



Highland-62/321 Resurfacing



Project Name: U.S. Route 62 & State Route 321 Resurfacing (6032)

Community: Highland County

Project Description: I This is a preservation project necessary to maintain the integrity of the existing route and the infrastructure of the state highway system in Highland County. The project will resurface U.S. Route 62 from 1.73-miles east of County Road 5 (New Market Road) to the eastern corporation limit of Hillsboro and on S.R. 321 from its intersection with S.R. 134 near the village of Buford, continuing through the village of Mowrystown and to the route's junction with U.S. 62.

Project Sponsor: Ohio Department of Transportation

Community Economic Distress Factors: This is an economically distressed area in which the unemployment rate is 6.62 percent, and the per capita income is \$26,408.

Economic Development Potential: U.S. Route 62 is the primary north-south route in Highland County, and it serves to connect the city of Hillsboro to two of the region's four-lane, east-west corridors U.S. 35 to the north and S.R. 32 to the south. As such, U.S. 62 serves many businesses and institutions in both directions, and it is a vital element to the county's economic growth potential. The route provides service to two of Southern State Community College's campuses, as well as to the county's primary hospital, a newly-constructed school, a manufacturing plant, and a justice center – all of which are some of the county's top employers. While creating 48 jobs in one of Appalachia's economically depressed areas, it will also serve to improve a major artery that provides a key link for thousands of motorists who travel the route to and from work and for the major commercial/truck traffic that flows in and out of the county.

Multi-modal Connectivity/Innovation Factor: U.S. Route 62 provides connection to two four-lane, east-west highways in the macro-corridor system – U.S. 35 to the north and S.R. 32 to the south – which, in turn, provide connection to major interstates and the principle cities in southern and southwestern Ohio. S.R. 321 serves to link some of the county's southern villages to S.R. 32, which provides connectivity for many communities in southern Ohio between Cincinnati and Athens. By preserving the county's infrastructure, this project will enhance this connectivity.

Work to Begin: 31-90 days

Estimated Completion: 3 months

Stimulus Investment: \$549,730

Total Project Cost: \$1,527,893