



Community and Environmental Resources

The project is currently progressing through preliminary design, and environmental studies are expected to be complete by October 2018. Based upon current information, the project is expected to have the following impacts:

- **Private Properties-** The project is expected to impact 30 acres from 23 owners. ODOT real estate specialists are on hand to discuss ODOT's process for property purchases.
- **Public Properties-** The project will impact one park- Kinnikinnick Fen Nature Preserve. The park property is defined on the Environmental and Community Resources exhibit displayed at today's meeting. Impacts to public parks and recreation areas require approval under a process called Section 4(f). Section 4(f) requires coordination with officials with jurisdiction to assess the project impacts to the park property and to develop measures to minimize harm (environmental commitments) to the property. ODOT is working with the Ross County Park District as part of this process.
- **Environmental Resources-** Studies are under way to evaluate the impact of the project on environmental resources such as ecological, cultural, noise, air, farmland and drinking water resources. Most studies are on-going at this point. Resources identified to date are illustrated on the Environmental and Community Resources exhibit displayed at today's meeting.
- **Construction Traffic-** The project is currently scheduled to begin construction in spring of 2020. Plans for maintenance of traffic are still being developed. During construction it is anticipated that SR-159 will remain open to traffic at all times. Traffic on SR-180 will be detoured during summer months as needed during construction.

Thank you for attending this important project meeting.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ODOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 11, 2015, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and ODOT.

This meeting is being held in compliance with Title VI, Section 601 of 42USC 2000(d), which states no person in the United States shall be excluded from participation in or otherwise discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

Any person who believes he or she has been denied the benefits of, excluded from participating in or otherwise discriminated against, may file a formal complaint in writing to the Ohio Department of Transportation, EEO Investigations Office at 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223. All complaints must be filed within 180 days after the date of the alleged act of discrimination.

Purpose of Today's Meeting

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) would like to inform you of the preferred alternative alignment for the SR-207 extension in Green Township, Ross County. Since the last public meeting on November 14, 2013, a lot of work has been completed. ODOT would appreciate the public's input on the proposed project. Please review the materials and speak with the project team regarding your questions. If you wish to submit any comments on the project, please fill out a comment form at the meeting, e-mail Greg.Manson@dot.ohio.gov, or mail your input by **September 21, 2018** to:

Ohio Department of Transportation-District 9
Attention: Greg Manson, District 9 Environmental Coordinator
650 Eastern Avenue, P.O. Box 467
Chillicothe, OH 45601

Project Description

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) plans to construct a two-lane roadway on a new alignment, extending SR-207 from its terminus with US-23 at the existing interchange east to SR-159. In addition, identified safety concerns will be addressed at the SR-159 and SR-180 intersection.

Please review the exhibits around the room and talk with representatives from the design team about the project.

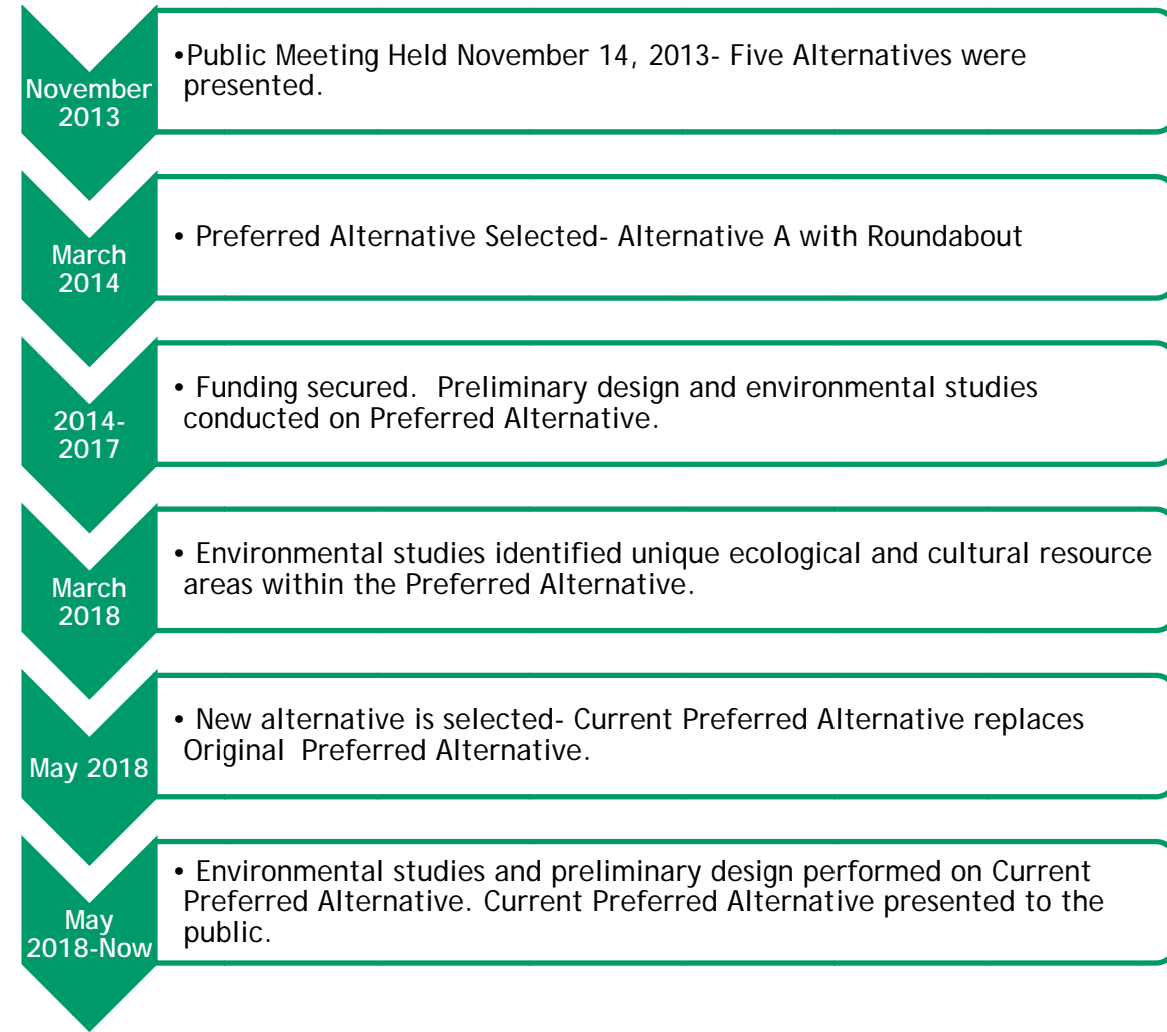
Why is this Project Important?

The purpose of this project is to provide system linkage between US-23 and SR-159/SR-180, to provide transportation infrastructure and access to support existing land uses and economic development initiatives in the area. The purpose is to also improve safety in the area around the US-23/SR-207 interchange and along the SR-159/SR-180 corridors.

----- Approximate Project Location

○ Proposed Roundabout

How Did We Get Here?



Current Preferred Alternative

Alternative B2- The current preferred alternative is being described as Alternative B2. The western alignment is similar to Alternative B as presented during the November 2013 public meeting. However, the current preferred alternative does not include the extension to the east of SR-159. The current preferred alternative will include a roundabout at the intersection of SR-207 with SR-159. In addition, a roundabout will also be constructed at the intersection of SR-159 and SR-180. The northern roundabout was included as part of the original preferred alternative.

Please review the exhibits on display for a representation of the current preferred alternative.

Funding

Construction is estimated to cost approximately \$8 million, and the project is funded primarily by ODOT with federal and state transportation dollars; however, a local share of \$2 million will be contributed by Ross County. A more precise estimate will be developed as the project continues through the design process.

Proposed Schedule

| Schedule of Next Steps | |
|---------------------------|--|
| September 2018 | Hold public meeting |
| September 2018 | Collect and review comments |
| October 2018 | Complete environmental approvals |
| November 2018 - June 2019 | Detailed design plans completed and Right-of-Way Acquisition |
| Spring 2020 | Begin construction |
| Late Fall 2020 | End construction |