



*News from the*

# Ohio Turnpike Commission

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## Ohio Turnpike Commission plans major improvement projects this construction season

Berea, Ohio – April 12, 2013 – The Ohio Turnpike Commission has big plans for the current construction season and anticipates spending more than \$70 million this year on major infrastructure projects. Included in these projects is the final portion of the original planned 160 miles of third lane in Lucas and Wood Counties, as well as two, original, base pavement replacement projects in Sandusky and Cuyahoga Counties.

All construction projects in existing three lane areas will run from now until mid-November with two lanes of traffic maintained during peak travel times. Single lane zones may occur during off-peak, nighttime travel. Projects in existing two lane sections may require a single lane zone; those are being done in phases to accommodate the busy summer travel season. Work already underway will conclude before July 4<sup>th</sup>, then will resume after Labor Day for completion in mid-November.

Commission Executive Director Rick Hodges emphasized the importance of this work. He stated, “These projects are exciting for the Commission in terms of bringing people back to work. We are doing a significant number of projects which will result in an improved travel experience for our customers when the work is complete.”

Hodges also highlighted the Commission’s efforts to limit delays to motorists. “Whenever possible, the Commission utilizes the shoulder as a lane of travel, specifically in extended work zones.” He added, “We strive to have a safe and efficient construction season, while reducing delays to motorists by working around peak travel seasons. All the while, we are completing important projects so our customers can continue to enjoy their trips on the Turnpike.”

*See Page 2 for list of major construction projects.*

Major 2013 Construction Projects include:

Base Pavement Replacement Project(s):

- 1) Milepost 90.0 – 95.9 in Sandusky County
  - Westbound; right lane, center lane and shoulder closed
  - Cost: \$16.8 million
- 2) Milepost 164.82-169.74
  - Eastbound; right lane, center lane and shoulder closed
  - Cost: \$11.6 million

Resurfacing Projects:

- 1) Milepost 27.5 – 38.9 in Fulton County
  - Phase I (closed thru July 1): Milepost 27.5 – 32.0 eastbound lanes closed – single lane zone with bi-directional traffic maintained in westbound lanes
  - Phase II (Sept. 3– Nov. 15): Milepost 32.0 – 38.9 westbound lanes closed – single lane zone with bi-directional traffic maintained in eastbound lanes
  - Cost: \$11.2 million
- 2) Milepost 127.2 – 132.2 in Erie County
  - Eastbound and westbound right and center lanes closed; traffic maintained in the left lane and left shoulder
  - Cost: \$3.1 million
- 3) Milepost 176.3 – 186.0 in Summit and Portage Counties
  - Eastbound and westbound right and center lanes closed; traffic maintained in the left lane and left shoulder
  - Cost: \$6.4 million

Third Lane Construction Project:

- 1) Milepost 59.5 – 64.1 in Lucas and Wood Counties (2-year project)
  - Construction of a new left lane and shoulder with concrete median wall. Widening and improvements to seven (7) mainline bridges.
  - Traffic will be maintained in two lanes in both directions. Single lane zones may be encountered during non-peak hours.
  - Project will commence in April 2013 and will be complete in November 2014
  - Cost: \$33.5 million

Additional projects include:

- Upgrading 14 bridges – Cost: \$2 million
- Seven (7) bridge paintings – Cost: \$1.5 million

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