

# Project Update

Interstate 75 Reconstruction -- Auglaize County line to Ohio 81  
Lima, Allen County



August 24, 2014

## Interstate 75 to be affected by power line work; ramps at Breese Road to open late August

### Interstate 75

- On Tuesday, August 26, traffic on Interstate 75 both northbound and southbound will be slowed and temporarily stopped to allow power lines to be placed over the interstate. Two stops will occur, at 9 a.m. and again at 2 p.m., and will occur in the section of interstate between Fourth Street and the Auglaize County line. The stops are expected to require up to 15 minutes each occasion.
- Both northbound and southbound Interstate 75 is now traveling in a new traffic pattern from just south of Fourth Street to McClain Road. Traffic is operating in the contraflow pattern as follows:
  - On the northbound side of the interstate, two lanes of northbound traffic and one lane of southbound traffic is maintained. Opposing traffic is separated with a concrete barrier wall.
  - On the southbound side of the interstate, only one southbound lane is maintained.
  - This maintenance of traffic method will allow two lanes of traffic in each direction to be maintained, remove traffic from the existing pavement which is to be reconstructed, and create a safe work zone for the contractor.
  - Southbound Interstate 75 traffic wishing to exit onto Ohio 65 is directed to remain in the right-hand lane.
  - Traffic will remain in this pattern for the remainder of the project, until 2016.
- Interstate 75 northbound in the area of the Ohio 65 interchange has been shifted toward the right in order to accommodate the contraflow traffic pattern.
- Occasional lane restrictions are occurring throughout the entire work zone from the Auglaize County line to north of Ohio 81 during both daytime and nighttime hours.
- Northbound and southbound Interstate 75 is now traveling on new concrete pavement from just south of Fourth Street to Stewart Road.
- Motorists are advised to observe posted speeds through the work zone for their safety and the safety of workers. Speeds are being enforced by local law enforcement throughout the zone.

- Motorists are asked to be aware of trucks entering and exiting the interstate throughout the work zone at various locations. Heed message boards and signs which indicate lane use, obey the posted speed and use caution when passing vehicles in the zone.
- Motorists should be aware that all entrance and exit ramp merge areas have been shortened throughout the project area. Drivers on Interstate 75 are encouraged to use the passing lane through the zone if they do not wish to exit. Signs advising this have been placed throughout the project area. enforced.
- Traffic cameras may be accessed at [www.odotlima75.com](http://www.odotlima75.com), or at [www.Ohgo.com](http://www.Ohgo.com).
- Please drive slowly through the construction zone.

### **Ohio 81**

- Traffic both eastbound and westbound is currently traveling on the new concrete pavement from just west of Stewart Road to just west of Neubrecht Road. Traffic will remain one lane in each direction while work at the interchange continues.
- Work on reconstructing the service road on the south side of Ohio 81 continues.
- All ramps at the interchange are open.

### **Ohio 117/309 Interchange**

- Lane closures will continue as needed at the interchange for concrete pavement repair, painting of the bridge and other related work which will require lane restrictions for several more weeks.
- The dual left-turn lanes from Ohio 117 onto Ohio 117/309 westbound have been restored. Left turns from the right-hand lane had been restricted during certain phases of work.
- All ramps at the interchange are open.

### **Johnny Appleseed Bike Path**

- The Johnny Appleseed bike path in the area of the CF&E railroad is open.

### **Medical Drive**

- The main entrance to the Orthopedic Institute of Ohio (OIO) from Yoder Road is open and will remain open.
- The Medical Drive entrance south of OIO is closed to the general public.

### **Yoder Road**

- Yoder Road between Ohio 65 and the northbound entrance to Interstate 75 is open. This is

also the access to OIO (Orthopedic Institute of Ohio) and Speedway from Ohio 65.

### **Ohio 65**

- The exit ramp from Interstate 75 southbound to Ohio 65 is expected to close this week, likely on Thursday.
- The entrance ramp from Ohio 65 to northbound Interstate 75 closed August 13 until the project's completion in 2016. Traffic detoured southbound on Interstate 75 to National Road and back to Interstate 75 north.

### **Hanthorn Road**

- Hanthorn Road over Interstate 75 closed May 12 for reconstruction of the bridge and for work on Interstate 75 below the bridge. The bridge will remain closed until the fall of 2016.

### **McClain Road**

- McClain Road over Interstate 75 is scheduled to close in mid September for reconstruction and for work on Interstate 75 below the bridge. The road will close once the Breese Road interchange is back in full service, which is expected to be mid September.
- The road will remain closed until the completion of the Interstate 75 reconstruction project in 2016.

### **Breese Road Interchange**

- The entire Breese Road interchange is now closed for reconstruction. The interchange is expected to reopen in mid September.

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- Breese Road over Interstate 75 closed May 5 for approximately five months for reconstruction.
- The southbound entrance and exit ramps closed July 28 for approximately one month. Traffic is detoured to National Road and Dixie Highway back to Breese Road.
- The northbound entrance and exit ramps closed July 8 for approximately 70 days for reconstruction. Traffic is directed to access Interstate 75 at National Road.
- All ramps at Breese Road are expected to reopen in late August, ahead of schedule; however, the Breese Road bridge over Interstate 75 will remain closed until mid September.

#### **About the I-75 Project Phases:**

Project 2 will reconstruct the existing lanes of Interstate 75 from Fourth Street to just north of Ohio 81 in Lima. This phase also includes the reconstruction of the Fourth Street, Ohio 81 and Ohio 117/309 interchanges; a safety upgrade to Ohio 309 east of the Interstate 75 interchange; and the reconstruction and realignment of Ohio 81 from Neubrecht to Stewart Road. This phase is expected to be completed in 2015.

Project 1 of the Interstate 75 reconstruction project, which is the replacement of the Fourth Street and Reservoir Road bridges over Interstate 75 in Lima, was completed in the spring. Both structures were opened to traffic last fall. Project 3, from the Auglaize County line to Fourth Street, began in 2014. This phase also includes the reconstruction of the Breese Road and Ohio 65 interchanges as well as the replacement of the Hanthorn and McClain Road bridges over Interstate 75. The overall project is scheduled to be completed in 2016.

Project information may be found on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ODOTLima75](http://www.facebook.com/ODOTLima75); on Twitter, prefaced with #ODOTLima75, at [https://twitter.com/#!/ODOT\\_NWOhio](https://twitter.com/#!/ODOT_NWOhio); and on the Web at [www.odotlima75.org](http://www.odotlima75.org).

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*Thank you.*

