

# **Ridge Avenue Bridge Replacement over the Stillwater River Replacement Park Land**

Montgomery County, in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Transportation and the City of Dayton, intends to replace the existing Ridge Avenue Bridge over the Stillwater River. The project is necessary to address the deteriorated condition of the existing structure, which was built in 1927.

The project will require permanent acquisition of approximately 0.12 acres and temporary acquisition of approximately 0.21 acres of land from Triangle Park. The project will also require the temporary detour of the Stillwater Bikeway. The land to be acquired is undeveloped road frontage adjacent to the existing Ridge Avenue bridge. This land is necessary to meet current design standards, provide improved pedestrian facilities, and allow the introduction of a left turn lane across the bridge at the intersection of Ridge Avenue and Riverside Drive. The City of Dayton proposes to convert approximately 0.35 acres of land near the southwest corner of Delaware and Richmond Avenues, west of Main Street, to park use in compensation for the 0.33-acre acquisition necessary for the bridge replacement project. Maps depicting the affected park area and the proposed compensatory land are available at:

[www.mcoho.org/government/engineer](http://www.mcoho.org/government/engineer)

[www.daytonohio.gov](http://www.daytonohio.gov)

[www.dot.state.oh.us/districts/D07/PlanningandPrograms/Pages/Environmental.aspx](http://www.dot.state.oh.us/districts/D07/PlanningandPrograms/Pages/Environmental.aspx)

Triangle Park is a 65-acre park owned by the City of Dayton. The Stillwater Bikeway is controlled by the Miami Conservancy District. Both resources were partially developed with federal Land & Water Conservation Funds. Triangle Park and the Stillwater Bikeway are protected under 23 CFR 774 as recreational resources [4(f) resources] and as 6(f) resources under 36 CFR 59 due to the receipt of Land & Water Conservation Funds.

36 CFR 59 prohibits the conversion of 6(f) resources to non-outdoor recreational use unless adequate compensatory land is provided. The City of Dayton has identified three contiguous lots totaling approximately 0.35 acres near the southwest corner of Delaware and Richmond Avenues, west of Main Street, as compensatory land. The three lots adjoin an existing private park owned by the Five Oaks Neighborhood Improvement Association, and the 0.35 acres would be dedicated and developed for public park use. The proposed compensation plan must be agreed to by the City of Dayton Park and Recreation Department, the Miami Conservancy District, and the National Park Service.

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). A section of

this legislation amends the existing legislation that protects 4(f) resources from impacts by federally-funded or federally-authorized transportation projects. The amendments simplify the processing and approval of projects that have only *de minimis* impacts on 4(f) resources such as Triangle Park. In accordance with SAFETEA-LU Section 6009(a), *de minimis* impacts on publicly owned parks, recreation areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges are defined as those that do not “adversely affect the activities, features and attributes” of the park resource.

Upon preliminary approval of the 6(f) compensation plan, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), in consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Ohio Division, intends to apply the *de minimis* standard to the proposed permanent conversion of up to 0.12 acres (and temporary conversion of approximately 0.21 acres) of Triangle Park to public Right of Way.

The *de minimis* standard is applicable since the proposed acquisition will not permanently interfere with the use of Triangle Park and all possible planning has been undertaken to minimize harm to Triangle Park; no developed recreational features of the park will be affected; the park will remain accessible throughout project construction; vehicular and pedestrian access to Triangle Park will be improved as a result of the project; and in compensation for the Triangle Park acquisition, approximately 0.35 acres of replacement land near the southwest corner of Delaware and Richmond Avenues, west of Main Street, will be dedicated to public park use.

The Stillwater Bikeway will be detoured during construction, on a route approved by the Miami Conservancy District acting as the multi-use trail authority. The affected segment of the Stillwater Bikeway will be returned to its pre-construction condition or better following the bridge replacement. The necessary closure of the multi-use trail will not result in a permanent use of the 4(f) resource.




Montgomery County, the City of Dayton and ODOT invite your comments regarding the proposed acquisition of 0.33 acres of land from Triangle Park, the proposed 0.35 acres of compensatory land near the southwest corner of Delaware and Richmond Avenues west of Main Street, and the temporary detour of the Stillwater Bikeway. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the individual listed below. Comments must be received no later than June 30, 2011.

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# TRIANGLE PARK LAND TO BE REPLACED



**LEGEND**

-  **TMP** TEMPORARY RIGHT OF WAY
-  **PE-R/W** PRELIMINARY (PROPOSED) RIGHT OF WAY
-  **Ex R/W** EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY



# Replacement Park Land

