ODOT’s Updated Aesthetic Design Guidelines

Aesthetic Design Process Overview

Tim Hill - Administrator, ODOT-Office of Environmental Services
ODOT’s Updated Aesthetic Design Guidelines

Introduction

**ODOT considers aesthetics to be inherent to the development of transportation projects and encourages consideration of aesthetics on every project.**

- Ohio’s citizens deserve a safe, efficient, effective, and aesthetically pleasing transportation system

- ODOT’s Aesthetic Design Initiative created in 2000
  - To improve aesthetics on ODOT facilities
  - Aesthetic Design Guidelines developed

  - [http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Planning/Environment/manuals_guidance/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Planning/Environment/manuals_guidance/Pages/default.aspx)
Not new, just updated to today’s needs and process!
Promotes communication, documentation, and follow-through
Ensures appropriate aesthetic treatments are being considered
Ensures design, environmental, stakeholder/public, funding and maintenance considerations are appropriately addressed
Applies to ODOT projects, ODOT and Local-Let LPA projects, permit projects
Implemented throughout all five PDP phases
Documentation should not be time consuming or difficult
Aesthetics in ODOT Manuals:

- Aesthetics discussed in several ODOT design manuals
  - Bridge Design Manual (BDM)
  - Location and Design Manual (L&D)
  - Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM)

- Address the primary elements relevant to aesthetics
  - Bridges, walls/barriers, signals, signs, lighting, landscaping

- Other ODOT manuals/guidance relevant to aesthetics:
  - Public Involvement Manual
  - Cultural Resources Manual
  - Section 4(f) Manual
  - Underserved Populations Guidance

- Key goal: establish consistency

- Future manual updates
Baseline vs. Enhanced Treatments:

- **What are “Baseline” Treatments?**
  - Standard treatments specified in ODOT’s design manuals
  - Simple, economical, aesthetically appealing, meet safety requirements
  - Geared toward establishing aesthetic “background”
  - Many projects will only utilize baseline treatments
  - Consistent implementation cohesive, visually appealing corridors

- **Funding included as part of overall project cost**
  - No specific thresholds or justification requirements
  - ODOT-Let or Local-Let LPA Projects
    - LPA’s standards may serve as alternate baseline
**Baseline vs. Enhanced Treatments, Continued:**

- **Baseline Treatments......**
  - Detailed in Chapter 5
  - Summarized in **Appendix B**

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### Appendix B1 - Baseline Aesthetic Treatments Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aesthetic Element</th>
<th>ODOT Baseline Treatment</th>
<th>ODOT Design Manual Reference</th>
<th>Example Photos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Concrete Parapet</strong></td>
<td>For interchange bridges (statewide) and non-interchange bridges in urban areas: 4½&quot; single-slab concrete parapets with 2 1½&quot; x 4.75&quot; equally spaced horizontal grooves, or 21&quot; high, reinforced or concrete box parapets for interchange bridges, or non-epoxy filled sealant (Federal Color 1778).</td>
<td>Bridge Design Manual (BDM) 304 2 and 304</td>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bridge Railing</strong></td>
<td>Galvanized tubular steel railing mounted on the side of the bridge deck 22&quot; minimum height above the deck. Railing posts, and hardware are unpainted galvanized steel or are painted black. Note: This railing is not to be used on concrete box girders. Design size considerations may call for the use of a minimum of 304 3.3, 3.4 &amp; 3.5 for the railing.</td>
<td>BDW 309.2 and 304</td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pedestrian Railing with Concrete Parapet</strong></td>
<td>14&quot; high, galvanized twin-tube steel rail mounted on a 24&quot; concrete parapet. The parapet is painted with a light neutral epoxy-urethane or non-epoxy filled sealant (Federal Color 1778). For interchange bridges, dimensions requiring the use of a minimum of 304 3.3, 3.4 &amp; 3.5 for the parapet.</td>
<td>BDW 309.2 and 304</td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are “Enhanced” Treatments?

- Special treatments for consideration on a project-by-project basis
- Often designed to be bold, eye-catching, and memorable
- Typically more costly to construct and maintain
- Often requested by local stakeholders/public
- Often utilized to help address sensitive NEPA issues
  - Impact minimization/mitigation
  - Environmental commitments

Common locations:
- Urban corridors
- Interchanges/Gateways
- Sensitive environmental areas
Enhanced Treatments:

- Enhancements to address environmental impacts/commitments:
  - No specific thresholds or justification requirements
  - ODOT’s Aesthetics Committee will review on a case-by-case basis

- Enhancements desired by stakeholders/public:
  - ODOT’s Aesthetics Committee will review on a case-by-case basis
  - Committee will determine ODOT’s funding level
  - No established maximum at this time, but will be looking to establish consistency statewide
  - Remainder must be funded by the stakeholders

- Heather McColeman is the Aesthetics Design Program Coordinator
  - Will manage reviews that are necessary for the Aesthetics Committee
- **Exempt Projects**
  - Most ODOT projects are maintenance/basic rehab projects
  - Little or no opportunity to incorporate special aesthetic treatments
  - Primarily PDP Path 1 and Path 2 projects
  - Utilize baseline treatments
  - List of common project types included in Chapter 3
  - Quick documentation completed during Planning Phase
Planning Phase (PL)

- Early identification of sensitive resources and unique project types
  - Initial review of exempt projects, baseline vs. enhancements
  - May indicate need for early stakeholder coordination

- Utilizes the “Aesthetic Strategy Checklist”
  - Section A: Exempt Projects
  - Section B: Baseline Treatment Considerations
  - Section C: Enhanced Treatment Considerations

- ODOT PM’s responsibility
  - Can be assigned to other staff
  - Include in project files/upload to EnviroNet

Landscaping Enhancements - I-475 (Toledo)
ODOT’s Updated Aesthetic Design Guidelines

ODOT’s Aesthetic Strategy Checklist

AESTHETIC STRATEGY CHECKLIST
(to be completed by the ODOT PM* or Design Team)

Project Name: ODOT PM:
ODOT PM:
ODOT CRS and PID:
Consultant PM:
District:
Local Agency PM:
County / Municipality:
Project Description:
Anticipated POP Path:
Anticipated CE Level:

Or other assigned staff.

Section A. Exempt Projects

Is the project a Path 1 or 2 project that only involves the activities listed below? □ Yes □ No

If “Yes”, check all that apply and STOP. No additional consideration of aesthetic treatments is necessary. Sign and date below, notify the District Environmental Coordinator (DEC), and include the checklist in ODOT’s Project File (EnviroNet).

If “No” is selected above, write “Not Applicable” in the signature line below and proceed to Section B.

Projects that do not directly lead to construction activities, such as:

□ Planning and technical studies
□ Technical and operating assistance
□ Designing highways at bike routes
□ Purchase of vehicles and equipment
□ Disposal of excess right-of-way or Joint/Iimited use of right-of-way
□ Changes in access control
□ Acquisition of land for hardship/protective purposes
□ Land donations, land transfers, easement acquisitions
□ Emergency repairs under a declaration by the Governor
□ Minor maintenance/improvements to existing ODOT facilities
□ Installing or replacing electronic, communication, or information processing devices including signals/signs
□ Maintenance or improvements to crossings or warning signals within ODOT right-of-way
□ Closure/reallocation of at-grade rail crossings
□ Pavement resurfacing (mill-and-fill)
□ Pavement marking/striping; painting shoulders for bike lanes
□ Guardrail repair/evaluation
□ Culvert/Culvert maintenance, either culvert replacement
□ Clear zone grading, mowing, brush removal/trimming
□ ditch/drainage structure clean-outs
□ Minor bridge repairs/retrofit projects (see Chapter 3, Section 2.1.2. for further Information)
□ Pavement striping/pavement resurfacing (mill-and-fill)
□ Sign and fence repair
□ Lighting repair
□ Retaining wall and noise barrier repair
□ Other applicable project types:

ODOT PM Signature: [*or other assigned staff] Date:

Section B. Baseline vs. Enhanced Treatment Considerations

Is the project a Path 1, Path 2, or Path 3 project? □ Yes □ No

Is the project located within/adjacent to a community/municipality? □ Yes □ No

Is the project sponsored by a local agency? □ Yes □ No

If “Yes” Agency name:

Will the project require stakeholder/public involvement meetings? □ Yes □ No

Is the project located within/adjacent to sensitive environmental areas? □ Yes □ No

If “Yes” is selected for all the above, STOP. Baseline treatments are appropriate for this project. No additional consideration of enhanced aesthetic treatments is likely to be necessary. Sign and date below, notify the DEC, and include the checklist in ODOT’s Project File (EnviroNet).

Review during the Preliminary Engineering Phase.

If “Yes” is selected for any of the above, proceed to Section C.

* Including but not limited to historic properties, parks/recreational areas, scenic rivers, traditionally undeveloped population.

Section C. Enhanced Treatment Considerations

Project Information

Is the project an initial phase of a larger project? □ Yes □ No

Does the project involve a community “gateway”, urban highway corridor, or streetscape? □ Yes □ No

If “Yes”, briefly describes:

Are the design aspects of the facility easily visible to the traveler? □ Yes □ No

Is the facility visible from adjacent properties? □ Yes □ No

Adjacency and Land Use: Commercial □ Residential □ Agricultural □ Forested □ Other

Additional Information:

Environmental Commitment Considerations

List known sensitive environmental resources in the project area (see PPs):

Will the project likely require environmental commitments involving aesthetics? □ Yes □ No

What types of commitments are anticipated?

Community/Stakeholder Information

Community Name:

Stakeholder Info: Name/Phone/Email:

Has contact been made with stakeholder(s)? □ Yes □ No

Has aesthetics been discussed with stakeholders? □ Yes □ No

Has functional/typical or typical aesthetic treatments been discussed with stakeholders? □ Yes □ No

Is there an existing or desired aesthetic theme or corridor vision known at this time? □ Yes □ No

If “Yes”, briefly describes:

Are there any planned developments in the project area? □ Yes □ No

Are there any local standards/limits or baseline treatments that may apply to the project? □ Yes □ No

If “Yes”, briefly describe:

Has a public involvement plan been prepared? □ Yes □ No

Are community design workshops likely required? □ Yes □ No

Potential Enhanced Aesthetic Treatments

List potential enhanced aesthetic treatments that may be appropriate for this project.

□ Yes □ No

Does the Project Team include a qualified specialist for aesthetic enhancements? □ Yes □ No

List aesthetic specialists on the Project Team (or may need to be added):

Sign and date below, notify the DEC, and include the checklist in ODOT’s Project File (EnviroNet). Review during the Preliminary Engineering Phase.

ODOT PM Signature: [*or other assigned staff] Date:

Aesthetic Strategy Checklist
Environmental studies and stakeholder/public involvement
- Potential impacts/commitments involving aesthetics?
  - Initiate or advance participation discussions with stakeholders

Develop preliminary aesthetic treatment plan
- Incorporate into Stage 1 plans
- Develop preliminary cost estimates

Draft “Aesthetic Funding Assessment Form”
- Used by Aesthetics Committee to review costs

Draft “Aesthetic Design Checklist”
- Documents proposed baseline and enhanced treatments

Submit forms/checklists with Stage 1 Plans
- ODOT PM and Design Team’s responsibility
  - Include in project files/upload to EnviroNet

Aesthetic Committee advances aesthetic plan or recommends changes
# AESTHETIC FUNDING ASSESSMENT FORM

(to be completed by the Design Team)

- **Project Name:**
- **ODOT CRS and FID:**
- **District:**
- **County / Municipality:**
- **Project Description:**
- **Anticipated PD/P Path:**
- **Anticipated CE Level:**
- **Is the project exempt from the aesthetic design process (see Aesthetic Strategy Checklist)?** [ ] Yes [ ] No
- **Does the project only include baseline aesthetic treatment?** [ ] Yes [ ] No
- **What is the basis for including enhanced aesthetic treatments?** [ ] Local Agency Sponsored Project [ ] Stakeholder/Public Involvement [ ] Environmental Commitments [ ] Other
- **If only "Environmental Commitments" is checked above, STOP. Sign and date below and include this form and the Aesthetic Design Checklist with the design plan review submitted. Otherwise, proceed to next section.**

## A. Estimated total project construction costs:

- B. Estimated cost of all proposed aesthetic enhancements:
- C. Estimated cost of aesthetic enhancements for ODOT environmental commitments:
- D. Estimated cost of stakeholder/local agency aesthetic enhancements (Line B + Line C):
- E. Is a qualified aesthetic consultant/adjunct included on the Project Team? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- F. If "Yes", what is the estimated cost?
- G. Estimated stakeholder/local agency aesthetic enhancement costs (Line D + Line F):
- H. Percentage of total project construction cost (Line G divided by Line A):

Describe any long-term maintenance or life-cycle costs (optional):

- J. Stakeholder/local agency funding commitment for aesthetic enhancements (0 to 100%): [%]
- K. If Line J is less than 100%, will ODOT commit to funding remaining amount? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- L. If "No", will the stakeholder/local agency commit to funding remaining amount? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- M. If alternate bid price exceeds estimate, will stakeholder/local agency fund remaining amount? [ ] Yes [ ] No
- N. If Lines J, K, L, and M are "No", list ODOT recommendations:
- O. Has a Participation Agreement been drafted/executed? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Sign and date below and include this form, the Aesthetic Design Checklist, and any Participation agreements with the design plan review submitted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 1 (PE Phase)</th>
<th>Stage 2 (EE Phase)</th>
<th>Stage 3 (FE Phase)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review Team</td>
<td>Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODOT PM:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aesthetic Committee Representative:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Aesthetic Funding Assessment Form
ODOT’s Updated Aesthetic Design Guidelines

ODOT’s Aesthetic Design Checklist

AESTHETIC DESIGN CHECKLIST
(to be completed by Design Team)

☐ Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase  ☐ Environmental Engineering (EE) Phase  ☐ Final Engineering (FE) Phase

Project Name:  ODOT Pub:  Consultant PM:  ODOT CRS and PID:  Local Agency PM:

County / Municipality:  Project Description:

Anticipated PDP Path:  Anticipated CE Level:

Is the project exempt from the aesthetic design process (see Aesthetic Strategy Checklist)? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
If “Yes”, STOP. Completion of this form is not required. If “No”, proceed to next section.

What types of aesthetic treatments are included in the plan? Check both boxes if applicable.

☐ Baseline  ☐ Enhanced

Summarize how this determined (include meeting dates and reference applicable agency correspondence):

Is there a specific aesthetic theme or corridor vision that is being followed? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
If “Yes”, summarize what it is and how it was determined:

* NOTE: The next sections summarize proposed aesthetic treatments for the project. In some cases (particularly Stage 1 plans), a proposed aesthetic treatment may not be shown in the current plan set but will be included in a future set.

Bridge Treatments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aesthetic Element</th>
<th>Proposed Treatment</th>
<th>Alternate Baseline?</th>
<th>Alternate Bid Item?</th>
<th>List Plan Sheets (Alternative Baseline or Enhancements)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vandal Fencing</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian Rail</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paving</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deck Fascia</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam/Girders</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Abutments</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pier Caps</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pier Columns</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drainage/Sumpers</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List Specific Proposed Alternative Baseline Treatments:
List Specific Proposed Enhanced Treatments:
List Specific Proposed Alternate Bid Items:

Roadway/Sidewalk Treatments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aesthetic Element</th>
<th>Proposed Treatment</th>
<th>Alternate Baseline?</th>
<th>Alternate Bid Item?</th>
<th>List Plan Sheets (Alternative Baseline or Enhancements)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sidewalks</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffers (Tree Lawns)</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crosswalks</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medians</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Island</td>
<td>☐ Baseline ☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

List Specific Proposed Alternative Baseline Treatments:
List Specific Proposed Enhanced Treatments:
List Specific Proposed Alternate Bid Items:

Special Treatments*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aesthetic Element</th>
<th>Proposed Treatment*</th>
<th>Alternate Baseline?</th>
<th>Alternate Bid Item?</th>
<th>List Plan Sheets (Alternative Baseline or Enhancements)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planters</td>
<td>☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Banners/Tokens</td>
<td>☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Furniture</td>
<td>☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signage</td>
<td>☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Decorative Walls</td>
<td>☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscape Lighting</td>
<td>☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>☐ Enhanced ☐ N/A ☐ Yes ☐ Yes</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List Specific Proposed Alternative Baseline Treatments:
List Specific Proposed Enhanced Treatments:
List Specific Proposed Alternate Bid Items:
* All special treatments are considered “enhancements”.

General

☐ Drawings adequately show or describe surface treatments (texture and color), transitions/connections between various elements with details that indicate texture, patterns, and relief depth.
☐ The plans have been reviewed for potential proprietary restrictions (if Federal funds are being used).
☐ The plans have been reviewed for potential bid issues (sufficiently detailed, and clearly defined or accepted).
☐ Funding guidelines/alternate bid considerations for aesthetic enhancements have been discussed with stakeholders.
☐ Participation Agreement (completed and included).
☐ Aesthetic Funding Assessment Form completed/previewed. List any comments or outstanding issues that will need to be secured/resolved.

Sign and date below and include this form, the Aesthetic Funding Assessment Form, and any Participation Agreements with the design plan review submittal:

Stage 1 (PE Phase)
Stage 2 (EE Phase)
Stage 3 (FE Phase)

Design Team: Signature: Date:
Consultant PM: Signature: Date:
ODOT PM: Signature: Date:

Aesthetic Design Checklist
ODOT’s Updated Aesthetic Design Guidelines

ODOT’s Aesthetic Design Process

- **Environmental Engineering Phase (EE)**
  - Additional environmental studies and stakeholder/public involvement
    - Finalize participation discussions with stakeholders
  - NEPA Clearance
    - Document environmental commitments involving aesthetics
  - Finalize the aesthetic plan ➔ incorporate into Stage 2 design
    - Update cost estimate
  - Update/finalize forms and checklists
    - Aesthetic Funding and Assessment Form
    - Aesthetic Design Checklist
  - Submit forms/checklists with Stage 2 Plans
    - ODOT PM and Design Team’s responsibility
    - Include in project files/upload to EnviroNet

* Aesthetic Committee approves aesthetic design plan
* Stakeholder Participation Agreement prepared by ODOT (if applicable)
Final Engineering/Right-of-Way Phase (FE)

- Additional environmental studies and stakeholder/public involvement?
  - May be necessary on complex projects to finalize aesthetic treatments

- Stage 3 Design: Minor modifications can be made to aesthetic plan
  - Major changes will result in delays and should be avoided

- Update cost estimates

- Update forms/checklists (if necessary)

- Submit forms/checklists with Stage 3 Plans
  - ODOT PM and Design Team’s responsibility
  - Include in project files/upload to EnviroNet

Stakeholder Participation Agreement and legislation finalized by ODOT
Adjustments to Participation Agreement can be made after bid process
Participation Agreements

- Formalizes ODOT/Stakeholder funding and maintenance commitments
- Preliminary discussions should be held early in the PDP
- Agreement is drafted during detailed design
  - Prior to NEPA clearance is preferred
- Executed after final plans and final cost estimate are completed - typically with consent legislation
- ODOT will utilize the alternative bid process, if necessary

Maintenance responsibilities are specified in Participation Agreement
- Who is funding, who is performing?
- Consider long-term maintenance and life-cycle costs
- Consider timing and transition of maintenance responsibilities
ODOT’s Updated Aesthetic Design Guidelines

ODOT’s Aesthetic Design Process

- **Construction Phase (CO)**
  - **Pre-Bid Meeting (if necessary)**
    - Review aesthetic treatments with bidders
  - **Pre-Construction Meeting**
    - Review aesthetic treatments with contractor
  - **Monitor Construction**
    - Environmental Commitment Monitoring Report (to include aesthetics)
  - **Review Participation Agreement(s)**
    - Modifications?
  - **Post-Construction Maintenance**
    - By responsible party

I-70/I-75 Interchange - During Construction (Dayton)
Design-Build (DB)

- Aesthetic design process still applies - similar to conventional projects

- Important DB schedule consideration:
  - DB scope is typically developed during PE or EE phase, using Stage 1 level design
  - To minimize change orders and ensure compliance with NEPA commitments, DB scope must include detailed information on aesthetic treatments

- Early stakeholder coordination, identification and development of aesthetic treatment plan is crucial
What’s Next?

- Updated Aesthetic Design Guidelines were released in August
- If your project IS NOT beyond Stage 2 design approval, you are expected to follow the new guidance
  - Fill out checklists as needed
- ODOT design manuals and other guidance documents will be updated as necessary for consistency
- ODOT will be providing online training class
Questions?

Contacts:

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Heather.McColeman@dot.ohio.gov