



State Route 104 Widening/Ross County



Project Name: State Route 104 Widening (5893)

Community: Ross County, City of Chillicothe

Project Description: State Route 104 is currently a two-lane highway between U.S. Route 35 and the new state Route 207 extension to U.S. Route 23, and it serves as the northwest bypass of Chillicothe. The project consists of widening approximately three miles of roadway from two to four lanes. It also provides for adding traffic signals at two intersections, the rerouting of Pleasant Valley Road and the upgrading of entrances to the two state prisons located on the route. One of the signals will serve Moundsville Road, a main artery for Union Scioto Schools and one of the largest districts in the county; the other signal will serve Gateway Industrial Park.

Project Sponsor: Ross County Engineer's Office

Community Economic Distress Factors: This is an economically distressed area in which the unemployment rate is 7.44 percent, and the per capita income is \$25,553.

Economic Development Potential: This section of S.R. 104 serves businesses that employ approximately 3,000 workers in the Gateway Industrial Park, Chillicothe Correctional Institute, Ross County Correctional Institute, the Hopewell Culture National Historic Park, the Veterans Hospital, Moundsville Road intersection (local road to Union Scioto Local Schools), and other businesses. The Gateway Industrial Park (90 acres total/42 acres available) is currently home to three businesses and a shell building which is being marketed to recruit new business to the area. State Route 104 north of Chillicothe is the most efficient route for Chillicothe and Ross County west-side travelers to reach access to U.S. 23 North, Adena Medical Center, PACCAR Medical Education Center, and a large industrial park that includes Kenworth Truck Company and many other manufacturing and distribution industries. State Route 104 provides direct access to the city of Chillicothe from the north and northwest. This project will help secure thousands of jobs that rely upon safe and efficient movement of people and products and will allow for future expansion and growth industries located along the corridor who employ in high-growth occupations.

Multi-modal Connectivity/Innovation Factor: The project will improve mobility and enhance connectivity by providing better access to the county's primary east-west and north-south arteries, as well as to the Gateway Industrial Park and numerous institutions. In addition to being a key link for the area's corridors and serving motorists, business and industry, the project is a vital element toward completion of the overall Ross County Thoroughfare Plan, which has been in development since 1998.

Work to Begin: 120-160 days

Estimated Completion: 18 months (Fall 2010)

Stimulus Investment: \$6,500,00

Total Project Cost: \$11,694,659