



The Ohio Department of Transportation will continue a series of improvements to the I- 70/I-71 South Innerbelt in downtown Columbus over the next several years. The plans for four construction phases of the Downtown Ramp Up project in the vicinity of the Lower Scioto Bikeway and Scioto Audubon Metro Park are currently being finalized.

Because the Lower Scioto Bikeway, Scioto Audubon Metro Park, and Dodge Park are recognized recreational properties, they are provided protection from adverse impacts associated with transportation projects. ODOT has worked with the City of Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks regarding project impacts and received concurrence that the project will not adversely affect the recreational activities or features at these properties.

ODOT will implement the following measures as part of the project to minimize harm:

- Access to the Lower Scioto Bikeway will be maintained during construction via a detour.
- Scioto Audubon Metro Park will be closed for two weeks between January-March 2022 and again between November 2022-March 2023 to haul construction materials to the project site.
- Access to surrounding businesses, including the Nature Center, will be maintained during construction.
- In agreement with Franklin County Metro Parks, a new Dog Park within Scioto Audubon Metro Park will open in late 2021 prior to construction activities. The Dog Park will be located near the entrance of the park (off Whittier St.).
- Temporary right-of-way will be acquired within Dodge Park in the area southeast of the skate park, which will impact four parking spaces.

Due to the impacts to the aforementioned properties, ODOT is seeking public input regarding the proposed impacts. Please provide comments to ODOT District 6 at D06.PIO@dot.ohio.gov or at transportation.ohio.gov by searching for PID 105523. Comments may also be submitted by mail to Brooke Ebersole at 400 E. William St., Delaware, OH 43015. All comments must be received by **Wednesday, June 9, 2021**.