



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

CUY IR 480 22.86 Noise Barrier PID 119443

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 2/2/2024

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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:	119443
Project Sponsor:	ODOT SPONSORING AGENCY
ODOT District:	12
Funding Source:	Federal

C2 Section

Project Description:



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This project will replace deteriorating noise barrier panels along IR-480 EB at two locations, 480 EB to Granger Road exit ramp and Lee Road to 480 EB entrance ramp.

Temporary right-of-way is needed from the William Foster Elementary School for the replacement of the existing chain-link fence. Please see the Project File/General/Project Information/Right of Way Plan Sheets.pdf.

No deep excavations required. No work in streams or wetlands. No tree removal.

Funding:

Preliminary engineering: 100% state

Construction Cost Estimate: \$1,360,000.00 federal and state funding

Regulated Material Form approved by the ODOT District 12 on 1/22/24. No further RMR investigation or special material plan management is warranted.

Ecological Exempt Form approved by ODOT District 12 on 1/22/24.

The project is not a Type I project for noise, add an auxiliary lane or does not add capacity a new highway on new location. the project will not significantly change the horizontal or vertical alignment. Therefore, a noise analysis is not required.

Noise Variance request letters were sent to the cities of Garfield Heights and Maple Heights to allow the contractor to work at night.

Section 4(f) coordination was previously approved under PID 113623. The replacement of this section of noise barrier, along the IR-480 EB exit ramp to Granger Road, was originally under PID 113623. The section was split to PID 119443 and included the fence replacement at William Foster Elementary School. The Official with Jurisdiction Letter, Section 4(f) Determination Request Form for Recreational Properties, and the OES Section 4(f) Temporary No Use Exception Determination dated July 7, 2022 can be found in the Project Files/ Section 4(f).

ODOT District 12 Public Information Office issued a press release on January 26, 2024. ODOT will collect comments until February 26, 2024. ODOT must reply to all comments by March 15, 2024.

C2 based on Stage 3 Plans. See Project File for Stage 3 Plans.

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

Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
CO	119443: 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, 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**



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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.)

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 will not require tree removal. No habitat for endangered species was identified in the project limits.



Scenic Rivers

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

Scenic Rivers Remarks

No scenic or wild rivers were identified within the project limits.

Floodplains

100-Year Floodplain:

No Encroachment Within a Special
Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

Floodplain Remarks

The project will not impact FEMA designated floodplains.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f):

Present; No Impacts and/or Access
Restrictions

Section 4(f) Remarks

Noise barrier panels at L/A line adjacent to the William Foster Elementary School property are to be replaced. The playground area behind the school directly abuts the noise barrier. The playground has swings, a jungle gym, a baseball field, and an open grass field. The area is used for recess during school hours. The area is open to the public outside of school hours.

All work to replace panels can be done from the highway with the existing right-of-way. However, the noise barrier is located as close as 2-feet to the right-of-way line. When panels are removed, the playground area will be open to the travel lanes with no barriers. Therefore, construction fencing will be placed on school property 10-feet behind the noise barrier to secure and ensure that there is no access to or from IR-480 to the playground area. See attached Temporary Construction Fence Plan Sheet. A total of 6300-square feet (0.145 acre) of school property is required to install the temporary fencing. The fencing will remain in place until the [new] noise barrier in this location is completed. It is estimated the duration of construction length will be approximately 5 months.

- Access to William Foster Elementary School playground 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 shall be installed along proposed construction limits prior to the start of construction activities to protect the Section 4(f) property and the public.
- Appropriate signage shall be installed to alert users of William Foster Elementary School playground of construction activities, access restrictions or closures.
- The contractor shall be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule with ODOT and William Foster Elementary School prior to the start of construction activities.

Section 6(f)

Section 6(f):

Not present

Cultural Resources



Approved: 2/2/2024

Cultural Resources: Not Present
Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date 01/22/2024

Cultural Resources Remarks

Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by district environmental staff using the SHPO GIS online database. 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. No further coordination is required in accordance with the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. The Record Check can be found in the Project File \ Cultural Resources\Project Information.

Environmental Resources Considered

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

Noise

Regulated Materials

Air Remarks

This project is an Exempt Project per 40-CFR 93.126 (Exempt Project: Noise attenuation). No air quality analysis is required.

Noise: Studies Not Required

Noise - Coordination with OES No

Noise Remarks

The project will replace the existing noise barrier and will not move the barriers. Therefore, a noise analysis is not required.

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: 01/22/2024

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

The project does not involve permanent right-of-way or deep excavation. Therefore, no further regulated material review is required.

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
151498	97	32
151798	66	42

Environmental Justice Remarks

Based on mapping from TIMS, the minority populations are 66% - 97% for the US Census Block Groups located within the project area and 32% - 42% 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 proposed new noise barrier project will not impact pedestrian or public transportation facilities.

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

ODOT District 12 Public Information Office issued a press release on January 26, 2024. ODOT will collect comments until February 26, 2024. ODOT must reply to all comments by March 15, 2024.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) ODOT District 12 Public Information Office issued a press release on January 26, 2024. ODOT will collect comments until February 26, 2024. ODOT must reply to all comments by March 15, 2024.
- 2) Access to William Foster Elementary School playground 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.
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- 4) Appropriate signage shall be installed to alert users of William Foster Elementary School playground of construction activities, access restrictions or closures.
- 5) The contractor shall be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule with ODOT and William Foster Elementary School prior to the start of construction activities.



Preparers and Approvals

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Mark Carpenter (TRANS ENGR 3)	2/2/2024



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

Noise

District Determination - No Noise Analysis Required.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

Section 4(f)

Determination Request Form for Recreational Properties.pdf

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination.pdf

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Press Release.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf