

Update on Medina I-71/76 Interchange Project

The Ohio Department of Transportation awarded a \$70 million major highway project to reconstruct the existing interchange at I-71 and I-76 in August of 2006. In 2007, the progress of work has included earthwork operations on three of the proposed new ramps and structure work on four of the fifteen proposed bridges. The widening of I-71 north of the interchange in the median is complete and has begun on the outside of both the northbound and southbound lanes of I-71. Construction continues on I-76 east of the interchange for two of the proposed new ramp tie ins. The first ramp tie in is for the new ramp from westbound I-76 to northbound I-71. The second ramp tie in is from I-71 southbound to eastbound I-76. The contractor's progress is on schedule with having I-71 work north of the interchange back to a normal traffic condition prior to the upcoming winter.

The Department continues to stress the importance of informing motorists that this project is ongoing and traffic within the construction zone may have sudden slow movements. Driver awareness to the surroundings is very important to the safety of the construction work zone. Further information regarding the project can be located at the websites www.buckeyetraffic.org and www.ODOTMedina.org.