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POR-CR 145 Ravenna Road Bridge; PID 105556
Recreational Section 4(f) de minimis – Public Notice

Portage County - Ravenna Road Bridge Replacement Project **Franklin Township, Portage County**

ODOT Project No. POR-CR 145 Ravenna Road Bridge; PID 105556

The Portage County Engineer's Office, in cooperation with the Portage Park District, proposes to replace the Ravenna Road (County Road 145) Bridge spanning the Norfolk Southern Railroad in Franklin Township, Portage County. The new bridge design includes the following improvements:

- Increased vertical profile to meet Norfolk Southern Railroad vertical clearance requirements
- A new dedicated 10-foot wide multiuse trail to replace an existing on-street section of the Portage Hike & Bike Trail
- Reconstruction of the Towner's Woods Park entrance

To facilitate construction activities, approximately 0.139 acre of temporary right-of-way and 0.013 acre of permanent right-of-way will be required from the Towner's Woods Park operated by the Portage Park District, and 0.039 acre of temporary right-of-way will be acquired from adjacent Portage Park District property abutting the Towner's Woods Park. Construction is estimated to begin in 2023 and be completed in 2024. The multi-season construction is necessary to minimize disruption to Towner's Woods Park and accommodate Norfolk Southern Railroad traffic.

Ravenna Road will remain closed for the duration of project construction (24 months). Although currently closed to vehicular traffic, the bridge is open for Portage Hike & Bike Trail traffic. However, the project will require closure of the Portage Hike & Bike Trail at Ravenna Road for the duration of construction. Through vehicle traffic and trail traffic will use the currently posted vehicular detour route which utilizes Brady Lake Road and Lake Rockwell Road.

The project will require closure of the park access drive and nearby parking lot area for a duration of approximately 45 consecutive days. The eastern Portage Hike & Bike Trail connection to the park will remain open during the project construction and additional parking and pedestrian access to Towner's Woods Park will remain available from abutting Portage Park District property located on Ravenna Road, west of the park entrance. Additional project and detour route information is available at Engineer's website <https://www.portagecounty-oh.gov/portage-county-engineer/news/ravenna-road-closure>.

The Towner's Woods Park, park-owned property abutting Towner's Woods Park and the Portage Hike & Bike Trail are all recognized recreational properties and are provided protection from adverse impacts associated with federal-aid transportation projects. The Portage County Engineer's Office has consulted with the Portage Park District throughout the project development process. The project will not adversely affect the recreational properties.

The following measures to minimize harm are being implemented as part of the project:

- Access to the Towner's Woods Park entrance and parking lot area will be restricted no longer than 45 consecutive days and shorter than the time needed for construction

- Temporary construction fencing will be installed along proposed construction limits prior to the start of construction activities to protect the Towner's Woods Park entrance area, adjacent park-owned property, and the public
- Appropriate signage shall be installed to alert users of Towner's Woods Park and the Portage Hike & Bike Trail of construction activities, access restrictions or closures, and to direct users to secondary access points
- The contractor will be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule with the Portage Park District and the Portage County Engineer's Office

Due to the permanent acquisition of land from the Towner's Woods Park and temporary impacts to Portage Park District property and the Portage Hike & Bike Trail, the Portage County Engineer's Office is seeking public input regarding the proposed project, maintenance of traffic and/or environmental impacts. Please provide comments by April 14, 2022, to:

Mike Collins
Project Manager, Portage County Engineers
5000 Newton Falls Road
Ravenna, OH 44266
Main Line: 330-296-6411
e-mail: mcollins@portageco.com

All comments should be received by April 14, 2022 to be formally documented during the Preliminary Engineering phase of the project.

If you do not have internet access or if you need special assistance, please contact Mike Collins (information above). Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, sex, age, national origin, or disability.