

## OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mike DeWine, Governor

Jack Marchbanks, Ph.D., Director

District 5 9600 Jacksontown Rd., Jacksontown, OH 43030 740-323-4400 transportation.ohio.gov

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF JERSEY TOWNSHIP LIC 10910 JUG ST JOHNSTOWN OH 43031

June 20, 2023

Re:

FRA/LIC-161-22.10/0.00, PID 117878

Dear Property Owner:

We are writing to advise you that the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has proposed a project to construct operational improvements in the State Route (SR) 161 / State Route (SR) 37 corridors in Franklin and Licking Counties. The project extends approximately 15 miles along SR 161/SR37, from US 62 (Johnstown Road) to SR 16 (Columbus Road). The scope of work being evaluated will also include widening of general use lanes along SR 161 and SR 37 as well as operational improvements at interchanges along this section of roadway corridor. The project is necessary to address expected congestion and mobility concerns in the area. The project is currently in the planning phase. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2027. Attached is project study area map.

Please be aware that, at this stage in project development, it will not be possible to provide you with specific information regarding potential impacts or needs for land acquisition. If right-of-way acquisition is necessary from your property, personnel from ODOT District 5 Real Estate Office will contact you directly at a later date to discuss the right-of-way needs, the acquisition process, and your rights under that process.

We are writing to inform you about this project and advise you that it may be necessary for personnel from the consultant team (Woolpert, EMH&T, DLZ, CAPSTONE, B&N, 2LMN, and Michael Baker) to enter upon your property within the next 30 days to obtain specific field data needed in connection with the proposed project. Sections 5517.01 and 163.03 of the Ohio Revised Code authorize such entries but also require that reimbursement be made for any actual damage resulting from such work. It is not anticipated that any physical sampling or vegetation clearing will be required; however, if any valuable vegetation must be cleared to accomplish the work needed, you will be notified and informed as to the procedure to follow in preparing a claim for reimbursement. If at any time you feel that our representatives have not given proper attention to your property, please notify me.

Please note that personnel from the consultant team will not be able to give any information or answers to questions. The staff will simply be collecting data to complete their preliminary engineering and environmental studies. After these studies have been completed, a public meeting will be scheduled to provide more detailed information regarding the proposed project and to further solicit public input. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation and assistance.

Questions or comments? Please contact me:

Phone: 740-323-5194

Email: ty.thompson@dot.ohio.gov

Respectfully,

Typus DThrougson

Tyrell D. Thompson, P.E. District Project Manager

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