

I-71/SR 665 INTERCHANGE

Updated: June 23, 2011

WHAT IS IT, AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

The area surrounding the I-71/SR665 interchange in Grove City, Ohio serves as key interface between the interstate system and the regional development opportunities in southern Franklin County. SR665 is home of the second largest FedEx Ground Facility in the United States, provides access to the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO), supports numerous commercial and industrial operations, and serves as an interstate access corridor for the Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility. Currently, businesses within the area account for over 2,600 jobs. Grove City has made substantial investments to the area around the interchange to facilitate this project, and economic development. In 2010, the interchange reconstruction began.



CURRENT INTERCHANGE

The current infrastructure, originally constructed in 1959 as a rural interchange, is functionally obsolete and offers a level of service of “F.”

GROVE CITY INVESTMENT

The City of Grove City has invested in improvements adjacent to the interchange to support the design and operation of the new facility. These improvements include the widening of SR665 east of the bridge from a rural 2-lane road to a 5-lane arterial.

NEW INTERCHANGE

A Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) will replace the narrow diamond configuration currently in place. SR665 will be widened as it passes over I-71 to accommodate five through lanes and turn lanes. A single signalized intersection will control all traffic through the interchange.

CHALLENGES OVERCOME

Facing a 50 year old structure that was rapidly deteriorating and becoming increasingly obsolete as demand from nearby freight centers increased, Grove City faced a critical challenge to locate funding for such a large project. This is a challenge facing all transportation projects as funding shortfalls threaten

the continued success of our economy. However, Grove City understanding how critical this project was to their future invested substantial local funding and reached out to several funding sources to create a “funding recipe” to successfully fund the project.

WHAT IS CENTRAL OHIO DOING ABOUT IT?

This project was identified by MORPC’s Rickenbacker Infrastructure Coordinating Committee as a high priority project for the area. Central Ohio’s public and private sectors have partnered in addressing critical Rickenbacker-area

infrastructure needs. Currently, innovative solutions are being pursued for financing and design. Grove City leveraged funding obtained from Federal appropriations, ODOT, MORPC, OPWC and local funding from Grove City.

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