



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

## **Environmental Document**

for

## **CUY Ridgewood Dr Bridge Replace PID 119608**

**Environmental Document Level: C2**

**Approved: 9/4/2024**

**Prepared By: Sumia Mohamed**

Lawhon AND Associates Inc.

E-mail: smohamed@lawhon-assoc.com

District Contact: Thomas Sorge

Phone: 216-584-2086

E-mail: Tom.Sorge@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 119608 CUY Ridgewood Dr Bridge Replace  
Approved: 9/4/2024

**C2**

**Project Information**

<b>PID:</b>	119608
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	CUYAHOGA COUNTY ENGINEER
<b>ODOT District:</b>	12
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Federal

**C2 Section**

**Project Description:**

The Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works (CCDPW) in coordination with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes a project to replace the Ridgewood Drive (CR-65-03.50) bridge (SFN -1830988) over West Creek in the City of Parma, Ohio. The existing structure over West Creek is a 45-foot, single-span, reinforced concrete arch on reinforced concrete wall-type abutments. Work includes replacing the current structure with a 61-foot precast reinforced concrete arch on reinforced concrete spread footing, abutting pavement and pavement markings. Mapping that depicts the project location on United States Geological Survey (USGS 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Mapping is include in Project File/General/Project Information as *USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf*.

There is no new right-of-way. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in Winter 2026 and expected to end in fall 2026. The vehicular bridge will be closed to traffic during construction. Traffic control and roadway signs will be posted, and the northbound detour will be Broadview Road to Snow Road to State Road for approximate detour length of 3.0 miles.

The project proposes to impact approximately 69 linear feet of one stream, West Creek. There is approximately 0.021 acres of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for bats is located within 100 feet from the edge of pavement. However, no living bats or evidence of bat habitation was observed during the bridge inspection. According to the USFWS, the project is not located within a known bat buffer. A plan note will be included in the project plans to limit tree clearing between October 1 and March 31. There is no suitable habitat for any other federally or state listed species within the project area. A presence/absence survey for plant species *Baptista tinctoria*, *Juncus dichotomus*, and *Carex lucorum* was conducted by Lawhon ecological personnel on May 23, 2024. None of the plant species was observed in the study area; there will be no impacts to the species. See the ecological and threatened /endangered species documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Project Information and Reports subsections.

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. RMR documentation for the project available in the Project File/ESA/Reports subsection.

The project is located within a regulated floodplain. Coordination with the local floodplain administrator was completed for the project and a No-Rise certification Form sent to the local floodplain administrator. The project will not have a rise in floodplain elevation, and the submitted No-Rise certification is accepted by the local floodplain administrator. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/ Permits/Floodplain subsection.

The Cuyahoga County issued a news release that has been posted on Cuyahoga County website on April 15, 2024, soliciting public comments on the proposed project. The comment period ended May 24,2024. No public comments were received.

The environmental document and associated studies are approved using Stage 1 Design plan. A copy of the plans is included in the project file.

<b>The next phase of the proposed project is listed on the STIP:</b>	Yes
--	-----

**Ellis STIP Details**



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
 PID 119608 CUY Ridgewood Dr Bridge Replace

Approved: 9/4/2024

Phase	Current STIP Reference
CO	119608: 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

**Waterways Permit Type:**

Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending



**Isolated Wetland Permit** No

**Will any wetlands be impacted?** No

**The following Federally Listed Species received an effect determination of May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect:**

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Listing Status	Most Recent Coordination Date
Indiana Bat	Myotis sodalis	Endangered	05/17/2024
Northern Long-eared Bat	Myotis septentrionalis	Endangered	05/17/2024
Tricolored Bat	Perimyotis subflavus	Proposed Endangered	05/17/2024

**The following Federally Listed Species received an effect determination of No Effect:**

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Listing Status	Most Recent Coordination Date
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Species of Concern	05/17/2024
Piping Plover	Charadrius melodus	Endangered	05/17/2024
Rufa Red Knot	Calidris canutus rufa	Threatened	05/17/2024

**Endangered Species Remarks:**

Approximately 0.121 acre of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) within 100 feet of the edge of pavement was identified in the study area and expected to be impacted. The bridge to be replaced over West Creek will be impacted, however no living bats or evidence of bat habitation was observed during the bridge inspection. According to USFWS, the project area is not located within a known buffer, however there are existing records of one reproductive female northern long-eared bat and one non-reproductive male northern long-eared bat within three miles of the study area. A plan note will be included in the project plans to limit tree clearing between October 1 and March 31.

**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:**

05/28/2024

**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 and a No-Rise certification Form sent to the local floodplain administrator. The project will not have a rise in floodplain elevation, and the submitted No-Rise certification is accepted by the local floodplain administrator. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/ Permits/Floodplain subsection.



## Section 4(f)

Section 4(f):

Not present

## Section 4(f) Remarks

The project requires temporary right-of-way from West Creek Preservation Committee property. However, the property is owned by a private not-profit company and is not protected under Section 4(f). Copy of the Project Related OES Decision - Section 4(f). pdf document is available in Project File/Section 4(f)/subsection Project Information.

## 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

03/20/2024

## 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. District environmental staff coordinated with OES Cultural Resources Staff on November 8, 2023 and a determination was made that the project is not a part of a larger undertaking and is a type which has minimal potential to cause effects to historic properties in accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix A of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on June 29, 2023 (Agreement No. 38503), 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

The project is an Exempt Project per 40-CFR 93.126 (Exempt Project/Safety: Widening narrow pavement or reconstructing bridge (no additional travel lane). No air analysis is required.

## 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:**

03/20/2024

**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.

**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
390351773022	12	25
390351775011	5	22
390351775031	5	16
390351775032	10	16

**Environmental Justice Remarks**

Based on mapping from TIMS, the minority populations are 5% - 12% for the US Census Block Groups located within the project area and 16% - 25% 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, 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 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**



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 119608 CUY Ridgewood Dr Bridge Replace  
Approved: 9/4/2024

The Cuyahoga County issued a news release that has been posted on Cuyahoga County website on April 15, 2024, soliciting public comments on the proposed project and the comment period ended May 24, 2024. No public comments were received.

**Environmental Commitments**

**Environmental Commitments**

Yes



## Environmental Commitments

### C2

- 1)  
Tree Removal AMM 1: Modify all phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) to avoid tree removal in excess of what is required to implement the project safely.
- 2) Tree Removal AMM 2(a) (OH PBO: A-1). Time of year restrictions for tree removal when bats are not likely to be present - To avoid impacts to summer roosting bats, SWH will be cleared only between 1 October and 31 March, when the species would not be present.
- 3) Tree Removal AMM 3. Ensure tree removal is limited to that specified in project plans by clearly marking clearing limits. Ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field.
- 4) The Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works (CCDPW) will obtain all appropriate waterway permits prior to any work within the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all applicable waterway permits will be included in the plans and adhered to during construction.



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 119608 CUY Ridgewood Dr Bridge Replace  
Approved: 9/4/2024

### **Preparers and Approvals**

**Form Preparer:** Sumia Mohamed  
Lawhon AND Associates Inc.  
smohamed@lawhon-assoc.com

**Supporting Form Preparer(s):** Andrew Fluegemann  
Mike Woodring  
Susan Daniels

### **Approvals & Electronic Signatures**

<b>Approved &amp; Electronically Signed By:</b>	<b>Approval Date:</b>
Thomas Sorge (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	9/4/2024



## Appendix

### General

Aerial Map.pdf  
Correspondence Related to Utility Coordination-2.pdf  
Correspondence Related to Utility Coordination.pdf  
County Map.pdf  
USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

### Cultural Resources

Records Check.pdf  
Section 106 Scoping Request Form.pdf

### Ecological

ODNR Comments  
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)

Project Related OES Decision - Section 4(f).pdf

### Section 6(f)

LWCF Grant Listing.pdf

### Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

### Public Involvement

Correspondence with Stakeholders.pdf

### Permits

Coordination with Local Floodplain Administrator.pdf  
FEMA FIRM.pdf  
Local Floodplain Administrator Approval.pdf