



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
Civil/Traffic/Parking/Signal & Lighting/Sign and Pavement Marking
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Press Release and Public Meeting Invitation

July 3, 2013

**Re: Invitation to attend a Public Meeting and to submit project related comments
STA-12th St. Bridge and Roadway Reconstruction Project, PID 90671, GP 1160**

Dear Property Owner, Resident, or Community Member;

The City of Canton cordially invites you to attend an informational meeting regarding the 12th St. Bridge and Roadway Reconstruction Project and requests your comments and input on the proposed improvements.

When: July 17, 2013 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Where: Canton Garden Center in Canton's Stadium Park: 1615 Park Dr. NW Canton,
Ohio 44718-3517**

The meeting will include the introduction of key project partners including: the Stark County Engineer, Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA), the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), Akron Metro Transit, and Stark Parks, a formal presentation of the project, followed by a question/answer session, and an opportunity for the public to provide written comments.

This project is one of several projects that will incorporate a "complete streets" design concept into the project. This design approach provides better access to our transportation system for pedestrians, bicyclists, and users of public transportation with a larger goal of making Canton a more "livable community" and thereby improving the quality of life for our citizens.

The project will extend from the I-77 interchange at 13th St. NW east along 13th/12th St. to the railroad crossing near Monument Rd. In general, the work will include the replacement of the bridges over the west branch of the Nimishillen Creek and the raceway, reconstruction of the roadway, curbs, and sidewalks, realignment of the existing and Stadium walking track and West Branch bike trail (including a new underpass under 12th St. and trail bridge relocation), improved roadway alignment, upgraded SARTA bus stops, and the entire corridor will be completely streetscaped to include architectural and aesthetic elements such as paving bricks, trees, and nostalgic lighting.



Construction activities are anticipated to have some effect on the adjacent Stadium and Monument Parks along with the adjacent trails/track which will include realignments and temporary closures throughout construction. Use of federal funds subjects the proposed undertaking to the requirements of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966. This federal law protects publicly owned parks, recreation areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges and public or privately-owned historical resources. Due to the scope of the proposed improvement and the presence of Section 4(f) properties, measures to minimize harm have been developed that creates a *de minimis* impact (as defined in 23 CFR 774.17). Applying a *de minimis* determination allows for all possible planning to minimize harm by reducing the impacts on the Section 4(f) properties. A *de minimis* impact is one that will not adversely affect the features, attributes, and activities qualifying the Stadium and Monument Parks and associated trails and facilities for protection.

Access to park facilities will be maintained at all times during duration of construction activities. The proposed undertaking includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the Section 4(f) property. The primary functions and components of the recreational area will not be substantively impaired by the proposed undertaking and there will be no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts or permanent interference with the activities or use of the recreation areas within the Stadium and Monument Parks. The proposed scope of work is minor in nature and the magnitude of change to the Section 4(f) properties is minimal and the assessment of impacts and proposed mitigation, in regards to maintaining access and safety, are considered to be reasonable and acceptable.

Construction is currently scheduled to begin summer of 2015 and be completed in 2016. During certain portions of the construction work, segments of 12th St., the 12th St. park entrances, the trail and track will be closed to traffic.

In order to proceed with the proposed improvements, the City of Canton is posting the project information and is seeking public comments. Current plans will be presented and available for review at the public meeting. Additional information can be found on the city website at:

<http://cantonohio.gov/engineering/?Capital&Improvement&Projects>

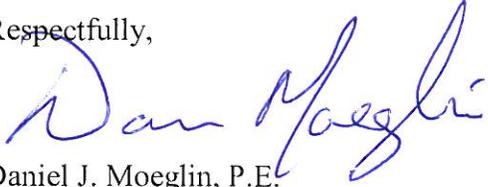
Comments may be provided to the city at the public meeting or can be sent to:

Canton City Engineer
2436 30th St. N.E.
Canton, Ohio 44705
(330) 489-3381
engineering@cantonohio.gov

Comments must be received by August 16, 2013.

On behalf of Mayor William J. Healy, II, Canton City Council, and all of our project partners, I welcome your input on this exciting improvement project and hope you are able to attend the public meeting.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Moeglin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel J. Moeglin, P.E.
Canton City Engineer