



The following Eastern Corridor Program update was sent out to ECDT members via Eastern Corridor email on January 17, 2013.

Dear Eastern Corridor Development Team members:

Happy New Year! It's been a while since we last met. During that time, solid efforts have been made in the advancement of the Eastern Corridor projects and to further support public involvement. Some highlights from recent months include:

Oasis Rail Transit Project

- Three public involvement meetings were held in July and August to share information about the proposed rail service, recommended rail vehicle type, rail station recommendations and the station area planning process. Feedback received from meeting participants is being considered as the project team continues with planning, preliminary engineering efforts, environmental studies, and cost estimating.
- The Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District has been awarded \$200K to help secure right of way for the rail line's extension from the Boathouse to Riverfront Transit Center. Currently, there is no track along this portion of the rail line.
- The Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners has unanimously agreed on a preferred track alignment along the northern edge of the Bicentennial Commons/Sawyer Point parking lot, which is necessary for extending the rail line to the Transit Center.
- The Oasis Rail Transit project team is gearing up to begin the Station Area Planning process. This will involve working with station communities to develop a vision and plan for their rail stations and associated development. Multiple meetings will be held and work is expected to get underway in the first half of this year.

Red Bank Corridor Project

- ODOT and other Eastern Corridor Implementation Partners have been working with Red Bank Corridor Community Partner (CPC) representatives to explore opportunities for using roundabouts to manage traffic along the Red Bank project corridor. Efforts have included trips to Carmel, Indiana, and Dublin, Ohio, to see how these communities have successfully integrated roundabouts into their roadway infrastructure.
- ODOT and the Red Bank Corridor project team are currently working with community representatives to develop possible project alternatives. ODOT expects to share preliminary alternative options with the Red Bank CPC in late February or March. A public involvement meeting to gain community feedback is anticipated in late spring, early summer.

SR 32 Relocation Project

- Substantial feedback was received from the public regarding the SR 32 Relocation Feasibility Study (March 2012) presented for public review last summer. One important result of the feedback gained is

Eastern Corridor Implementation Partners

*Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District • Clermont County Transportation Improvement District • City of Cincinnati
Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments • Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority • Ohio Department of Transportation*

*The Eastern Corridor Program is administered by the Ohio Department of Transportation in cooperation with the
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Eastern Corridor Implementation Partners.*

the addition of a new project corridor (and alternate river crossing) that will be considered as the project development process moves forward.

- The SR 32 Relocation Feasibility Study (March 2012) has been updated to include the new project corridor alternative in its recommendations for further study and to recognize Mariemont's South 80 acres as part of a National Historic Landmark (NHL). The area's NHL status will be appropriately considered as possible project alignments are explored in this and other areas. The SR 32 Relocation Feasibility Study Addendum (December 2012) is now available for public review at <http://easterncorridor.org/relocated-sr-32/segment-ii-iii-study-documents>.
- Two new Community Partner Committees (Mariemont and Newtown) are forming for the SR 32 Relocation project. ODOT will be working with these CPCs to examine in more depth project issues and opportunities. CPC members are responsible for representing their community's/organization's interests in discussions relating to technical studies, community goals and anticipated project outcomes.
- A SR 32 Relocation Community Update Session is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 22. The session's purpose is to address issues raised about the project by Mariemont residents and the Village Council. It is also to provide residents an opportunity to learn more about the proposed project and next steps. Although oriented toward the Mariemont community, the session is open to everyone. The meeting is 6 to 8 p.m. and will be held at the Mariemont Elementary School Auditorium, 6750 Wooster Pike. Additional sessions can be scheduled for other communities within the SR 32 Relocation project area upon request. Should your community be interested, contact Andy Fluegemann, ODOT, at (513) 933-6597 or andy.fluegemann@dot.state.oh.us.

State Route (SR) 32 Improvements, Eastgate Area

- Construction began last fall on improvements to the Eastgate North Frontage Road. This project sets the stage for additional improvements to the SR 32/I-275 interchange.
- The reconstruction of Eastgate Boulevard over SR 32 and construction of new entrance/exit ramps will get started this spring following the contract bidding process, which is slated to occur in February.
- The SR 32/I-275 interchange reconstruction project has been moved up from 2019 to this summer, thanks to funding secured by ODOT. This project will include multiple roadway, access and ramp improvements designed to make traveling through the area safer and more efficient.
- The alternative evaluation process for improvements along SR 32 between Eastgate Boulevard and Olive Branch Stonelick Road is nearing completion. ODOT anticipates holding a public involvement meeting late this spring to gain public input on a preferred alternative.

ECDT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED

As you can see, 2013 is shaping up to be a very busy year for the Eastern Corridor. We will soon be scheduling an Eastern Corridor Development Team meeting to share with you more information about each of the Eastern Corridor projects and what to expect this year. We also will provide status updates on some of the other Eastern Corridor initiatives. Please let us know if there are any specific topics or issues that you would like to discuss. The meeting time and place will be announced as soon as it is scheduled.

If you have any questions about the Eastern Corridor Program and related issues, please contact Andy at (513) 933-6597 or andy.fluegemann@dot.state.oh.us.

Sincerely,
The Eastern Corridor Communications Team

