



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Ohio Division

August 15, 2011

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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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In Reply Refer To:
HAD-OH

Jerry Wray
Director
Ohio Department of Transportation
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43223

Dear Director Wray:

Our engineering staff in headquarters completed their review of the Interchange Modification Study (IMS) for the "Thru the Valley" project (HAM-I75-10.10, PID 76256). Based on safety and operational analyses, and conformance with geometric design criteria, they determined the proposed improvement to be acceptable (see attachment). We also find the proposed improvement consistent with the project scope and design described in the Environmental Assessment (approved March 18, 2010) and FONSI (signed March 29, 2011). This letter serves as our final approval of the IMS.

Please note that if the project does not progress into construction within eight years of the date of our final approval, an updated IMS must be submitted for our review and approval. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mark L. Vonder Embse, Major Projects Engineer, at (614) 280-6854, or mark.vonderembse@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Laura S. Leffler
Division Administrator

Attachment



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Ohio, Interchange Modification Study,
I-75 Thru the Valley Project, Hamilton County

Date: August 3, 2011

From: 
Jeffrey F. Ramali
Executive Director

In Reply Refer To:
HIPA-20

To: Ms. Laurie Leffler
Division Administrator
Columbus, Ohio

We have reviewed the Interchange Modification Study (IMS) submitted on July 8 for proposed improvements on the I-75 corridor in the Cincinnati area. The project will reconstruct 7.3 miles of I-75 between the Paddock Road and I-275 interchanges; increase mainline capacity; reconstruct 1 system interchange; consolidate local street network ramps; and remove a substandard collector-distributor system. The proposed improvements will enhance the safety and flow of traffic on I-75 and the associated local street network.

Based on our review, the proposed interchange improvements are acceptable. An Environmental Assessment for this project has been completed with the signing of a Finding of No Significant Impact on March 29. Final approval may be given provided that the scope and design of this proposed project is consistent with the design that is included in the July 8 IMS and the approved environmental document. This approval is subject to reevaluation if significant changes occur in the final design or if the construction is delayed (as specified in 23 CFR 771.129).

Should you have any questions, please contact Michael Matzke at (202) 366-4658.