

**BRAD FOSTER, P.E., P.S.**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY ENGINEER**

---

---

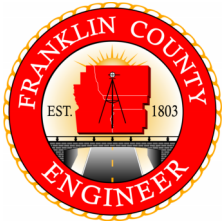
April 12, 2024

**RE: Rohr Rd Widening Project**

Dear Residents and Property Owners,

The Franklin County Engineer's Office hosted a public involvement meeting on Wednesday, August 9th, 2023, where residents and stakeholders were invited to review information about a future improvement project along Rohr Rd between Bixby Rd and Shook Rd. We received comments during the meeting and during the open comment period. This letter is to serve as an update on the design of the project and how those concerns are either addressed or not addressed due to project constraints. As reported in the public meeting documents, construction could start as early as March 2026 and last through October 2026.

**Comment #1: Project concerns: Simply put, it will disrupt our quality of life, result in a potential loss of property and not fix the cause of 25 percent (according to your figures) of accidents and traffic tie-ups that happen on Rohr Rd at the curve immediately beyond the Shook Rd. intersection. The pedestrian crosswalks at access points to the new Metro Park as presented on Aug. 9 are nice, but useless since there are no sidewalks (and no need for them) along Rohr Rd. Since the project is doing nothing to improve the intersection at Rohr and Shook Roads, other than making it a three-way stop, it does not address the elephant in the room-- trucks blocking traffic on Rohr Rd near, at, and beyond the curve; trucks parking near and in the ROW along the north and south sides of Rohr Rd, near the Love's entrance; and trucks parking along the north side of Rohr Rd, immediately after the curve. (Kudos to Franklin County Sheriff office deputies who respond to calls about sign and road-blocking situations, but they have more important things to do than that. ROW No Parking signage could easily fix.) Safety concerns: The stop sign at Rohr/Shook is often blocked by parked trucks and any parking immediately west of the curve makes truck navigation difficult and a safety hazard. \*An immediate and cheap temporary fix would be to install No Parking signs at the above-mentioned areas along Rohr Rd. \*A cheaper long-term fix would be to vacate Rohr Rd. at/before the Shook Rd. intersection. Creekside Parkway and the new Collins (?) Street east of Lockbourne Rd. on Rohr provide ample and easy ingress and egress to all of the warehouses along Rohr Road and were created for this purpose. By vacating the road, it would remove the need for a costly roundabout and further reconstruction of the east end of Rohr Rd. Granted it would inconvenience property owners like us in the short term, but the long term benefits would be very acceptable (Yes, I have talked to neighbors since there are so few of us. Project benefits: None for property owners that are apparent according to the**



**BRAD FOSTER, P.E., P.S.**

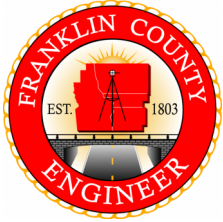
**FRANKLIN COUNTY ENGINEER**

---

---

**scope of the project. Thank you for taking the time to speak with us on Aug. 9. Your explanation was much appreciated. I hope you have the same consideration for the aforementioned comments."**

**Response:** The current scope of this project does not include a roundabout at Rohr Rd & Shook Rd. This is a Columbus maintained intersection. Partnering on our current proposed corridor project was reviewed though ultimately determined not a high enough priority for Columbus to budget in their 2026 program of projects. A Stage 1 (30% complete) design was developed for a roundabout at this intersection, which Columbus will likely pursue in the future. The current scope of this project does not include a connected sidewalk or share-use path along the corridor. This also was originally scoped and designed, including an independent pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks. However, due to the limited funding received for the project, scope cuts needed to be made and it was determined that a future, standalone Shared-Use Path project along Rohr Rd from Alum Creek Drive west to Lockbourne Rd would be a good potential project utilizing a different funding source. This project will also be pursued at some point in the future. The current project scope of widening Rohr Rd from Bixby Rd to Shook Rd will provide current and future benefits to the travelling public, and address several of the above noted concerns. The widening to three lanes will introduce curb and gutter along the corridor. Trucks will not be able to pull off and park on the side of the road. The widening is additionally extending through the curve in Rohr Rd at Shook Rd, this gives additional space for turning trucks to make the turn without tracking their trailers into the oncoming lane of traffic. As part of the 1489 Rohr Rd Warehouse Development, an eastbound left turn lane on Rohr Rd at Creekside Parkway is required based on projected traffic demand. This will be built as part of the corridor widening project with funds contributed by the developer. The project will also be relocating utilities, including the removal of the existing aerial pole line on the south side of the road, in anticipation for a shared-use path project at some point in the future. Rohr Rd is a classified as a minor arterial street in the Franklin County Thoroughfare Plan. It currently sees an average daily traffic demand of nearly 4,500 vehicles, with an expected growth to 6,300 vehicles per day in 20 years. Vacating Rohr Rd would reroute this traffic elsewhere which would cause issues at other intersections that were not designed or built for such additional traffic demand (Alum Creek Drive at Rohr Rd signal, for example). Creekside Parkway and Collings Dr are development driven roadways that reduce the demand on Rohr Rd, but they do not eliminate it. The vacating of roadways is not a solution that the Franklin County Engineer's Office views as consistent with our primary function to facilitate the movement of people and goods from place to place by designing, building, and maintaining a durable, redundant, and integrated highway system.



**BRAD FOSTER, P.E., P.S.**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY ENGINEER**

---

Sincerely,

Brad Foster, P.E., P.S.

Franklin County Engineer

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew B. Rehfus".

Matthew Rehfus, P.E., S.I.

Highway Design Engineer

[mrehfus@franklincountyengineer.org](mailto:mrehfus@franklincountyengineer.org)

614-525-3021