



City of Defiance | Engineering Division
Melinda K. Sprow | msprow@cityofdefiance.com

[Property Owner/Tenant Name (Current Resident if name cannot be ascertained)]

[Address]

[City, State, Zip]

January 8, 2024

Re: **State Route 15 (Ottawa Avenue) Roadway Reconstruction and Shared Use Path and Sidewalk Improvements, and Cleveland Avenue Sidewalk Improvements.**
PID 117101 DEF-SR15-Ottawa Ave

Dear Mr./Mrs./Ms. [Insert full name or last name (Current Resident if name cannot be ascertained)]:

The City of Defiance, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), has proposed a project to:

1. Reconstruct the road on Ottawa Avenue from just north of the Cleveland Avenue intersection to Petain Street.
2. Construct a shared use path along the east side of Ottawa Avenue, from the end of the existing bike path north of Cleveland Avenue, to the existing shared use path and pedestrian crossing located just south of Haig Street.
3. Repair, replace, or construct new sidewalk on both sides of Ottawa Avenue, from just south of Haig Street to the alleyway just south of Hopkins Street.
4. Construct a sidewalk along the north side of Cleveland Avenue, from just east of the Ottawa Avenue and Cleveland Avenue intersection to just east of the Ayersville Avenue intersection.

The project is necessary to improve the safety for vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic by improving the roadway conditions, and providing new or improving existing pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Construction is currently scheduled to begin after April 1, 2026.

We are writing to advise you that it may be necessary for personnel from The Mannik & Smith Group to enter upon your property within the coming weeks to obtain specific field data needed in connection with the proposed project. Sections 5517.01 and 163.03 of the Ohio Revised Code authorize such entries but also require that reimbursement be made for any actual damage resulting from such work. It is not anticipated that any physical sampling or vegetation clearing will be required; however, if any valuable vegetation must be cleared to accomplish the work needed, you will be notified and informed as to the procedure to follow in preparing a claim for reimbursement. If at any time you feel that our representatives have not given proper attention to your property, please notify me.

Please note that personnel from The Mannik & Smith Group will not be able to give any information or answers to your questions. The staff will simply be collecting data for project plan preparation. Should it be determined that the project will have Right-of-Way impacts to your property or lands, a Right-of-Way

Representative of the Ohio Department of Transportation will contact you as soon as it has been determined to proceed with the project. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation and assistance so that this worthwhile project can be completed as soon as possible.

To ensure the proposed project is viable and successful, ODOT is seeking comments from the public about the social, environmental, and economic impacts of this proposed project. Environmental impacts include those involving archaeological, architectural, and ecological resources, hazardous materials and the general location of the project. If you have any comments, concerns, or questions, please feel free to contact me. We ask that comments be submitted no later than February 15, 2024.



Questions or comments? Please contact me:

Phone: 419.784.2249

Email: msprow@cityofdefiance.com

Respectfully,

Melinda K. Sprow

Melinda K. Sprow, PE

City Engineer

cc: Nate Tessler, ODOT District Environmental Coordinator; Kylie Siebeneck, ODOT District Project Manager; Raymond Luk, The Mannik & Smith Group

Attachments: Project Exhibit