



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

SUM Wyoga Lake Rd (Cuyahoga F.) PID 116742

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 10/10/2024

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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:	116742
Project Sponsor:	Cuyahoga Falls, City of
ODOT District:	4
Funding Source:	Federal

C2 Section

Project Description:



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The city of Cuyahoga Falls proposes to widen Wyoga Lake Road (CR 101) between E. Steels Corners Road (CR 100) and Seasons Road (CR 145), a distance of approximately 1.5 miles, in Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County, Ohio. A center two-way left turn lane/dedicated left turn lane will be installed between E. Steels Corner Road and Seasons Road. Furthermore, an 8-foot wide multi-use path will be constructed along the east side of Wyoga Lake Road from E. Steels Corner Road to Seasons Road. The traffic signal at the Wyoga Lake Road/E. Steels Corner Road intersection will be upgraded. Additionally, a warranted new traffic signal will be constructed at the Wyoga Lake Road/Wyoga Lake Boulevard intersection. Miscellaneous drainage and utility work will also be performed and deep excavation may be needed for new drainage structures at the existing bridge (1,000 feet north of Steels Corners Road) for bridge abutment work. Other improvements proposed by the project include driveway apron reconstruction, rock channel protection placement, traffic sign installations and pavement markings applications.

The project is located within a residential and commercial area within the city of Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County, Ohio. The land uses within the project area are residential, commercial and institutional.

Mapping that depicts the project location on United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Mapping is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf.

A minimum of one ten-foot lane in each direction shall be maintained on the existing pavement, temporary pavement, or completed pavement during construction of the project. Road closures and detours are not proposed to construct the project. Construction and lane restriction/reduction information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction. 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.

New permanent strip right-of-way and temporary right-of-way will be required to construct the project. In total, approximately 7.125 acres of net take are proposed from 59 parcels. No structures will be involved in the takes and no relocations will occur. See the right-of-way plan information for the project in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Right of Way Plan Sheets.pdf.

Minor relocations of existing utilities within the project study area will be necessary to construct the project. These minor utility relocations will occur within the existing/proposed new permanent street right-of-way. Utilities will not be permanently removed to construct the project. Coordination with the utility companies affected by the proposed construction activities was conducted for the project during its preliminary engineering phase and will continue during its detailed design phase.

During project development, public outreach was conducted with the surrounding land owners, stakeholders and public service providers. The local fire, police and schools had no objections to the proposed project activities.

The project will impact 50 linear feet of one (1) perennial stream, a total 0.623 acre of five (5) wetlands and 0.78 acre of suitable wooded habitat for the Federally listed Indiana bat and Northern Long-eared bat and the Federally proposed Tricolor bat. See the ecological and threatened/endangered species documentation for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Reports subsection and the Ecological tab.

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using the Stage 2 Design plans for the project. A copy of the Stage 2 Design plans for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Stage 2 Design.pdf.

The estimated total project cost specified in Ellis agrees with the total project cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

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

Yes

Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
ENV	
RW	116742: 24-27 STIP
CO	116742: 24-27 STIP
DD	



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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.)**

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?

Yes

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	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Endangered	09/18/2024
Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Endangered	09/18/2024
Tricolored Bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Proposed Endangered	09/18/2024

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	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Species of Concern	09/18/2024
Eastern Massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	Threatened	09/18/2024
Northern Monkshood	<i>Aconitum noveboracense</i>	Threatened	09/18/2024

Endangered Species Remarks:

N/A

Scenic Rivers

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

Scenic Rivers Remarks

N/A

Floodplains

100-Year Floodplain:

No Encroachment Within a Special
Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

Floodplain Remarks

The 100-year floodplain of Mud Brook is located east of the project construction limit. No project construction will occur within the regulated floodplain of Mud Brook. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f):

Not present

Section 4(f) Remarks

N/A

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 07/03/2024

Cultural Resources Remarks

ODOT-OES archaeology staff scoped the entire project area on July 1, 2024, observing disturbance from building construction, utility installation and drainageways, with swampy/marshy areas in and around the proposed project footprint and new right-of-way. Based on the observed disturbance and wetness within and immediately adjacent to the proposed area and the limited amount of new right-of-way, no further archaeological investigations are warranted. This site visit is documented in an archaeology memo-to-file (refer to project file). Additionally, a review of Ohio SHPO GIS shows no inventoried archaeological sites within or immediately adjacent to the proposed project area.

The area of potential effects is limited to the footprint of the undertaking. The Section 106 records check did not identify a cultural resource listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places within or adjacent to the area of potential effects. No history/architecture properties documented in the Ohio Historic Inventory files, or the Determination of Eligibility files were identified. To ensure the project meets the intent of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (*Agreement No. 38503*) executed June 29, 2023, ODOT-OES reviewed the right-of-way plans and project scope with the ODOT-District 4 environmental staff. In addition, ODOT-OES prepared a table documenting all parcels adjacent to the project footprint with photographs and dates of construction of the buildings (refer to project file). Properties fifty years of age were identified along the corridor dating between 1950-1974. Work adjacent to these resources is limited to grading, removal of trees and brush for grading, and driveway reconstruction. Based on the scope of the undertaking, no further history/architecture investigations are required for the project. In accordance with Appendix B of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (*Agreement 38503*) dated June 29, 2023, the undertaking has minimal potential to cause effects. No further cultural resource investigations are warranted for the project.

Environmental Resources Considered

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

Air Quality

Noise

Regulated Materials

Air Quality: Studies Not Required

Air Quality - Coordination with OES: No

Air Remarks

Air quality studies or coordination are not needed 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". See the Air Quality documentation for the project in the Project File/Air/Coordination subsection.

Noise: Studies Not Required

Noise - Coordination with OES No



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. See the noise documentation for the project in the Project File/Noise/Coordination subsection.

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:

09/03/2024

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

Based on the information in the Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Screening 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/Project Information and Reports subsections.

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
391535329023	35	50
391535329024	17	23

Environmental Justice Remarks

All right-of-way takes are minor strip takes along existing right-of-way. There are no residential or business relocations. The project will not change access to shopping, bus stops, schools, jobs, recreational resources, community centers or diminish or completely restrict, either temporary or permanent, to Environmental Justice communities. No man-made diversion such as an overpass, bridge, 4-lane or greater roadway or railroad negatively impact the extent a community feels connected or cohesive for an Environmental Justice population. Access to or use of the transportation improvement will not be denied to any Environmental Justice population. The proposed project will not result in unanticipated additional impacts to an Environmental Justice population. No concerns related to impacts on Environmental Justice populations or any unique factors that could result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect were raised during public involvement.

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 EJAR is not required for the project. The census mapping can be found under the Project File tab Environmental Justice. See the Census mapping for the project in the Project File/Environmental Justice/Project Information subsection.

The project impacts (strip right-of-way takes) to public housing was coordinated with the local housing authority. Documentation of this correspondence is located in the Project File/Environmental Justice/Project Information subsection.

Public Involvement



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Public Involvement:

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

Public Involvement Remarks

The following is a summary of public involvement activities that have occurred for the project. All public involvement activity is documented in the project file.

- February 12, 2024: Right-of-Entry and project notification letters were mailed to the emergency and public service providers, property owners, and residents within the project study area.
- June 1, 2024: Website posting, and public meeting notification letters and public comment forms were mailed to affected property owners and stakeholders.
- June 11, 2024: An in-person open house was hosted by the Cuyahoga Falls Engineer. Comments and questions were requested from the public and stakeholders.

During the public comment period, the following public comments were received:

- 2/15/2024: A resident on Wyoga Lake Road asked if the project would include extension of sanitary sewers. The Cuyahoga Falls Engineer informed the resident that sanitary sewer was not included in this project.
- 6/13/2024: A resident on Wyoga Lake Road shared information regarding an old abandoned gas line near his driveway.
- 7/10/2024: A resident on Wyoga Lake Road asked if his mailbox could be relocated, recommended a roundabout at Wyoga Lake Road and Seasons Road, recommended widening Seasons Road to 4-lanes, and recommended the proposed traffic signal at Wyoga Lake Road/Wyoga Lake Blvd on be active during school days. The Cuyahoga Falls Engineer informed the resident that mailbox locations would be coordinated with the Post Office, a roundabout is not feasible for this project, the widening of Season Road will be considered for future projects, and the traffic signal will be functional at all times and days.

See the public involvement documentation for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Ecological

Wetlands

ESR Name:	Wetland ID:	Hydrologic connection:	Wetland category:	Estimated total size (ac.):	Total estimated impact area by alternative (ac.):
Level 1 ESR - SUM-Wyoga Lake Rd	W-3	Adjacent	Category 1	0.121	0.00
	W-4	Adjacent	Category 1	0.103	0.019
	W-5	Adjacent	Category 1	0.159	0.032
	W-6	Adjacent	Category 1	0.087	0.026
	W-1	Adjacent	Category 2	7	0.36
	W-2	Adjacent	Modified Category 2	0.84	0.186

Has an Approved and/or Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination been made by the USACE? No

Total impact to all wetlands (ac.): 0.623

Total acres of non-isolated wetlands impacted: 0.623

Total acres of isolated wetlands impacted: 0

In accordance with Executive Order 11990 - USDOT Order 5660.1A, this Wetland Finding has been prepared to document that wetlands have been avoided to the extent possible to minimize the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands, and to document that there are no practicable alternatives to avoid construction in wetlands.

An analysis of the 'Do Nothing' alternative indicates that it is not practicable because (check all that apply):

It Would Not Correct Existing or Projected Capacity Deficiencies.

An analysis of improvements that avoid all wetland impacts indicates that they are not practicable because (check all that apply):

They Will Result in Substantial Adverse Community Impacts to Adjacent Homes, Businesses, or Other Improved Properties.

They Will Substantially Increase Project Costs.

They Will Not Meet the Identified Needs of the Project.

Include justification supporting the decisions noted above:



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To meet the project purpose of adding two-way turning lanes, impacts to wetlands can not be avoided.

All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to avoid, minimize, wetland impacts. The wetland impact minimization measures that will be followed for the project are documented in the environmental commitments for the project. Wetland mitigation for unavoidable impacts will be provided if required by the Clean Water Act or Ohio isolated wetland law, as regulated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio EPA regulations (33 CFR parts 325 and 332 and 40 CFR part 230, and OAC 3745-01-54), and (ORC 6111.027). No practicable alternatives exist for the proposed construction in wetlands, and the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to the wetlands that may result from such use.

Remarks:

N/a



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) Ensure impacts to the federally listed and protected Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat and the State listed and protected little brown bat and tricolored bat are avoided and minimized. Do not remove trees from April 1 through September 30. Perform all necessary tree removal from October 1 through March 31. Demarcate clearing limits in the field to avoid any unauthorized tree clearing. For the purposes of this note, a tree is defined as a live, dying, or dead woody plant, with a trunk three inches or greater in diameter at a height of 4.5 feet above the ground surface, and with a minimum height of 13 feet.
- 2) The city of Cuyahoga Falls 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.
- 3) Do not perform any work within the jurisdictional boundaries of any waterway, including wetlands, until the city of Cuyahoga Falls obtains the necessary waterway permit(s). Work includes the placement of any temporary or permanent fills.



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Preparers and Approvals

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	10/10/2024



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

Right of Way Plan Sheets.pdf

Stage 1 Design.pdf

Stage 2 Design.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Noise

OES Approval - No Analysis Required.pdf

RMR

Project Related Decision - RMR.pdf

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Ecological

ODNR Comments

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Section 6(f)

LWCF Grant Listing.pdf

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

HUD Response.pdf

Public Involvement

Website Posting .pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf