



**Department of
Transportation**
transportation.ohio.gov

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jim Tressel, Lt. Governor
Pamela Boratyn, Director

September 19, 2025

RE: Public Open House Meeting
Franklin/Licking Counties SR 161/37 Project, PID 117878

Dear Neighbor,

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) would like to invite you to a public open house. Public input is an important part of the project development process and provides valuable feedback that helps guide decision-making through all phases of development. ODOT is proposing operational improvements along 15 miles of the State Route (SR) 161 / SR 37 corridor, between US 62 in Franklin County and SR 16 in Licking County. A map showing the proposed project limits is attached. The purpose of this project is to develop transportation infrastructure improvements that will improve mobility and support economic growth in the area. ODOT has recently completed a Draft Feasibility Study for the project corridor (including an assessment of multiple interchanges within the project corridor) and a Draft Alternatives Evaluation Report focused on the Mink Street interchange. The project is currently in the planning stage. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2029, pending the availability of funding for future phases of the project.

We invite you to attend a public open house meeting for this project, scheduled as follows:

When: Wednesday, October 22, 2025
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – Open house

Where: Johnstown Elementary School Cafeteria/Commons
200 Leafy Dell Rd
Johnstown, OH, 43031

During the open house, project representatives will be available to discuss the results of the Draft Feasibility Study, the analysis of design alternatives for the Mink Street interchange, and the recommended preferred alternatives for the project. Your input will help us finalize the Feasibility Study and shape the future of the project. No formal presentation will be given at the meeting.

To ensure the proposed project is viable and successful, we are asking all those interested to attend and participate in this public meeting. We want your comments regarding the social, environmental, and economic impacts of this proposed project. Additionally, we would appreciate any information you may have on the existence of cultural

District 5
9600 Jacksontown Road
Jacksontown, OH 43030 U.S.A.

740 | 323 4400
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resources (archaeological, historic, architectural), ecological resources (streams, wetlands, etc.), or hazardous materials (dump sites, underground and above ground storage tanks, etc.) within the project area.

All materials presented during the public meeting will be available on the project website. Included with this letter is a comment form that can be mailed back to ODOT or you may leave comments on the project website:

Type the web address into your browser:
www.transportation.ohio.gov/projects/projects/117878

Or scan the QR code:



Comments may also be submitted via email, phone, or mail to:



Mail: Ty Thompson, P.E., 9600 Jacksontown Rd, Jacksontown, Ohio 43030

Phone: 740-323-5194

Email: ty.thompson@dot.ohio.gov

If you are unable to attend the public meeting, your comments and concerns are still important to us. We ask that all comments be submitted **no later than Friday, November 21, 2025**. Please mention **PID 117878** in all correspondence. We sincerely appreciate your involvement!

Public participation in this project is solicited without regard to race, color, sex, age, national origin, or disability. Requests for interpretation services or reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting can be addressed to the contact information above.

Las solicitudes de servicios de interpretación o adaptaciones razonables para participar en la reunión pueden dirigirse a la información de contacto indicada anteriormente.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tyrell D. Thompson".

Tyrell D. Thompson, P.E.
Capital Programs Administrator, ODOT District 5

cc: District Environmental Coordinator; District Planning Engineer; District Public Information Officer; District Deputy Director, District Real Estate Administrator



Department of
Transportation

Franklin/Licking Counties SR 161/SR 37 Project (PID 117878)

Public Comment Form

Public Open House – October 22, 2025

Contact information is not required but will ensure you receive a response, should one be required.

Name: _____

Mailing address (or nearest cross streets): _____

Email address: _____ Phone: _____

Address of impacted property (or nearest cross streets): _____

Business/Organization Name: _____

Business/Organization Address: _____

How did you hear about this meeting? (Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Newspaper ☐ Mailed letter ☐ TV or radio ☐ Word-of-mouth ☐ ODOT website ☐ Social media ☐ Email
☐ Other: _____

What is your interest in the proposed project? (Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Area Resident ☐ Area business owner or employee ☐ Commuter ☐ Other: _____

How often do you travel in the project area?

- ☐ Daily ☐ A few times a week ☐ Weekly ☐ A few times a month ☐ Monthly ☐ Other: _____

How do you usually travel through the project area? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Automobile ☐ Bicycle ☐ Walk ☐ Other: _____

Do you have any specific questions or concerns about this project?

Provide any additional comments below:

COMMENTS DUE BY
November 21, 2025

Comments may be submitted:

- Verbally or in writing at the public open house
- By email at ty.thompson@dot.ohio.gov
- By telephone at 740-323-5194
- By mail using address on back
- Online by scanning the QR code to the right, or at
- <http://www.transportation.ohio.gov/projects/projects/117878>



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Ohio Department of Transportation District 5
ATTN: Ty Thompson, PE
9600 Jacksontown Rd
Jacksontown, Ohio 43030

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