



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CENTRAL OFFICE • 1980 WEST BROAD STREET • COLUMBUS, OH 43223
JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR • JERRY WRAY, DIRECTOR

March 5, 2014

The Honorable Bob Gibbs
United States House of Representatives
Canton Office
110 Central Plaza South
Canton, Ohio 44460

Subject: Access Ohio 2040 Comment Response

Dear Representative Gibbs,

Thank you for the January 15, 2014 letter to Governor Kasich commenting on Ohio's draft long-range transportation plan, Access Ohio 2040 (AO40). Your comment was one of approximately 300 comments received by ODOT from around the state. Given that AO40 will be used to guide, inform and support transportation policy and investment decisions for the coming years, public comments such as yours are crucial to ensuring AO40 meets the needs of Ohioans.

Your comment regarding the I-77 and US-30 corridors were echoed by many other people in your region. ODOT understands your concerns related to these corridors. I-77 does provide a vital connection for both freight and passenger traffic between Ohio and the rest of the Nation. Similarly, US-30 plays a role in the on-going development of oil and gas wells in the region.

In response to numerous comments, ODOT has elected to upgrade the status of I-77 to a corridor of national significance and include US-30 as a corridor of statewide significance on the AO40 Strategic Transportation System (STS) map. A revised map will appear on the final AO40 plan, which is due to be published in March of this year. Please visit access.ohio.gov to download the final plan once it is published.

In addition, please be advised that preliminary development work is underway to extend US 30, on new alignment, from the existing Trump Road Interchange east to the US 30/SR 44 interchange. ODOT District Four staff is working with local officials on the design of this segment of US 30. Studies are also being conducted to evaluate operational and safety conditions on existing US 30 from SR 44 east to SR 11. ODOT District Eleven staff and local project sponsors are collaborating on the scope of work for this study.

One final note, ODOT will be correcting a map error that occurred in the draft plan. The Navarre Intermodal Facility and Wellsville Port will both be included on the STS map as intermodal facilities.

Once again, thank you for your comments on ODOT's AO40 plan. Your partnership with ODOT is making Ohio a better place to live, work and travel.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Townley".

Jennifer Townley, Deputy Director
Division of Planning
The Ohio Department of Transportation