



## Nelsonville Bypass / Athens County



**Project Name:** Nelsonville Bypass - Phase 3 (7219)

**Community:** Athens County, City of Nelsonville

**Project Description:** The US 33 Corridor is a designated National Highway System route that extends from Michigan to Virginia and includes the Nelsonville Bypass. This construction project will focus on the west end of a new four-lane roadway between Nelsonville and Logan. This project nine-mile project will effectively complete the upgrade of US 33 Corridor in Southeast Ohio.

**Project Sponsor:** ODOT

**Community Economic Distress Factors:** Athens County has the highest poverty rates in Ohio, The unemployment rate is 6.3% and the median household income is \$22,030.

**Economic Development Potential:** The Nelsonville Bypass will allow for consistent, reliable travel conditions between major cities and interstates being more conducive to economic development and future growth of various industries. Southeastern Ohio has a large industrial conglomeration of coal, power, lumber, trucking, and plastic facilities. The US 33 corridor will provide needed transportation infrastructure to support current and future commerce to Appalachia.

**Multi-modal Connectivity/Innovation Factor:** The project location carries a substantial amount of interstate traffic between cities such as Fort Wayne Indiana; Columbus, Ohio; and Charleston, West Virginia. Alternates to US 33, including interstates, are long and roundabout. Hilly terrain limits parallel corridors, concentrating regional travel to US 33. The Bypass leads to such travel destinations as Ohio University, Hocking College, Marietta College, Washington State Community College, Rio Gran, and the Wayne National Forest.

**Work to Begin:** October 13, 2009

**Estimated Completion:** July 31, 2013

**Stimulus Investment:** \$93,838,444

**Total Project Cost:** \$102,203,605