



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

ATB SR 0007 31.10 (Phase 1) PID 115509

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 11/1/2024

Prepared By: District 4

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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:	115509
Project Sponsor:	Conneaut, City of
ODOT District:	4
Funding Source:	Federal

C2 Section

Project Description:



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The city of Conneaut proposes roadway improvements on State Route (SR) 7/Broad Street from US Route 20/State Street to just north of the Norfolk Southern railroad bridge, a distance of 0.18 mile, in an urbanized area of Conneaut in Ashtabula County.

Proposed improvements include: full depth concrete pavement replacement; replacing the traffic signal at the intersection of SR 7 and US Route 20; making the pedestrian crossings at SR 7 and US Route 20 and SR 7 and Madison Street more accessible with decorative brick crosswalks and new curb ramps and adjacent sidewalks to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards; adding special markings known as sharrows to the lanes to help cyclists share the road with cars; making improvements to the drainage system, including installation of stormwater treatment structures; driveway reconstruction; casting adjustments; pavement markings applications and installing new signs and decorative lights to match the style of other projects completed in the city recently.

Mapping that depicts the project location on a topographic, aerial and county map are included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection.

The number of lanes will be reduced from four travel lanes to two travel lanes and a center two-way left turn lane/dedicated left turn lane by changing the pavement markings on SR 7 between Madison Street and Jackson Street. The lane reduction is known as a road diet, that is recommended for this area because of the low traffic volumes and recent crashes. The road diet will reduce the number of lanes that will make it less likely for cars to weave between lanes, travel at different speeds, or get into conflicts. With fewer lanes, there will be less opportunities for crashes, and will make it safer for pedestrians and for vehicles turning onto the road from side streets and driveways. Finally, the pavement width will stay the same as the existing width, so that it can still be used for the annual Soap Box Derby, an important event in the city.

At least one lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained throughout construction. Construction and lane restriction/reduction information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction. Lane restrictions/reductions shall not be permitted after normal working hours. 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. Emergency/public services were notified regarding the project impacts by letter as part of the public involvement process.

A total of 0.013 acre of permanent right of way is needed from two property owners for sidewalk construction and grading. A total of 0.04 acre of temporary right of way is needed from two property owners for driveway reconstruction and grading.

Existing above ground utilities within the project study area will not be impacted/relocated to construct the project. This project is considered ecologically exempt under the Ecological MOA (Agreement 19394). See the ecological documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Reports subsection and the Ecological tab.

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

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

The estimated total project cost specified in Ellis is 1.37% greater than the total project cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). However, based on the estimated total project cost being less than \$3,000,000 and the additional project cost not exceeding \$1,500,000, a STIP amendment is not necessary for the project.

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

Yes

Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
ENV	
CO	115509: 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:

(26) Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders,



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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.)**

(27) Highway safety or traffic operations improvement projects, including the installation of ramp metering control devices and lighting, if the project meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section. **Examples include: Lane reduction ("road diet") changes provided traffic analysis is completed; Railroad projects that close at-grade crossings to improve safety or traffic operations.**

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:

Not Present

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 was cleared under an Ecologically Exempt ESR.

Scenic Rivers

No National Wild and Scenic River
Within 1000 Feet of the Proposed
Project Area

Scenic Rivers Remarks

National or state-listed wild and scenic rivers are not located within 1,000 feet of the project study area. The project will not impact any scenic river.

Floodplains

100-Year Floodplain:

No Encroachment Within a Special
Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

Floodplain Remarks

ODOT District 4 Environmental Section personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM for the project study area and determined the project is located within an Area of Minimal Flood Hazard/Zone X. The project will not impact a special flood hazard area. See the floodplain mapping for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection. The project will not impact any environmentally sensitive resources within the project study area.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f):

Not present

Section 4(f) Remarks

Section 4(f) resources are not located within the project limits.

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

08/22/2024

Cultural Resources Remarks



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A Cultural Resources Records Check and Section 106 Scoping Request were submitted to ODOT OES-Cultural Resources staff for review. A review of OSHPO data and online mapping 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). SHPO mapping is in error regarding the location of the Harwood Block (NR # 78002002) that is actually at the intersection of Broad Street and Main Street or a block south of the project APE. Modernization or widening this urban roadway, the installation of pedestrian facilities, and right-of-way takes taken from areas where the natural soils have been removed are project types exempt from further cultural resource consideration by the June 29, 2023, Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 38503), as long as the project is not within the boundaries of any historic property or N. R. district. In accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix B of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on June 29, 2023 (Agreement No. 38503), ODOT-OES has determined that the proposed 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

Air quality studies or coordination are not required for the project. Project is under 40CFR93.126 under "Projects that correct, improve, or eliminate a hazardous location or feature" and "Highway Safety Improvement Program implementation."

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:

10/11/2024

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. 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
390070001034	35	65
390070001033	2	55
390070001035	3	38

Environmental Justice Remarks

The project will improve SR 7 pavement and small areas of sidewalk and curb ramp improvements in an urbanized part of Conneaut. No changes in access will occur during construction.

A review of the ODOT Transportation Information Mapping System (TIMS) indicated Environmental Justice (EJ) populations within the proposed project area, including Minority and Low Income populations. 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 the attached mapping. 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 for the project. Based on the above findings, an Environmental Justice Analysis Report is not required for the project.

See the Census Mapping for the project 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

Conneaut conducted various public involvement activities for the project, including letters to adjacent property owners and stakeholders, creation of a website with project information, issuance of a news release, and emergency/public services notification. No comments were received from the public outreach efforts. See the public involvement documentation for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

Environmental Commitments

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No



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Environmental Commitments



Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer

District 4
Contact: Edward Deley
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Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Mary Christoff
Robert Lang

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	11/1/2024



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

Road Diet Justification .pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

RMR

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Public Notification - City Website Posting.pdf

Public Notification City Website Posting - No Comments.pdf

Public Notification Letter Comments Received - No Comments.pdf

Public Notification Letter Packet.pdf

Public Notification Mailing List.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf