



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EASTERN CORRIDOR PROGRESS CONTINUES AS NEW PROJECT CONCEPTS ARE PRESENTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

Open houses are scheduled for this Wednesday and Thursday to gather public input on improvement plans for the area between Red Bank and Eastgate

CINCINNATI (October 22, 2018) – The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), in close coordination with local communities, planners and interest groups, has developed a series of concepts to improve travel and access to employment and other destinations between downtown Cincinnati and Clermont County. Part of an integrated multi-modal program of transportation investments, the Eastern Corridor planning team will present improvement concepts for public input at two open house meetings this week. The public is invited to review design plans and provide feedback on Eastern Corridor Segments II and III, which extend along U.S. 50 and SR 32 from Red Bank and the Beechmont Levee (SR 125/SR 32) to the I-275/SR 32 interchange near Eastgate.

Wednesday, Oct. 24

5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Miami Valley Christian Academy
6830 School Street
Newtown, OH 45244

Thursday, Oct. 25

5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

R.G. Cribbet Recreation Center
5903 Hawthorne Avenue
Fairfax, OH 45227

“The Eastern Corridor Program is a series of many individual transportation improvement projects being implemented across the eastern portion of the Greater Cincinnati region to help make travel easier and safer,” said Tom Arnold, planning engineer and Eastern Corridor Segments II and III project manager for ODOT District 8. “Projects across the corridor are in varying stages of planning, design, construction and completion. Concepts that will be highlighted at the open house meetings; however, are in the initial planning and design phases.”

Public input continues to provide the foundation for the Eastern Corridor project review process

Working with advisory committees comprised of local elected officials, transportation planning professionals and community and interest group representatives, ODOT has reviewed nearly 150 project concepts to address primary transportation needs identified within the Segments II and III study area.

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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.

Following three rounds of evaluation, analysis and discussion with the advisory committees, many concepts were eliminated from further review based on evaluation results, projected cost and/or impact concerns. The remaining concepts will be presented at the open house meetings for further public review and input. Following the meetings, ODOT will meet its advisory committees to review comments; refine or eliminate concepts as needed; identify implementation priorities and potential funding sources; and determine lead sponsors for each remaining project. ODOT will compile the results of these discussions and its final recommendations in an implementation plan that will be shared with local jurisdictions and used to guide future project planning.

Future projects will build upon significant investment already made along the corridor.

As they are implemented, these projects will be added to a growing list of Eastern Corridor projects that are now complete. Some of the more recognizable efforts include:

- Construction of the Kennedy Connector in the Madisonville/Oakley area; completed 2013
- Reconfiguration of Eastgate North Frontage Road in the Eastgate area; completed 2013
- Reconstruction of Eastgate Boulevard over SR 32 in the Eastgate area; completed 2014
- I-275/SR 32 Interchange Improvements in the Eastgate area; completed 2015
- Reconnection of Aicholtz Road between Mt. Carmel-Tobasco and Eastgate Blvd.; completed 2016
- Construction of the Duck Creek Connector in Madisonville; completed in 2017
- Intersection improvements at SR 32 & Bells Lane/Old 74 in the Eastgate area; currently under construction
- Addition of an eastbound lane on SR 32 from Gleneste-Withamsville to Stonelick-Olive Branch interchange; currently under construction

In addition, more than 180 smaller-scale roadway projects were identified in earlier stages of Eastern Corridor Program development. The majority of these projects have been completed. Like the concepts proposed for Segments II and III, these projects included signal timing modifications, intersection improvements, minor improvements to existing roads, new park and ride facilities, and the development of new biking and walking trails.

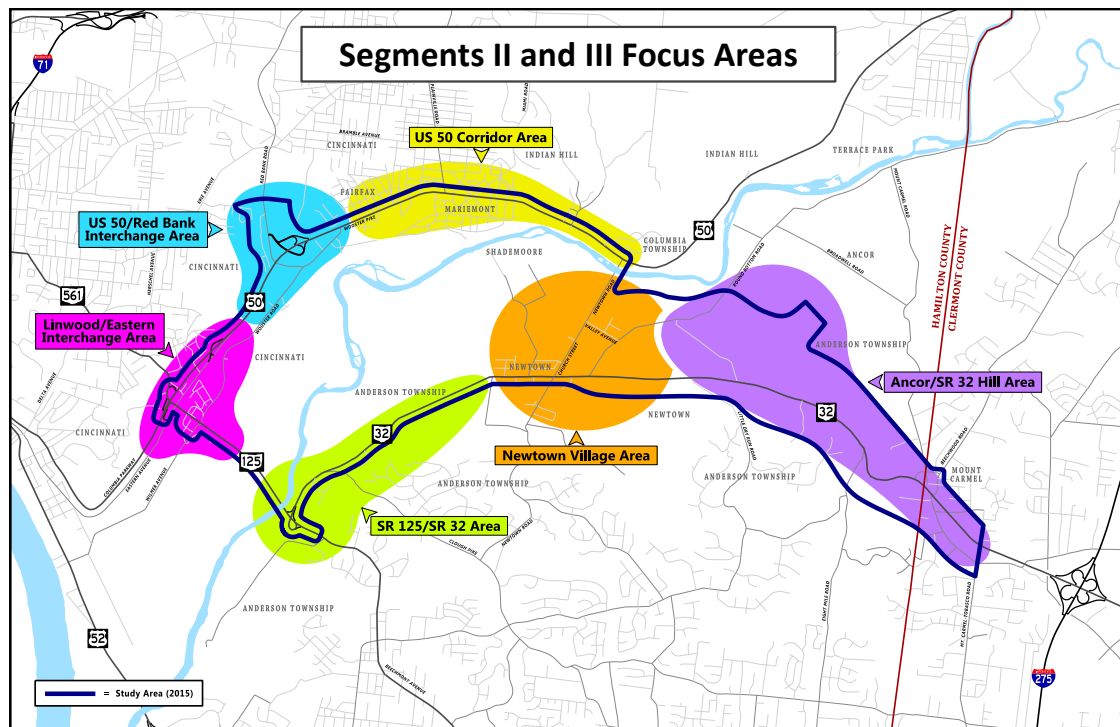
ODOT encourages the public to attend the open houses on Oct. 24 and 25 to weigh in on the most recent improvements being proposed. Attendees can come to either meeting any time between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. No formal presentations will be held. ODOT project team members will be available to discuss the various concepts and answer questions. In addition to general comments, ODOT is also seeking input regarding any potential social, environmental, historic preservation and economic impacts of the proposed concepts. Feedback received will be used to help develop its final recommendations for implementation.

Open house meeting materials, exhibits and comment forms will be posted on the Eastern Corridor website, EasternCorridor.org, immediately following the meetings for further public review and comment.

Public comments must be submitted to ODOT no later than Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018, to be considered during this phase of planning. Comments can be submitted at the open houses, sent to the project team at EasternCorridor@EasternCorridor.org, submitted through the [Submit Feedback](#) tool on the [Eastern Corridor website](#) or sent to Tom Arnold, ODOT District 8, 505 S. SR 741, Lebanon, OH 45036.

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The Eastern Corridor is a program of integrated, multi-modal transportation investments that, together, will provide essential east-west connectivity for the Greater Cincinnati region. The Program will address critical congestion issues and mobility challenges expected to worsen by 2030. Planned enhancements will improve travel and connections between central Cincinnati and communities extending east through Hamilton County and into western Clermont County. The Eastern Corridor Program is administered by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Eastern Corridor Implementation Partners: Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District (HCTID), Clermont County Transportation Improvement District (CCTID), City of Cincinnati, Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) and the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA).



The Eastern Corridor Segments II and III study area is divided into six specific focus areas: the SR 125/SR 32 interchange area, the Linwood Avenue/Eastern Avenue interchange area, the US 50/Red Bank Road interchange area, the U.S. 50 Corridor (from Fairfax to Newtown Road), the ANCOR/SR 32 Hill area and the village of Newtown. Transportation improvement concepts for each focus area will be shared at the open house meetings.

