

## Project Background

The **Northside Arterial Project** originated from recommendations from the May 2008 *Northside Study* and the September 2009 *Northside Study Supplemental Mini Studies* completed for the **I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project**.

As part of the **I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project**, existing local access ramps forming partial interchanges within the I-74/I-75 system interchange are proposed to be closed and removed. The ramps within the **Northside Arterial Project** study area being eliminated include the Elmore Street exit ramp from I-74 and the Spring Grove Avenue entrance ramp to I-74. The closures are necessary due to several factors among them: physical conflict with new ramp construction, lack of available space to relocate affected service ramps, low traffic utilization and prohibition of partial interchanges. Within the **Northside Arterial Project** study area alternative Interstate access to Northside and the surrounding communities will be available at the enhanced Colerain Avenue/Beekman Street/I-74 interchange.

Many Northside residents, business owners, and employees at local businesses have communicated concerns over impacts to their community resulting from reduced Interstate access. In regard to the public's concerns the **Northside Arterial Project** was established by the City of Cincinnati with support from the Ohio Department of Transportation as a response to correct the transportation issues caused by the improvements to I-74.

### Project Goals

- Improve safety on the Northside arterials within the study area.
- Improve the capacity on the Northside arterials within the study area.
- Address geometric and access changes to the local traffic pattern.

## Project Description

The project proposes roadway, bicycle and pedestrian improvements along Colerain Avenue (US 27) from the I-74 exit ramp to Spring Grove Avenue; and along Blue Rock Street from Colerain Avenue to Spring Grove Avenue.

The project also proposes intersection improvements at Colerain Avenue/Blue Rock Street, Blue Rock Street/Hamilton Avenue and Blue Rock Street/Spring Grove Avenue.

Improvements to the Colerain Avenue-Spring Grove Avenue-Elmore Street triangular network and a Powers Street/Powers Place connector intersecting at Colerain Avenue are also proposed as part of the project.

## Conceptual Alternatives

### Colerain Avenue/Blue Rock Street Intersection

**No-Build Alternative:** Maintain proposed ODOT Safety Improvement at the intersection.

**Alternative 1:** Establishes Colerain Avenue as the thru-street at the Colerain/Blue Rock intersection.

**Alternative 2:** Establishes Blue Rock Street as the thru-street at the Colerain/Blue Rock intersection.

**Alternative 3:** Creates a roundabout at the Colerain /Blue Rock intersection.

### Blue Rock Street/Hamilton Avenue Intersection

**No-Build Alternative:** Maintain existing intersection.

**Alternative 1:** Lengthens and improves turn-lanes and turning radii.

### Blue Rock Street/Spring Grove Avenue Intersection

**No-Build Alternative:** Maintain existing intersection.

**Alternative 1:** Slight relocation of Blue Rock Street; Adds left-turn lane on Spring Grove Avenue.

**Alternative 2:** Slight relocation of Blue Rock Street.

**Alternative 3:** Curb adjustment of Blue Rock Street; Adds left-turn lane on Spring Grove Avenue.

① Conceptual Alternatives  
are continued on Page 4



**ODOT's I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project will:**

- Close the westbound I-74 exit ramp to Elmore Street.
- Close the Spring Grove Avenue entrance ramp to I-74 eastbound.
- Enhance the I-74 and Colerain Avenue Interchange
- Change traffic patterns in Northside

The *I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project* will be completed by the end of 2012.

The Northside Arterial Project will make improvements to the Northside streets and intersections to handle the changing traffic patterns.

LEGEND

**X** Ramp Closure

**—** I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project

# Project Study Area & Changing Traffic Patterns in Northside



 Northside Arterial Project Study Area



## Conceptual Alternatives Continued

## Project Schedule

### Colerain Avenue/Spring Grove Avenue/Elmore Street Triangle

**No-Build Alternative:** Maintain existing 1-way streets; No connection to/from I-74 ramps.

**Alternative 1:** Converts roadway from 1-way streets to 2-way streets.

### Powers Street/Powers Place

**No-Build Alternative:** 3-leg intersection at Colerain/Powers; No connection to Powers Place or I-74.

**Alternative 1:** Connects Powers Street to Powers Place.

### Colerain Avenue (Florida to Blue Rock) Typical Section

**Existing Option:** Maintain existing 40' roadway; Four lanes.

**Option 40-2:** Three lanes with bike lanes in each direction.

**Option 56-1:** Widen to 56' [Impacts adjacent properties North of Colerain]; Five lanes with sharrows.

**Option 56-2:** Widen to 56' [Impacts adjacent properties North of Colerain]; Four lanes with bike lanes in each direction.

**Option 46-1:** Widen to 46'; Four lanes with sharrows.

### Colerain Avenue (South of Blue Rock) Typical Section

**Existing Option:** Maintain existing 40' roadway; Four lanes.

**Option 40-1:** Maintain existing roadway; Add sharrows.

**Option 40-2:** Three lanes with bike lanes in each direction; No parking.

### Blue Rock Street Typical Section

**Existing Option:** Maintain existing 40' roadway, Two lanes with parking on both sides.

**Option 36-1:** Reduce width to 36'; Two lanes with sharrows; Parking on EB side only.

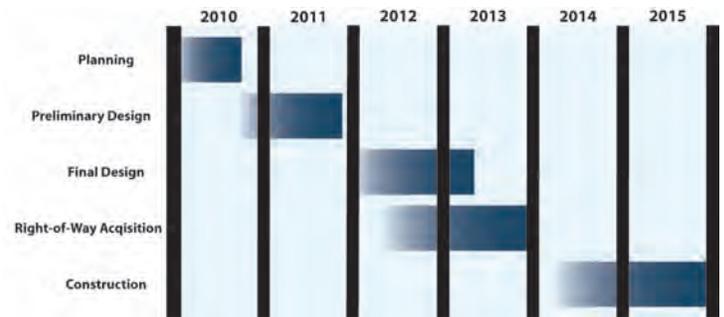
**Option 36-2:** Reduce width to 36'; Two lanes with a WB bike lane; Sharrows and parking on the EB side only.

**Option 36-3:** Reduce width to 36'; Two lanes with bike lanes in each direction; No parking.

**Option 40-1:** Two lanes with sharrows; Parking on both sides.

**Option 40-2:** Two lanes with bike lanes in each direction; Parking on EB side only.

**Option 40-3:** Three lanes with bikes lanes in each direction; No parking.



It is anticipated that two more public meetings will be held in addition to the items listed in the project schedule.

*It should also be noted that the project schedule shown above is subject to change.*



### What about the I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project?

The **I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway** is a separate project from the **Northside Arterial Project**, though the Conceptual Alternatives being considered for the **Northside Arterial Project** are compatible with those from the **I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project**.

The **I-75/I-74 Mill Creek Expressway Project** Team can be contacted at 1-800-800-5261 or by e-mail at: [I75MCEStudyTeam@transystems.com](mailto:I75MCEStudyTeam@transystems.com)

## Contact Information

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