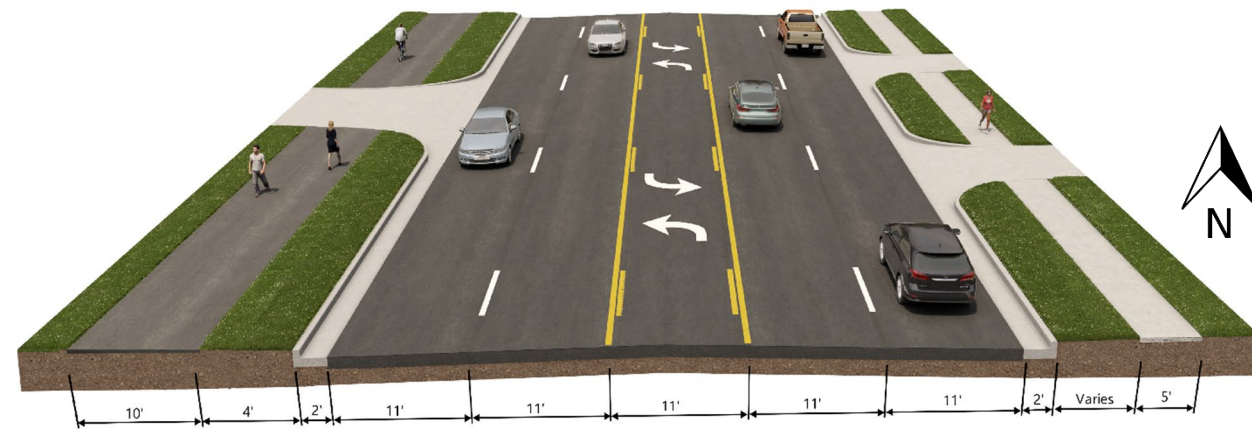




Virtual Public Presentation

CLA-Derr Rd-0.00 (PID 104833)

Preferred Alternative: 5-Lane Section With Separated Shared-Use Path and Sidewalk



DERR RD CORRIDOR PROJECT
TYPICAL SECTION • PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Your input is greatly appreciated!

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 USC 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2020, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.

This presentation is being held in compliance with Title VI, Section 601 of 42 USC 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.



What are the purpose and goals of the project?

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve vehicle safety, pavement condition, and access to bicycle/pedestrian accommodations through the Derr Road corridor in the city of Springfield, Clark County, Ohio.

The proposed roadway improvement project consists of full-depth pavement replacement from Home Road to Villa Road, with an insertion of a two-way left-turn lane. Additionally, vertical profile adjustment will occur near Greystone Drive to improve stopping sight distance. The existing traffic signal at the Derr Road and Providence Avenue intersection will be removed. A 10-foot shared-use path will be constructed on the west side of Derr Road, missing sidewalk sections will be replaced on the east side of Derr Road, and curb ramps will be constructed from Home Road to Villa Road as needed for ADA compliance. A marked pedestrian crossing with a raised concrete median and rectangular rapid flashing beacon signs will be constructed at Providence Avenue to provide safety measures for crossing Derr Road.

What is the current status of decision-making on this project?

A public meeting was held on December 5 and 6, 2018, that presented four alternatives. An Alternative Evaluation Report was completed, and it was determined the five-lane section with a shared-use path is the preferred alternative. Preliminary design plans have been developed, and the intent of this public presentation is to provide an update on the project, present preliminary design, and seek your feedback to ensure the best possible decisions are made for our community. We welcome your input and encourage you to provide comments.

Why can't this project be undertaken sooner?

Many factors go into developing a schedule for construction of a federal-aid project of this size. In addition to providing time for data collection, project design and quality control review, the schedule must also provide for public involvement, environmental review, environmental permitting, right-of-way negotiations, and utility relocations.

Who proposed this project and how is it funded?

The project has been proposed and will be undertaken by the City of Springfield. The current estimated project cost, including right-of-way acquisition and construction, is approximately \$3.9 million. At this time, the project will be constructed with City funds and federal Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality funds provided through the Clark County Springfield Transportation Coordinating Committee. The City will continue to seek other funding sources. ODOT, as steward of the federal funds, will provide federal oversight.

PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE

**October 4 – November 19,
2021**

Virtual Public Presentation /
Public Comment Period

January 2021 – July 2022
Preliminary and Detailed Design

Winter 2021
Environmental Clearance

Winter 2022
Right-of-Way Acquisition

Spring 2023
Sale of Project

June 2023 – October 2023
Construction



Why can't these funds be used somewhere else or for something else?

While the City could elect to use its funds elsewhere, the City considers that the existing pavement condition on Derr Road warrants making this roadway a priority for treatment. Additionally, the federal funds on this project cannot be allocated to another Springfield project without board action by the Clark County Springfield Transportation Coordinating Committee.

What is the crash history?

Between 2016 and 2018, 67 crashes occurred in the project area. Almost 33% (22 crashes) of those resulted in an injury. About 50% (34 crashes) were left or right turning, or angle crashes. These types of crashes occurred when vehicles turned left or right at intersections, into driveways, and out of driveways. The next most common crash type was rear end crashes (22 crashes). There are 54 driveways between Home Road and Villa Road. Currently, left turning vehicles block the interior lanes to access drives, and unexpected stopping occurs within these interior lanes. The preferred alternative will construct a two-way left-turn lane from Home Road to Providence Avenue and some driveways will be rebuilt to help reduce the potential for accidents and improve traffic flow.

What type of amenities will be offered?

Along Derr Road, the project will maintain the existing street lighting. New traffic control signs and striping, along with the new shared-use path and new sidewalk in the missing sidewalk sections along the east side of Derr Road will be included. The project does not currently provide for decorative lighting or tree plantings.

What is a rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB)?

RRFB is a user-actuated amber LED light that supplements warning signs at unsignalized intersections or mid-block crossings. RRFBs have been shown to increase driver yielding behavior. See the presentation for more information about RRFBs.

Will the project be ADA-compliant?

All pedestrian facilities within the project corridor will be evaluated and upgraded as needed for ADA compliance.

Will property access/driveway configurations be affected?

No changes in property access are expected under this project. Additionally, driveways and property access will be maintained during construction. There will be temporary impacts during construction of the new approaches, but these activities will be short-term impacts during work performed at the driveway.

Will the project require property acquisition?

The project will require minor temporary (approximately 0.25 acre) and permanent (approximately 0.01 acres) acquisition from 16 private properties. Affected property owners will be contacted at a later date to discuss the right-of-way needs, the acquisition process, and property owner rights under the process. The acquisition of property will be done according to all state and federal laws, including the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Act (the Uniform Act). The Uniform Act and other laws establish the process for a government agency to acquire property:

1. A fair market value will be determined for the portion of each property needed.
2. A written offer will be presented to the owner.
3. The property owner can accept or negotiate this value.
4. When a value is agreed upon, a closing phase occurs where the property is bought.

Overall, the process will take several months. No total takes (complete acquisitions) or relocations will be necessary. If you would like to discuss your specific property, please contact Leo Shanayda at 937-324-7310, through the comment form, or at lshanayda@springfieldohio.gov.

How will traffic be maintained during construction?

It is anticipated that at least one lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained throughout most of the construction period. Short-term or overnight closures may be needed to facilitate some construction activities. The contractor will maintain access to residential and commercial properties during construction.

Will the project affect historic properties?

An evaluation of the corridor for historic resources, as well as the project effect on any identified historic properties, will be undertaken as part of the environmental review of the corridor. At this time, there are no properties within the corridor that are listed on, or known to be eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places.

If you are concerned that the project will affect historic properties and would like to have an opportunity to comment on our decision-making regarding historic properties, please complete the section of the comment form titled "Section 106 Consulting Party Request".

Will the project involve work in waterways or wetlands?

The project will replace the existing culvert that carries an unnamed tributary of Buck Creek, west of Greystone Drive. No wetlands are present within the project limits. All necessary permits will be obtained prior to undertaking any work in the unnamed tributary of Buck Creek.

Will trees be removed under this project?

Approximately 20 trees will be removed under the project. All of trees to be removed are located within the existing public right-of-way.

How will the project affect noise levels along the corridor?

The project is not a new highway on new location, does not significantly change the horizontal or vertical alignment, does not add an auxiliary lane, and does not add capacity. The project is not a type that is expected to result in noise impacts as defined by applicable regulations.

What if I cannot access the online public presentation?

Extra materials from this public presentation will be made available at the City of Springfield Service Center for those who cannot view the online presentation. Additionally, hard copies of the presentation can be mailed upon request by contacting Leo Shanayda (contact information below).

How can I submit comments?

There are a few ways for you to leave us comments. You can:

- Go to the online open house at: <https://springfieldohio.gov/business-development/engineering>
- Call 937-324-7310
- Return the comment form you received in the mail by email to lshanayda@springfieldohio.gov or by mail to:

Leo Shanayda
City Engineer
City of Springfield Engineering Department
2100 Lagonda Avenue
Springfield, OH 45503

Please reference "Derr Road" in any emails or letters. Comments are requested no later than November 19, 2021 and will be addressed shortly after the close of the comment period.