



Eastern Corridor Little Miami River Fact Sheet

The preliminary finding of the Eastern Corridor Major Investment Study (MIS) found substantial evidence suggesting that the number of river crossings and land capacity on existing routes (i.e. SR 32 in Newtown, US 50 in Mariemont and Fairfax) provide insufficient capacity for the increases in travel demand that will occur by the year 2020. To improve mobility in the Corridor, the MIS recommended additional bridge capacity over the Little Miami River, a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, possibly at the Horseshoe Bend area. The Eastern Corridor study is now in the preliminary engineering phase of study where additional focus will be placed on evaluating the need for the proposed additional bridge crossing in consideration of the following issues:

IMPROVEMENTS

- Significant mobility improvements and expanded travel options
- Less congestion, which will reduce vehicle emissions and improve air quality
- Alternative modes of transportation made available (rail system, bus routes, etc.)

POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS ON THE LITTLE MIAMI RIVER

- Some loss of animal habitat
- During construction only, increased pollution (noise, water, air) and erosion of river
- Loss of natural flood deterrents (swamp forest, riparian zone vegetation)

MITIGATING EFFORTS

- Task Force to ensure environmental sensitivity through planning efforts
- Nearby development limited
- Green space must be maintained
- Replanting of vegetation

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE LITTLE MIAMI RIVER

- 105 mile-long river winding through five southwest Ohio counties to the Ohio River
- One of Ohio's most biologically diverse ecosystems (home to dozens of fish species and over 200 bird species and several mammals)
- Ranks in top 10 percent of Ohio's river ecosystems
- Ohio's first State Scenic River
- Designated a National Recreational and Scenic River, a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
- Southwest Ohio's only National Recreational and Scenic River
- Over 100,000 canoeists navigate the river annually

The Eastern Corridor project is a study evaluating transportation improvements needed in the eastern sector of the Cincinnati metropolitan area. For more information, visit the 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.