



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

ATB SR 0531 09.17 PID 89190

Environmental Document Level: C1

Approved: 8/3/2023

Prepared By: District 4

Edward Deley
Phone: 330-786-4930
E-mail: Edward.Deley@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

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| C1..... | 3 |
| Environmental Commitments..... | 6 |
| Preparers and Approvals..... | 7 |
| Appendix..... | 8 |



C1

PID: 89190
Project Sponsor: DISTRICT 4-PLANNING
ODOT District: 4
Funding Source: Non-Federal
Does this project require a Federal permit or approval? Yes

Project Description:

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes a rivet replacement project on the State Route (SR) 531 bascule lift bridge over the Ashtabula River in the city of Ashtabula, Ashtabula County. The project involves replacing 76 rivets with bolts and painting parts disturbed during the rivet replacement and the new heads/nuts.

Project construction will be accomplished with ATB-11-22.16, PID 84625.

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.

The bridge remains in the down position between December 15 and March 31. For this reason, the contractor is required to complete the work by March 31 unless otherwise approved by the project engineer. Short duration closures of less than 15 minutes may be needed. 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.

Based on the project scope of work, its Path 1 Project Development Process (PDP) Classification and the proposed maintenance of traffic measures, emergency/public services contact activities were not conducted for the project.

The project will be constructed within the existing roadway right-of-way.

Existing utilities within the project study areas will not be impacted/relocated to construct the project.

The bascule bridge is a Brown Heel Trunion design and was constructed in 1925 with a major rehabilitation completed in 1986. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1985. The bridge is adjacent to the Ashtabula Harbour Commercial Historic District. No construction activities are expected to take place within the historic district.

A Cultural Resources Section 106 Scoping Request was submitted to ODOT's Office of Environmental Services (OES) along with a SHPO GIS online database records review. In response, ODOT-OES Cultural Resources staff stated the proposed project has minimal potential to affect any of the features for which it was listed in the NRHP as a movable bascule design. The project will preserve its continued operation. The presence of intact archaeological deposits is unlikely due to previous roadway disturbances and streambank erosion. No further cultural resources investigations were recommended. 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.

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.

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.

ODOT District 4 Environmental Section personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM mapping for the project study area and found the proposed construction activities are located within a designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) Zone AE floodplain at the Ashtabula River. However, the proposed construction activities are considered maintenance and, therefore, are exempt from the normal permit process required for work encroaching on a SFHA. See the floodplain mapping and documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

OES-Waterway Permits Unit reviewed the proposed project and determined that it does not require any waterway permits because no waterways are being impacted. However, US Coast Guard (USCG) coordination resulted in a requirement to notify the USCG 30-days prior to the start of work for them to issue notice to mariners of the pending work. The coordination was based on project construction occurring between April 1 and December 14 when the bridge would be raised to accommodate commercial navigation. The project now requires the contractor to complete the work by March 31 unless otherwise approved by the project engineer to avoid impacting commercial navigation and raising of the bridge.

The project will not impact any other 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 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 | On Previous STIP |

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

Cultural Resources Coordination: Minimal Potential to Cause Effect
Appendix B

Cultural Resources Coordination Date: 12/22/2022

Since no Tribe was interested in this project based on their customized preferences, no further Tribal consultation was conducted.

Supporting documentation has been uploaded to Project File: Yes

Select the appropriate project type (more than one can be selected):

(22) Projects, as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101 that would take place entirely within the existing operational right-of-way. Existing operational right-of-way refers to right-of-way that has been disturbed for an existing



Environmental Document Level: C1

PID 89190 ATB SR 0531 09.17

Approved: 8/3/2023

transportation facility or is maintained for a transportation purpose. This area includes the features associated with the physical footprint of the transportation facility (including the roadway, bridges, interchanges, culverts, drainage, fixed guideways, mitigation areas, etc.) and other areas maintained for transportation purposes such as clear zone, traffic control signage, landscaping, any rest areas with direct access to a controlled access highway, areas maintained for safety and security of a transportation facility, parking facilities with direct access to an existing transportation facility, transit power substations, transit venting structures, and transit maintenance facilities. Portions of the right-of-way that have not been disturbed or that are not maintained for transportation purposes are not in the existing operational right-of-way. ***Examples include: Tower lighting within the existing operational right-of-way; Guardrail installation and replacement (including median cable barriers) where roadway ditches and backslopes will not be relocated; Improvements to existing ODOT/County maintenance facilities; Construction of new ODOT/County maintenance facilities within existing operational right-of-way; Environmental mitigation activities within existing operational right-of-way; Work on pedestrian and vehicle transfer structures and associated utilities, buildings, and terminals within existing operational right-of-way; Construction of alternative energy facilities (fuel tank farms, wind turbines, etc.)***

Environmental Commitments:

No



Environmental Document Level: C1

PID 89190 ATB SR 0531 09.17

Approved: 8/3/2023

Environmental Commitments



Environmental Document Level: C1

PID 89190 ATB SR 0531 09.17

Approved: 8/3/2023

Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer

District 4
Contact: Edward Deley
330-786-4930
Edward.Deley@dot.ohio.gov

Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Robert Lang
Thomas Powell

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Approved & Electronically Signed By: | Approval Date: |
| Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3) | 8/3/2023 |



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

ESA

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Historic Bridge Survey Form.pdf

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

Permits

Correspondence with Local Floodplain Administrator.pdf

District Determination - No Floodplain Impacts.pdf