



Public Open House Handout

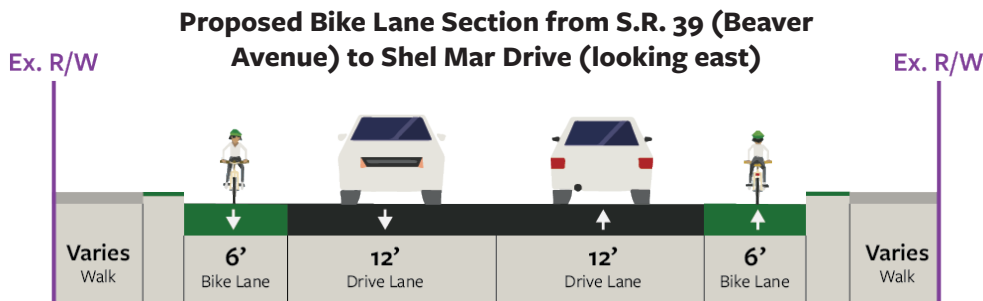
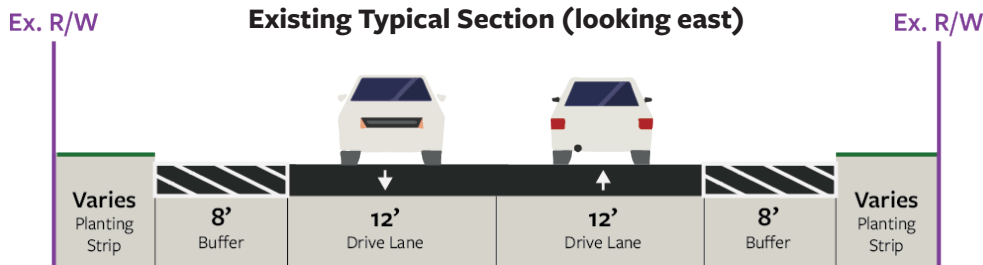
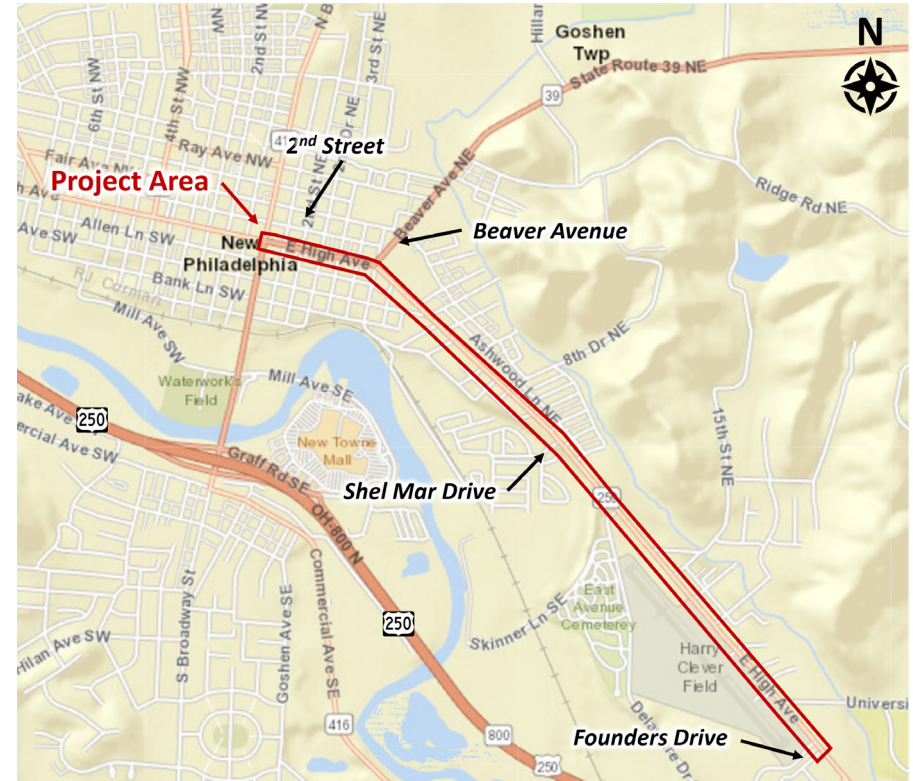
KSU-Tuscarawas Connector Trail Project, PID 115257



Project Description

The City of New Philadelphia and the Ohio Department of Transportation are proposing to construct a bike path connection from downtown New Philadelphia to Kent State Tuscarawas. Proposed improvements include:

- Restripe road to accommodate a shared-lane between bicycles and vehicles. Additional 3 foot buffer striping to be added between shared-lane and parking from 2nd Street NE to S.R. 39 (Beaver Ave.)
- Construct new curb to provide 6 foot conventional bike lanes along the curbs, running with traffic from S.R. 39 (Beaver Ave.) to Shel Mar Drive
- Widening existing roadway shoulders to construct designated bike lanes from Shel Mar Drive to Founders Drive.
- Installing solar-powered Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) at two crossing locations along E. High Ave. - at Front Ave. and near KSU Tusc.



How to Submit Comments:
 Ron McAbier, City Service Director
 330-364-4491
 rmcabier@newphilaoh.com
 150 E. High Ave. Ste. 200, New Philadelphia, OH
Please submit comments by August 10, 2023

Information continues on back →

Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to provide a safe and accessible connection from downtown New Philadelphia to Kent State University.

Impacts

Parking - It is anticipated that on-street parking will be impacted on the south side of E. High Avenue from Beaver Avenue to Shel Mar Drive. Currently, the parking lane on the south side of E. High Avenue is not marked, so no legislation will be needed to remove the spots/parking. Additionally, the Police department monitored parking in this section for about a month (collecting data during the day, evening, and night) to identify the volume of vehicles using the parking lane and determined that there is minimal use of the parking by the public.

Environmental - Environmental studies are ongoing, however minimal impacts are anticipated.

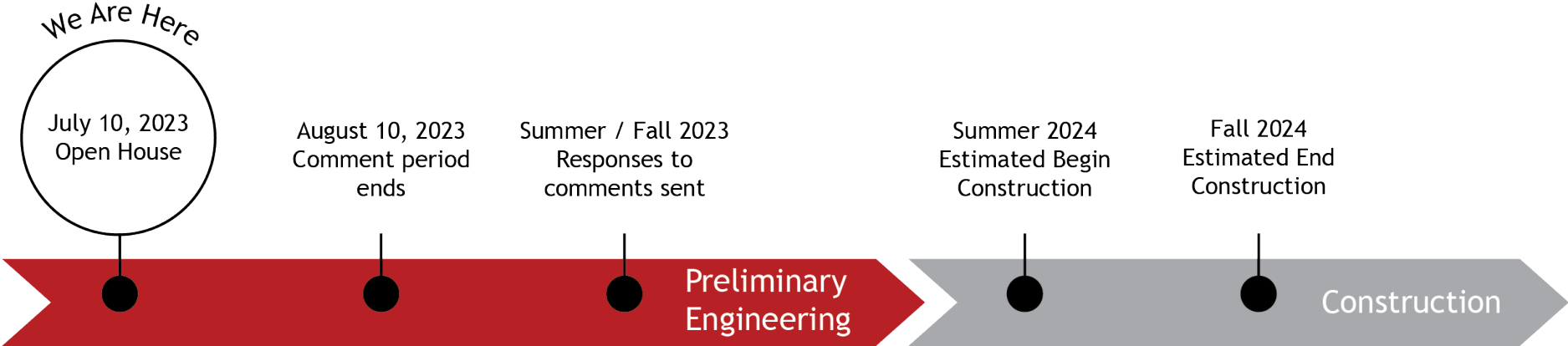
Right-of-Way Needs

All work will be completed within existing right-of-way.

Maintenance of Traffic

The project will be built in phases with one-lane in each direction open at all times. No detours are anticipated. Construction barrels will shift traffic based on where work is performed, however no long-term closures are expected.

Anticipated Schedule



What is the history of this project?

The Tuscarawas County Park Department, City of New Philadelphia and the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition sponsored a New Philadelphia Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Plan that was published in June 2020. The goal for the plan was to develop a network of off-road and on-road trails to promote walking and bicycle connections within New Philadelphia and Tuscarawas County. The Plan began in August 2019 and included both public and stakeholder ideas and comments. The project currently being proposed was recommended in the plan (named the “East High” section). Funding for the project was applied for in 2021 and granted. The project is now in the engineering phase where the design is being finalized, impacts are being evaluated, and public feedback requested.

What is a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)?

An RRFB is a flashing beacon located at a pedestrian crossing that enhances drivers’ awareness of a pedestrian crossing a roadway. Before crossing the street, pedestrians can activate the flashing beacon by pushing a button. RRFBs can reduce pedestrian crashes up to 47%.

RRFBs are installed at Wabash Avenue to access Tuscora Park (see picture to right) and downtown at S. Broadway and Allen Lane.



Will parking be impacted?

Yes, it is anticipated that on-street parking will be impacted on the south side of E. High Avenue from Beaver Avenue to Shel Mar Drive. Currently, the parking lane on the south side of E. High Avenue is not marked, so no legislation will be needed to remove the spots/parking. Additionally, the Police department monitored parking in this section for about a month (collecting data during the day, evening, and night) to identify the volume of vehicles using the parking lane and determined that there is minimal use of the parking by the public.

Will there be environmental impacts?

Environmental studies are ongoing, however minimal impacts are anticipated.

Will there be property/right-of-way impacts?

No property impacts are expected. All work will be completed within the existing right-of-way.