



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 02
317 E. POE RD. • BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402 • 419-353-8131

Environmental Document

for

LUC SR 65 5.35 Craig Mem. Bridge PID 117040

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 2/9/2026

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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

C2 Section

PIDs	117040
Project Sponsor	District 2 Engineering
ODOT District	2
Funding Source	Federal

Project Description:

The Ohio Department of Transportation is proposing a bridge preservation project in the City of Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. The Robert Craig Memorial Bridge (SFN: 4805917) is a 10-span, 1,600'-long bascule bridge carrying State Route (SR) 65 over the Maumee River. This lift bridge was built in 1956 and reconstructed in 1980. Based on the Rehabilitation Alternatives Analysis Report, the 2023 In-Depth Structural, Mechanical, and Electrical Inspection noted that deterioration was observed on the bridge. Therefore, the purpose of this project is to address the conditions of these components to maintain the bridge for all existing uses which include: commercial boat traffic along the Maumee River and vehicular and pedestrian traffic along SR 65.

The proposed preservation activities will repair and upgrade the structural, electrical and mechanical components that are critical to maintaining and ensuring long-term operation and overall reliability of the bridge. Improvements will include replacement of the submarine cable between Pier 4 and Pier 5, which carries various power, control and communication circuits beneath the Maumee riverbed at the lift bridge span. Additional work will also include replacement of guardrail, traffic control signals, pavement markings, signals, and lighting, minor structural rehab, and bridge deck overlay.

This project will utilize state and federal funds. Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2027 and be completed by January 2028.

Maintenance of Traffic: The following closures / detours will be required in order to complete the project:

- Vehicles and pedestrians: Construction activities will require the spans of the Craig Memorial Bridge to remain upright, in the open position, to maintain the navigable waterway, closing access to vehicular and pedestrian traffic for up to six months. This traffic will be detoured down N. Summit Street (SR 65) to the Main Street bridge to Front Street (and vice versa).
- Boats: Barges will be utilized during construction, which may prohibit the main channel under the bridge from being used by boat traffic; however, barges can be moved from the main channel with advance notice. Access will be maintained under other spans at all times.

Access to properties will be maintained at all times.

Utilities: Water, sanitary, electric, telephone, stormwater, and railroad utilities are present. There is an existing ground line underwater for the existing lift components (between Piers 4 and 5). ODOT will conduct the necessary utility coordination throughout the development and construction of the project.

Ecological: Based on the Level 1 Ecological Survey Report, the project may impact one perennial stream (Maumee River) and approximately 0.01 acre of suitable wooded habitat.

See the Ecological Tab for additional information.

Right-of-Way: Temporary right-of-way takes will be required in order to complete this work. Final right-of-way plans were not available at time of report submission.

Approval and Preparation of this document was conducted in accordance with the most current approved and adopted guidance per the Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Environmental Services. All environmental documentation has been reviewed relative to the most recently available plans (Stage 2 Design) at the time of this approval.

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

Yes



Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
ENV	On Previous STIP
CO	
DD	117040: 26-29 STIP

The current cost estimate is in line with existing federal procedures for Ohio STIP Amendments and Administration Modifications:

No

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 - a. Acquisition of more than a minor amount of ROW (exceeds strip takes) b. Residential or non-residential displacements c. A U.S. Coast Guard permit or an Individual Section 404 permit under the Clean Water Act d. A Section 106 finding of Adverse Effect e. Section 4(f) impacts greater than de minimis f. A finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect to Threatened and Endangered Species g. Construction of temporary access, or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions h. Changes in access control 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) 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 k. No minor public or agency controversy on environmental grounds (no opposition from any organized groups or agencies and no unresolved environmental coordination) l. Substantial Community Impacts (if a Community Impact Assessment is required, contact OES for guidance). 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:

Ecological documentation for LUC-SR 65-5.35 was cleared as a non-notifying Level 1 ESR on 9/5/25.



Scenic Rivers

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

Scenic Rivers Remarks

National-listed or state-listed wild and scenic rivers are not present within 1,000 feet of the project limits.

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:

01/05/2026

Floodplain Remarks

The project is within a FEMA flood zone and will be designed to comply with all applicable Local, State, and Federal floodplain protection standards. The Ohio Department of Transportation will obtain all appropriate floodplain permits (NFIP) and complete all Local Floodplain Coordination prior to any work within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f):

Present; No Programmatic
Evaluation or Individual Evaluation
Required

Section 4(f) Determination:

No Use - Recreational

Temporary No Use Exception - 774.13(d)

de minimis - Recreational

Section 4(f) Determination Date - No Use - Recreational

12/10/2025

Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(d)

12/10/2025

Section 4(f) Determination Date - de minimis - Recreational

12/10/2025

Section 4(f) Remarks



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The following impacts to Section 4(f) resources will occur as a result of the project:

- Edison Park (no use): The proposed construction activities will not result in any closures to the park or associated trail system within park boundaries, or right-of-way acquisition from the park.
- Front St Bike Path/Riverside Trail (exception: During construction, temporary closures of the trail will be required to allow equipment to cross the Front St. Bike Path/Riverside Trail underneath Craig Memorial Bridge intermittently to access the bridge. Construction will not require a complete trail closure or detour. Instead, a flagger will be used to direct pedestrian traffic while the equipment crosses.
- Craig Bridge Trail (*de minimis*): During construction, the bridge will be placed in the 'open position' to accommodate marine traffic through the channel, which will restrict bridge access to vehicle and pedestrian traffic (see MOT details in the project description).
- Maumee River (no impact): Barges will be utilized during construction, which will prohibit the main channel under the bridge from being used by recreational boat traffic; however, access will be maintained under other spans at all times.

Based on review of the Section 4(f) Determination Request Form for Recreational Properties (DRF), ODOT-OES Policy Staff made a determination on 12/10/2025 that the proposed project will have a *de minimis* impact to Craig Bridge Trail in accordance with 23 CFR 774. The determination was made based on the proposed scope of work and concurrence received from the Official with Jurisdiction (OWJ) regarding the assessment of impacts.

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 09/18/2025
Concurrence Date

Cultural Resources Remarks

On 9/18/25 ODOT-OES concluded that non-historic bridge replacements requiring minor additional right-of-way from previously disturbed areas is an activity which is exempt from further cultural resource consideration by the 6/29/23 Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 38503), as long as the project is not within the boundaries of any historic property or National Register district.

Tribal Consultation Summary/Remarks:

The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma was notified of the project on 9/18/25; no response was received.

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 Studies not required.

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.

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: 02/09/2026

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

No special material management is warranted for the project since the excavated materials will either be reused on the project or placed in the Port Authority's dredge disposal facility located at the mouth of the Maumee River.

Public Involvement

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

Public Involvement Remarks

The following public involvement activities occurred for the project:

- Press release with a project location map, detour information, and request for comments was published by ODOT on 11/10/25.
- ODOT project card (website) with a project location map, detour information, and request for comments was published by ODOT on 11/12/25.
- Flyers with a project location map, detour information, and request for comments were posted at various locations around the project area on 11/13/25.

Three (3) public comments were received as part of public involvement activities. See the Public Comments and Responses document in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. The project is located within the known habitat ranges of the federally listed and protected Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and tricolored bat; and the state-listed little brown bat. No trees shall be removed to construct the project from April 1 through September 30. All necessary tree removal shall occur from October 1 through March 31. This requirement is necessary to avoid and minimize impacts to these species as required by the endangered species act. 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 project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. Recreational boating traffic shall be maintained throughout construction of the project through the existing river channel.
- 3) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. Adequate signing both upstream and downstream shall be installed as needed and maintained by the Contractor. The following type signs are considered to be minimum treatment:
 - Approximately one-quarter mile upstream, advanced warning type signs on both banks;
 - Approximately 300 feet upstream, signs specifying actions required of recreational user on both banks;
 - Approximately one-quarter mile downstream, advance warning type signs on both banks; and
 - Approximately 300 feet downstream, signs specifying actions required of recreational users on both banks.

- Due to ice flow events, signage may be placed instead at the nearest public access points or within the project area during in-water work.

The above signing shall be mounted in such a way as to be a minimum of 4 feet above the water level, unobstructed by tree branches, and properly angled for maximum visibility from the main clear channel. The method of supporting the signs shall be approved by the engineer prior to installation. Upon completion of the project, the signs and support systems shall be completely removed from the river channel.
- 4) ODOT will obtain all appropriate waterway permits prior to any work within the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all Waterway Permit Special Provisions will be noted under Special Provisions in the plans and adhered to during construction.
- 5) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. Access to the Craig Bridge Trail will be restricted while the bridge is in the 'open position' during construction, for a period of time that is anticipated to last no longer than 6 months and will not be for the duration of construction.
- 6) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. Access to the Front St. Bike Path/Riverside Trail will be maintained during construction, with flaggers used to direct pedestrian traffic when construction equipment crosses the trail.
- 7) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. Appropriate signage shall be installed to alert users of the Edison Park, Craig Bridge Trail and Front St. Bike Path/Riverside Trail of construction activities, access restrictions or closures, and to direct users to secondary access points.
- 8) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. Access to Edison Park shall be maintained at all times during construction activities.
- 9) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. Temporary construction fencing shall be installed along proposed construction limits prior to the start of construction activities to protect the Section 4(f) properties and the public.



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10) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. The contractor shall be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule with ODOT, the City of Toledo, and Metroparks Toledo prior to the start of construction activities.



Preparers and Approvals

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Phoenix Meek (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	2/9/2026



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Air

Flowchart Determination - No Air Analysis Required.pdf

Noise

Flowchart Determination - No Noise Analysis Required.pdf

RMR

OES Review - Screening.pdf

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Historic Bridge Survey Form.pdf

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Ecological

Coastal Management Zone Map.pdf

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Other Resources

Census Bureau Urbanized Areas Map.pdf

Water Source Protection Area Map.pdf

Section 4(f)

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination - Re-Eval Maumee River.pdf

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination 2.pdf

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination 3.pdf

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination.pdf

Public Involvement

Detour Notification Plan - Path Flyer.pdf

News Article.pdf



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Press Release.pdf

Project Website Screenshot.pdf

Public Comments Received and Responses.pdf

Permits

District Determination - No Floodplain Impacts.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf

Statement of Findings.pdf