



Eastern Corridor Little Miami River Fact Sheet

The Eastern Corridor is Ohio's most unique citizen-driven, land use and transportation planning process. Stakeholders from 20 jurisdictions comprised of public and private interests, representing historic urban neighborhoods, environmental, parks and recreation interests, cities, counties, townships and villages came together and developed a balanced approach to sensible transportation planning and community development with the preservation and enhancement of green infrastructure in the Little Miami River valley.

The Eastern Corridor Plan is a balanced approach for implementing long needed and sensible transportation improvements (including bus, rail transit, bikeways, as well as roads) and the preservation and enhancement of green infrastructure. The Little Miami River is one of many important features in our region. Protection and restoration of the natural resources in and along the Little Miami River are at the forefront of the Eastern Corridor Plan.

Question: Is a bridge over the river necessary?

Answer: Yes. The Eastern Corridor Plan provides for a more efficient and effective transportation system for the future. As a result the plan is expected to reduce regional auto and truck travel by more than 50 million vehicle miles per year. This means less fuel consumption and air pollution for the region and economic benefits for everyone in the area.

Question: Will this project negatively impact the river and its surrounding natural resources?

Answer: Although there may be some short-term temporary impacts during construction, no construction equipment will be allowed in the river and the project is being designed to protect the Little Miami River during the long term. The Eastern Corridor Plan can actually help protect and restore the river plains area by creating new greenways linking people and communities with recreation, create better walking and bike access to the river, provide streamside reforestation, habitat and wetlands restoration, protect farmland and limit new development.

Question: Would bridge supports be located in the river?

Answer: No. In fact the new bridge will span completely over the river channel and won't touch the waterway at all. The river will flow freely through the area as it does now and canoeing will not be affected.

Question: Where would the bridge crossing be located?

Answer: There are four general crossing locations currently being studied. The final location will be selected that has the least impacts on the river and adjoining neighborhoods.

Question: Is this section of the river considered pristine or scenic?

Answer: No. This segment of the river flows through an urbanized, developed area with high-tension power lines, nearby commercial and industrial development, abandoned landfills, gravel pits, and construction & demolition waste fills. The Little Miami River in this section is classified as a recreational segment. Cleaning up some of these long standing problems and expanding recreational opportunities in this part of the river is included in the plan.

Question: What would the bridge look like?

Answer: The bridge will be a clear span designed to minimize visual impacts on the valley and the landscape.

Question: I've heard a new bridge will promote sprawl. Is this true?

Answer: No. As our population continues to grow, transportation improvements that provide more efficient and more effective multi-modal travel options, including transit, are needed in the Eastern Corridor area to support workforce development and provide more effective regional connection of jobs and people, especially for the non-driving public.

Transportation improvements are also needed to better link existing economic centers in the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County with more efficient movement of goods and services within and through the area. Major educational, health care and economic centers occur throughout the Eastern Corridor and include the Cincinnati Central Business District, the University of Cincinnati area and adjacent hospitals, Xavier University, Lunken Airport, the communities of Norwood, Oakley, Madisonville, Hyde Park, Mariemont, Fairfax and Newtown, the Ancor industrial area, Anderson Township, Milford and the Eastgate area.

The Eastern Corridor project is being sponsored by the City of Cincinnati, Clermont County, Hamilton County, OKI, ODOT and SORTA. For more information, visit the project web site at www.easterncorridor.org, leave a message on the voice mail/fax at (513) 271-3898 or write to Eastern Corridor Project Office, 4790 Red Bank Expressway, Suite 206/208, Cincinnati, OH 45227.