

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has assumed the Federal Highway Administration's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by ODOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated June 6, 2018, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact:

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Or visit the NEPA Assignment webpage at:

<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/NEPA-Assignment/>

# NEPA Assignment and ODOT

What you need to know about ODOT's Assumption of the Federal Highway Administration's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act





## What is NEPA Assignment?

Under NEPA Assignment, ODOT is responsible for all environmental decisions, regulations, and laws that require review, reevaluation, consultation, or other actions related to the approval of highway projects in Ohio.

Since ODOT was granted this responsibility by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), ODOT now acts as a federal agency from an environmental standpoint.

Environmental review will take less time to complete since documents will no longer be sent to FHWA for review and approval.

*Under the NEPA Assignment program, ODOT has assumed all of FHWA's responsibilities for environmental review, interagency consultation, and other environmental related actions in Ohio.*

ODOT is now the contact for all environmental transportation issues in Ohio.

## Who will make sure ODOT is in compliance?

FHWA will perform audits twice a year for the first two years, and once a year the following two years (or as defined by FHWA) to ensure ODOT is complying with NEPA laws/regulations and the Memorandum of Understanding.

## Benefits of NEPA Assignment

- Less taxpayer money will be spent per project due to a faster environmental review process
- Projects can begin construction sooner, meaning the public can benefit from transportation improvements sooner
- Lower inflation costs due to earlier construction dates
- Environmental coordination can be completed in less time without compromising compliance with federal and state laws
- The money saved annually can be rolled back into the transportation program in Ohio for more improvements