 225 in Paris and Palmyra Townships in Portage County, Ohio. SR 225 pavement will be resurfaced from north of the SR 225/Interstate Route (IR) 76 interchange to approximately SR 5. Additional pavement improvements proposed by this project include full/partial depth pavement repairs, linear shoulder grading, edge line rumble stripe installations and installation of new center line/edge line/lane line/channelizing line/stop line/other pavement markings applications.

In addition to proposed pavement resurfacing, maintenance operations will be performed on bridge structures located within the pavement maintenance limits. The project will pave over Bridge Nos. POR-225-1320 (SFN: 6704093), POR-225-1372 (SFN: 6704115), and POR-225-1433 6704204 and perform maintenance operations on POR-225-1426 (SFN: 6704174), including deck surface repair/waterproofing and overlay with asphalt, removal of above ground vegetation within 15-feet of the structure, rock slope protection repair at the tops of the forward and rear abutment footers, reinforcement steel/rebar and concrete repair on the underside of the bridge deck and on the pier caps and sealing of exposed concrete surfaces with an epoxy urethane sealer. Additional improvements proposed by this project include installation of new structure identification signage, were needed at the aforementioned bridge structure locations.

Mapping that depicts the project locations on United States Geological survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf*.

A minimum of one (1) 10-foot lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction on the existing SR 225 pavement or completed pavement during resurfacing and structure maintenance operations. Construction and lane restriction information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected for the project.

The project will be constructed within the existing SR 225 right-of-way.

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

Based on the project scope of work, its Path 1 Project Development Process (PDP) Classification and the proposed maintenance of traffic measures, emergency/public services contact activities were not conducted for the project.

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

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using project scope information, Stage 3 Design plans developed for the project. The Stage 3 Design plan information for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *Stage 3 Design.pdf*.

The estimated total project construction cost specified in Ellis is 10.6% greater than the total construction cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Fiscal constraint is at the Statewide Line Item (SLI) Group level. 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
ENV	
CO	116749: 24-27 STIP
DD	

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 I 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 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.



**Environmental Document Level: C2**

PID 116749 POR SR 0225 11.04

Approved: 1/18/2024

**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?** No

**The identified Federally Listed Species for the project received an effect determination of No Effect.**

**Endangered Species Remarks:**

The project may impact approximately 65 linear feet of the West Branch of the Mahoning River. Proposed river impacts are associated with anticipated use of ladders and scaffolding to access and repair the underside of the POR-225-1426 bridge deck and the structure pier caps. The project will not result in impacts to wetlands. The project will have no effect on any Federally or state listed threatened and endangered species.

A Level 1 Ecological Survey prepared for the POR-225-1426 bridge location assumed Unionid mussels are present in the project study area. However, mussel relocation was performed at the POR-225-14.26 bridge location in 2021. A total of sixteen (16) live unionid mussels representing three (3) species (*Amblema plicata*, *Lampsilis siliquoidea* & *Eurynia dilatata*) were collected and relocated approximately 90 meters upstream of the project study area. On January 12, 2024, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Wildlife (DOW) granted a project waiver/approval to non-perform a second mussel relocation at the POR-225-14.26 bridge location prior to project construction.

See ecological resource and ODNR coordination documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Reports and Coordination subsections and the Ecological Tab.

**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 Wild and Scenic Rivers within 1000 Feet of the Proposed Project Area. No further coordination is required.

**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:** 01/04/2024



## Floodplain Remarks

ODOT District 4 Environmental Section personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM mapping for the project study areas and determined the project encroaches onto designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) Zone A floodplains established for the West Branch of the Mahoning River and its tributaries. However, the proposed pavement and bridge maintenance activities are considered maintenance that will not change the alignment, grade or hydraulic capacity of the West Branch of the Mahoning River and/or its tributaries and, therefore, the project is exempt from the normal permit process required for work encroaching on a SFHA. Floodplain coordination is not required for the project. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

## Section 4(f)

**Section 4(f):** Present; No Impacts and/or Access Restrictions

## Section 4(f) Remarks

The proposed project will not restrict access to and/or permanently incorporate land into a transportation facility or temporarily occupy land from any Section 4f resource adjacent to the project. No Section 4(f) coordination is required for the project in accordance with 23 CFR 774 and the OES Section 4(f) Manual.

## 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** 01/02/2024

## Cultural Resources Remarks

The proposed pavement and structure maintenance activities will focus on existing SR 225 operational right-of-way. All work areas are considered to have been previously disturbed by the existing modern roadway facilities. A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) staff using the SHPO GIS database. Review of the Cultural Resources Records Check, dated November 3, 2023, identified historic properties within proximity of the project. However, the project will not remove or alter any buildings or features of any National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)/NRHP-eligible properties and the project is not located in proximity to any historic district.

Moreover, bridges with proposed maintenance activities are of a type and date of construction determined not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP pursuant to the 2009 Ohio DOT Historic Bridge Inventory (accepted April 28, 2010). The proposed undertaking is a type which has minimal potential to cause effects to historic properties in accordance with Appendix A of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement and therefore, no further coordination is required. 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**

Air quality studies/coordination are not required 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:** No

**Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date:** 01/02/2024

**Regulated Materials Review Remarks:**

Based on the information in the Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Forms 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
391336007041	1	15
391336007061	2	12

**Environmental Justice Remarks**

A review of the ODOT Transportation Information Mapping System (TIMS) indicated 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 and 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 and FHWA Order 6640.23A, no further analysis is required. See Environmental Justice documentation for the project in the Project File/Environmental Justice/Project Information subsection.

**Public Involvement**



**Environmental Document Level: C2**

PID 116749 POR SR 0225 11.04

Approved: 1/18/2024

**Public Involvement:**

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

**Public Involvement Remarks**

Based on the project scope of work, its Path 1 Project Development Process (PDP) Classification and the proposed maintenance of traffic measures, emergency/public services contact activities were not conducted for the project. The project is listed on the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). ODOT notifies the public of the STIP comment period by various methods including media releases, newspaper legal notices, articles in newsletters, and various social media forums. Comments and responses regarding the draft STIP are summarized and included as an appendix in the final STIP. No public comments were received for this project.

**Environmental Commitments**

**Environmental Commitments**

Yes



## Environmental Commitments

### C2

1) In-water work restriction dates are applicable to this project. The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans.

POR-225-1426 - IN-WATER WORK RESTRICTION DATES - APRIL 15 THROUGH JUNE 30: NO IN-STREAM WORK SHALL BE PERFORMED WITHIN THE WEST BRANCH OF THE MAHONING RIVER FROM APRIL 15 THROUGH JUNE 30. FOR THIS PROJECT, IN-STREAM WORK IS DEFINED AS THE PLACEMENT AND/OR REMOVAL OF LADDERS AND/OR SCAFFOLDING BELOW THE ORDINARY HIGH WATER MARK (OHWM) OF THE RIVER. PLACEMENT OF PERMANENT AND/OR TEMPORARY ACCESS FILLS BELOW THE OHWM OF THE WEST BRANCH OF THE MAHONING RIVER IS PROHIBITED.

2) This project was evaluated for the presence of freshwater Unionid mussels in accordance with the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocols, and the following applies: Mussels are present within project area and that the mussels will be impacted by the project. A relocation of the mussels will be conducted prior to the start of instream construction activities in the West Branch of the Mahoning River. The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans.

POR-225-1426 - MUSSEL RELOCATION: FRESHWATER MUSSELS MAY BE PRESENT AT BRIDGE NO. POR-225-1426 WITHIN PROJECT CONSTRUCTION FOOTPRINT. TO AVOID IMPACTS TO MUSSELS, RELOCATION OF THE MUSSELS WILL BE PERFORMED BY ODOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MOST RECENT VERSION OF THE OHIO MUSSEL SURVEY PROTOCOL. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THE CONTRACTOR PERFORM ANY WORK BELOW THE OHWM OF THE WEST BRANCH OF THE MAHONING RIVER PRIOR TO ODNR APPROVAL. ODOT SHALL PROVIDE MUSSEL RELOCATION AND ODNR APPROVAL SCHEDULE INFORMATION AT THE PROJECT PRECONSTRUCTION MEETING,

3) The Contractor shall take all precautions necessary during project construction to ensure the safety recreational boaters at the POR-225-1426 bridge location. The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans:

RECREATIONAL USE OF THE WEST BRANCH OF MAHONING RIVER - BRIDGE NO. POR-225-1426: THE CONTRACTOR SHALL TAKE ALL PRECAUTIONS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN AN OPEN CHANNEL AND SAFE PADDLER/BOATER PASSAGE UNDER THE BRIDGE DURING PROJECT CONSTRUCTION. RECREATIONAL BOATING ACCESS MAY BE TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED UNDER A PORTION OF THE BRIDGE WHEN CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES ARE DEEMED UNSAFE FOR PADDLERS/BOATERS. HOWEVER, THE USE OF FLAGGERS AND OTHER MEANS MUST BE USED TO ALERT/WARN PADDLERS/BOATERS TO PASS UNDER THE BRIDGE WITH CAUTION. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THE CONTRACTOR LEAVE ANY UNATTENDED EQUIPMENT IN THE RIVER CHANNEL. ALL LADDERS, SCAFFOLDING AND/OR OTHER EQUIPMENT SHALL BE REMOVED FROM THE RIVER CHANNEL DURING WORK STOPPAGES. IF ON-THE-WATER LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED DURING ANY PORTION OF CONSTRUCTION OR IF THE CONTRACTOR HAS ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE ODOT PROJECT ENGINEER. ON-THE-WATER LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FROM THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND WATERCRAFT LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR SCOTT STAUFFER AT [Scott.Stauffer@dnr.ohio.gov](mailto:Scott.Stauffer@dnr.ohio.gov) or 440-812-3208.



**Environmental Document Level: C2**

PID 116749 POR SR 0225 11.04

Approved: 1/18/2024

### **Preparers and Approvals**

**Form Preparer**

District 4  
Contact: Brian Peck  
330-786-4931  
Brian.Peck@dot.ohio.gov

**Supporting Form Preparer(s):** Brian Peck

### **Approvals & Electronic Signatures**

<b>Approved &amp; Electronically Signed By:</b>	<b>Approval Date:</b>
Brian Peck (ENV SPEC 3)	1/18/2024



## Appendix

### General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

### Air

Project Related Decision - No Air Analysis Required.pdf

### Cultural Resources

Records Check.pdf

### Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

### Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

### Permits

District Determination - No Floodplain Impacts.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf