



KINGSTON NEWS

U.S. 23 CORRIDOR STUDY

SPECIAL ADDITION

JANUARY 2022

Your Kingston Township Trustees want you to know that the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is currently investigating ways to improve traffic flow on U.S. 23 through Delaware County. The \$2 million dollar “Route 23 Connect” study is being funded by ODOT, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and Toledo Metropolitan Area of Government, and managed by ODOT District 6 located in Delaware.

ODOT held on-line and in-person meetings over the summer and into early fall to gather public input as to how the existing U.S. 23 (US23) corridor impacts individual driving patterns. ODOT’s study goal is to determine the feasibility of a free flow connection between Toledo and Columbus which might include upgrades to the existing US23 alignment and/or new connections to U.S. 33 (US33) or I-71. Study details can be found on ODOT’s website at transportation.ohio.gov/23connect.

Within the study, there are six (6) alternatives being considered. **C-1** would upgrade the existing US23 corridor with new/modified interchanges, limited access and added lanes. Two concepts move traffic west of Delaware. **W-1** proposes to construct a new freeway from US23 south of the Waldo area to US33 which would then provide access to the west I-270 Columbus outer belt. **W-2** proposes to construct a new freeway from US23 south of the Waldo area to U.S. 42 (US42) west of Delaware. US42 would be upgraded to US33 which would then provide access to I-270.

Moving to the east side of Delaware, **E-2** proposes to construct a new freeway from the Waldo area south to U.S. 36/State Route 37 (36/37) west of I-71. Traffic would then move east on 36/37 to I-71 and then south to I-270. The final two (2) east concepts could impact the heart of Kingston Township directly! **E-1** constructs a new freeway from the Waldo area, crosses State Route 229 (SR229) and US42 and connects to I-71 north or south of State Route 521 (SR521). **E-3** moves traffic south of Waldo east on SR229 to a new freeway that would be constructed from SR229 south to I-71. This freeway would cross US42 and connect to I-71 north or south of SR521.

As stated above, both Concepts E-1 and E-3 could impact our township and potentially you or your neighbor’s property; changing the character of our neighborhoods and resulting in the loss of prime farmland/open space forever. You are strongly encouraged

to pay close attention to this ODOT study, evaluate the alternatives being considered, and express your opinion on their website.

There is growing, grass roots opposition to the Route 23 Connect concepts. The opposition organization is No-Hwy.com whose goal is to preserve prime agricultural land and the integrity of rural Delaware County. While adamantly opposed to construction of a new freeway, they appear to support Alternative C-1 which improves flow through the US23 corridor for commercial traffic and saves the rural community. For more information, visit their website at www.nohwy.com . This site contains links for public comment or you can go directly to ODOT's website at <https://publicinput.com/23connect> to take their survey.



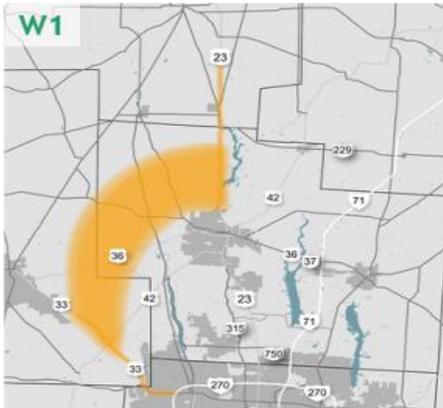
Based on public interest in the study and feedback already provided to ODOT, they have extended the comment period until February 28, 2022. They have scheduled two additional meetings in January for public project interaction.

The first is an in-person meeting on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 in the Merchant Building at the Delaware County Fairgrounds located at 236 Pennsylvania Avenue in Delaware. The meeting will be from 6pm to 8pm, and face masks and other health protocols will be required. Contact Project Manager Anthony Turowski with any questions at 740-833-8186.

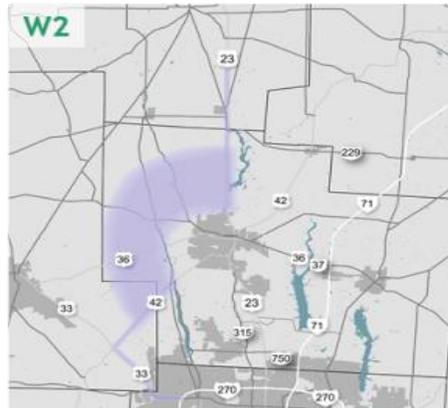
The second is an on-line meeting on Thursday, January 27, 2022 starting a 12pm (noon). You can join the meeting by registering at <https://publicinput.com/23connect> or accessing by telephone at 855-925-2801, Code 4637.

Whatever you do, don't miss the opportunity to express your views on this potentially impactful ODOT study!

WESTERN CONNECTION (2 CONCEPTS)

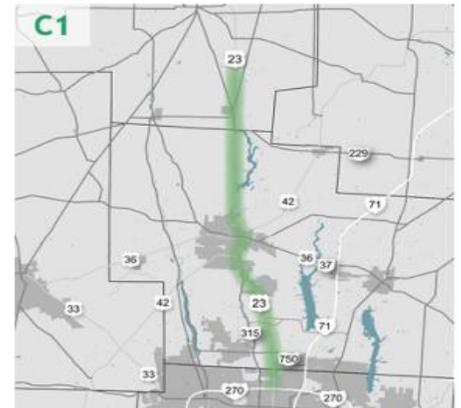


- New freeway from U.S. 23 to U.S. 33
- Use U.S. 33 to connect to I-270



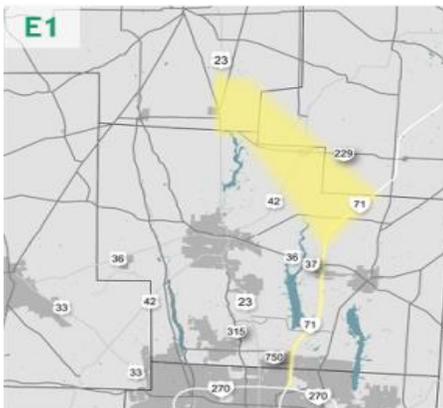
- New freeway from U.S. 23 to U.S. 42
- Upgraded U.S. 42 to U.S. 33
- Use U.S. 33 to connect to I-270

UPGRADED U.S. 23



- 11 new/modified interchanges
- Limited access w/ service roads
- Additional through lanes

EASTERN CONNECTION (3 CONCEPTS)



- New freeway from U.S. 23 to I-71
- Use I-71 to connect to I-270



- New freeway from U.S. 23 to U.S. 36/ SR 37
- Use U.S. 36/SR 37 to connect to I-71
- Use I-71 to connect to I-270



- Use U.S. 23 to SR 229
- New freeway from SR 229 to I-71
- Use I-71 to connect to I-270