



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

SUM Veterans Trail Phase 1 PID 97856

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 4/9/2019

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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 11, 2015, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.

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C2

PID:	97856
Project Sponsor:	Hudson, City of
ODOT District:	4
Funding Source:	Federal
Private Funding:	No

Project Description:

The city of Hudson proposes to construct a 1.7-mile multi-use Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant trail, known as Veterans Trail, from Barlow Road to the Veterans Way/Milford Drive intersection in the city of Hudson, Summit County. This project is one phase of the multi-phase Veterans Trail. It is programmed as Veterans Trail Phase 1 although the planning efforts and city website reference the phase as Phase 3. The Veterans Trail phases are not being constructed in numerical order due to their different planning stages and funding availability.

The project is divided into five (5) sections, as follows:

1. Milford Drive between East Case Drive and Veterans Way. This section is a proposed on-street section approximately 1,000 feet long and will include signing and pavement markings for bicycle accommodations. As traffic calming feature, a 3-inch high, 18-foot +/- wide speed table is proposed at the location of the existing narrowed width of Milford Drive approximately 70 feet east of the Milford Drive/Trumbull Drive intersection.
2. East Case Drive between Lynn Drive and Milford Drive. This section is a proposed on-street section approximately 1,800 feet long and includes signing and pavement markings only. Sidewalk, structures or drainage work is not proposed within this section.
3. Lynn Drive between Cascade Park and East Case Drive. This section is a proposed on-street section approximately 200 feet long and includes signing and pavement markings only. Sidewalk, structures or drainage work is not proposed within this section.
4. Cascade Park. This section is a proposed off-street section approximately 3,000 feet long that will follow an existing trail within the city of Hudson 75-acre Cascade Park. Proposed improvements include a 10-foot/14-foot wide asphalt concrete multi-use trail with multiple intersections, grading, drainage improvements, replacement of an existing wooden boardwalk structure with a new 14-span, 154-foot long, 12-foot wide timber boardwalk with timber stringers and timber pier caps on steel helical piles to span stream/wetlands, seeding/erosion control with turf reinforcing mats, bike railing, bench bumpouts, concrete walk, curb ramp, signing and pavement markings.
5. Ellsworth Meadows. This section is a proposed off-street section approximately 3,000 feet long and is adjacent to the Ellsworth Meadows Golf Club owned by the city of Hudson. Proposed improvements include a 10-foot/14-foot wide asphalt concrete multi-use trail with multiple intersections, grading, drainage improvements, sanitary manhole adjustment, split rail fence, bench bumpouts, signing and pavement markings. The project will be constructed within the existing street rights-of-way and other Hudson-owned land.



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Street closures/detours are not proposed to construct the project. Access shall be maintained to all properties during project construction. For a maximum of five consecutive days, the contractor may reduce the number of through traffic lanes by 50% on the city streets within the project limits. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected with the project.

A minor relocation of an existing natural gas utility line at Station 120 + 47.95 will be necessary to construct the project. This minor utility relocation will occur within the existing city property. Utilities will not be permanently removed to construct the project. Coordination with the utility companies that own utilities in the project study area was conducted for the project during its preliminary engineering phase and will continue during project construction. Other existing utilities within the project study area will not be impacted/relocated to construct the project.

The project proposes to impact a total of 193 linear feet along two (2) unnamed tributaries to Mud Brook, a total of 0.4276 acre in nine (9) wetlands and a total of 1.419 acres of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for Federal-listed bat species. The Hudson project team worked with U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service personnel and OODT Office of Environmental Services/District 4 Environmental Section personnel to verify and minimize impacts to SWH. See the ecological documentation/coordination for the project in the Project File/Ecological section.

Based on the information contained in the RMR Form prepared for the project, further environmental site assessment or special materials management is not warranted for the project. See the RMR documentation for the project in the Project File/ESA section.

See continuation of the project description in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Project Description Continued.pdf.

STIP Reference #

2018stipID0150FDCO and is fiscally constrained.

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 (e) 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 -
a. Acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way b. Residential or non-residential displacements c. A Coast Guard, Individual Section 404 and/or a Section 10 permit d. A Section 106 finding of Adverse Effect e. A Section 4(f) Programmatic or Individual Evaluation 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



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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. If an EJ Analysis Report is required, the project must be processed as a D-level CE or higher level document 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.

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
Endangered Species:	Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect
Endangered Species - Coordination	May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect
Endangered Species - Coordination Date	06/14/2018
Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted	
Indiana bat	
Northern long-eared bat	
Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted:	No
100-Year Floodplain:	No Encroachment Within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
Section 4(f):	Present; No Programmatic Evaluation or Individual Evaluation Required
Section 4(f) Determination:	
Transportation Enhancement Exception - 774.13(g)	
Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(g)	12/14/2018
Section 6(f):	Not present
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	04/19/2018



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

Projects that meet C2 criteria are not anticipated to have impacts to the following environmental resources. If resources are present, documentation is only required if there is a potential for impacts.

Air Quality: Studies Not Required

Air Quality - Coordination with OES: No

Noise: Studies Not Required

Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date:

Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted Studies Not Required

Farmland: Urbanized Area; No Impacts in Accordance With the Farmland MOU and 7 CFR 658

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

Projects that meet C2 criteria must be in accordance with ODOT's UP Guidance and activities conducted for Public Involvement are commensurate to the project's type and scope of work.

Underserved Populations Does Not Exceed UP Guidance Criteria; No UP Analysis Report Required and No UP Issues Raised During Public Involvement

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

Environmental Commitments Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: The Contractor shall not place temporary or permanent fill in wetlands or below the ordinary high water mark of any waterway during construction of the project, unless authorized by the appropriate waterway permit. The Contractor shall not place equipment below the ordinary high water mark. If debris enters the waterway during construction, the Contractor shall remove the debris immediately utilizing equipment staged above the ordinary high water mark.
- 2) 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 and Northern Long-eared bat. No trees shall be removed under this 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 under 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.
- 3) The City of Hudson will notify the US Fish & Wildlife Service of the project timeline and pre-construction meeting.
- 4) The City of Hudson will notify the US Fish & Wildlife Service once the tree clearing and trail construction is complete.
- 5) The Project Designer will incorporate the following Section 4(f) measures to minimize harm into the plans as plan notes, as appropriate: 1) Access to Cascade Park facilities and Ellsworth Meadows Golf Club will be maintained at all times during construction activities; 2) Where construction is proposed immediately adjacent to publicly accessible areas, temporary construction fencing will be installed along proposed construction limits prior to the start of construction activities to protect the existing 4(f) properties and the public; 3) Appropriate signage will be installed to alert users of Cascade Park and Ellsworth Meadows Golf Club of construction activities, if in proximity to recreational facilities or features; 4) Except as necessary to facilitate construction, the staging and/or storage of construction equipment or materials shall not take place outside the proposed construction limits that are within the defined boundaries of the 4(f) property; and 5) The contractor shall closely coordinate the construction schedule with ODOT, the city of Hudson and the Hudson Park Board prior to the start of construction activities.
- 6) The Project Designer will incorporate the following plan note into the plans: Endangered Species - State-Threatened Spotted Turtle (*Clemmys Guttata*): The spotted turtle is a small (less than six inches) black turtle with distinctive yellow spots on the carapace (top of shell). The head of the spotted turtle is often colorfully adorned with reddish-orange to yellow blotches on the sides and chin. The forearms may also be bright orange. This project is within the range of the spotted turtle and there is potential for the species to be present. If encountered, no person shall harm or kill a spotted turtle and construction operations at the work area shall temporarily cease. The ODOT Office of Environmental Services - Ecological Section (614-466-5129 or 614-466-5112) and ODOT District 4 Environmental Section (330-786-4930 or 330-786-4975) shall be immediately contacted and construction operations can resume only after the spotted turtle is removed from the construction site.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer:

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	4/9/2019



Appendix

Ecological

Coordination with ODNR and USFWS.pdf

Coordination with OEPA.pdf

Coordination with USACE.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effects - A or B.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Comments.pdf

General

Project Description Continued.pdf

Ecological

Project Related OES Decision - Ecological.dotx

Project Related OES Decision - Ecological.pdf

General

Project Study Area Map.pdf

Ecological

Response to ODNR and USFWS Comments.pdf

USFWS Comments- Updated Consult Form CC2.pdf

USFWS Comments.pdf

General

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf

Public Involvement

Hudson Veterans Trail Website.pdf

Section 4(f)

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination.pdf



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Public Involvement

Public Comments Received.pdf

Public Meeting Notification.pdf

Public Meeting Sign In Sheet.pdf

Underserved Populations

Underserved Populations Documentation Form.pdf