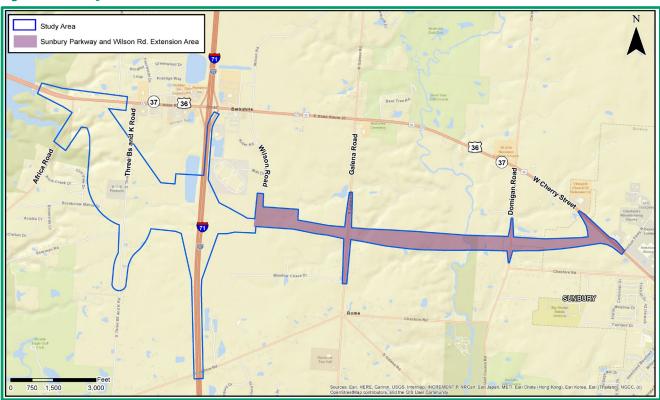
Improved Interchange at I-71 and U.S. 36/SR 37 and Proposed Sunbury Parkway

NEWSLETTER
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Project Map



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01: Introduction

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is eager to reintroduce the public to this important interchange improvement project in Delaware County, Ohio.

Please read through this newsletter and learn about recent changes and how to be involved!

02: History of the Project

You may recall when ODOT, in years 2016-17, was completing studies of the U.S. 36/SR 37 interchange with I-71 in Delaware County, Ohio. These studies

evaluated roadway improvement options that would accomplish the following:

- Reduce congestion and improve the operation of U.S. 36/SR 37 through the interchange
- Improve safety at the interchange by eliminating back-ups on I-71
- Support future growth in Delaware County as intended by current land use and economic development plans
- Improve east-west connectivity across
 Delaware County for commuters and freight

ODOT presented the selected roadway improvement option at a public meeting in October 2016. ODOT proposed to construct a combined interchange to the south that would offer alternative access to existing U.S. 36/SR 37. The second interchange would work in conjunction with the existing interchange and provide access to a new east-west roadway, Sunbury Parkway, that would be constructed from Africa Road at U.S. 36/SR 37 east to W. Cherry Street in the City of Sunbury. Wilson Road would be extended south to the future Sunbury Parkway.

03: What's Changing?

When ODOT completed project development in 2017, the section of Sunbury Parkway from Wilson Road east to the City of Sunbury and the extension of Wilson Road were expected to be constructed using private funds. (See the *Sunbury Parkway and Wilson Road Extension Area*, shaded in purple on the Project Map.) The private development has not progressed as expected and private funding is no longer anticipated. Recognizing the need for these improvements, ODOT intends to advance them using public funds, and therefore will re-evaluate studies and conduct additional public involvement.

Currently, ODOT is working on a revised feasibility study with the participation of Delaware County, Berkshire Township, and the City of Sunbury. This study includes: evaluating alignments for the Sunbury Parkway and Wilson Road Extension Area; updating traffic analyses; and identifying ecological resources, historic resources, and the potential for noise impacts within the study area.

04: What's Next?

ODOT's project development process involves outreach to the public at key decision points to gain important feedback and keep the public informed. After the draft feasibility study has been prepared, the following steps will occur.

- Spring/Summer 2023: Public meeting to present the Draft Feasibility Study (including alternatives considered, findings and recommendations) and <u>request public</u> <u>comments</u>.
- Summer 2023: Announcement of Recommended Preferred Alternative and request public comments.
- Winter 2023: Announcement of the final decision on the Preferred Alternative and next steps.

The Preferred Alternative will be divided into multiple phases for design and construction. Future steps (such as a design and construction schedule for individual phases) will be developed as funding is secured.

05: How can I be involved?

Public engagement is an important part of ODOT's project development process. ODOT is re-establishing outreach to the public to share information and gain feedback on updated studies and new alternatives for the Sunbury Parkway and Wilson Road Extension.

ODOT will host an in-person public meeting and a virtual public meeting this spring or summer (2023). Please stay tuned: more information about these meetings will be posted to the project website.

PROJECT WEBSITE

The project website provides a history of the studies that have occurred to-date. Current studies will be included as they are completed. This site will also host the virtual public meeting this spring/summer.

https://PublicInput.com/SunburyParkway

Scan the QR code to the right, or visit the link above to sign up for updates, provide feedback, and view additional project information.



RECEIVE PROJECT UPDATES

Sign up to receive updates (newsletters, meeting invitation, etc.) as this project progresses.

- 1. Visit the Project Website, above
- 2. Scroll down to the bottom of any tab
- 3. Subscribe by providing your name and email address and/or mailing address.

WEBSITE ACCESS

If experiencing issues with accessing the website, please notify the ODOT project manager at his contact information below.

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