



# NEWS

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## \$25 Million BUILD Grant Will Boost Safety, Mobility, and Economic Growth in Franklin County

[Columbus, Ohio – July 18, 2025] – The Franklin County Engineer's Office is proud to announce the award of a \$25 million BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation, secured with the support of U.S. Senators Jon Husted and Bernie Moreno. The funding will be used to improve Alum Creek Drive, a vital corridor that connects freight, jobs, and regional mobility in Central Ohio.

*"This is more than a transportation project—it's an investment in the future of Franklin County," said Adam W. Fowler, P.E., P.S., Franklin County Engineer. "Alum Creek Drive is a critical freight and commuter route, and this grant will allow us to improve safety, reduce congestion, and expand access to jobs and Rickenbacker International Airport. We are deeply grateful to Senators Husted and Moreno for their leadership and to the Franklin County Board of Commissioners for their ongoing support of infrastructure that strengthens our communities."*



Alum Creek Drive at Toy Road

The full project investment is estimated at more than \$60M. Along with this BUILD grant award, the project is funded from various sources including state and federal grants, local jurisdictions, and private-sector partners.

The project will widen approximately 2.6 miles of Alum Creek Drive between State Route 317 (London-Groveport Road) and Groveport Road by adding a third through lane in each direction. The bridges over Big Walnut Creek will be replaced, and active transportation improvements will be added along the corridor. These improvements will address increasing traffic volumes, enhance freight movement, and support future development in one of the fastest-growing regions in the state.

Construction is anticipated to begin in spring of 2028 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2029.

Franklin County plays a pivotal role in Ohio's economy, thanks to its central location, access to major highways, and robust logistics network. The Alum Creek Drive corridor is essential not only to the movement of goods but also to daily commuters and employers across the region.

*The mission of the Franklin County Engineer's Office is to provide for safe and efficient movement of people and goods from place to place by designing, building, and maintaining Franklin County's roads, bridges, and infrastructure for multiple modes of transportation. We are an agency of action, innovation, and collaboration.*

“Ohio is a hub for manufacturing, and I’m proud to help lead the effort to strengthen the critical infrastructure that undergirds Ohio jobs. Ohio’s central location allows drivers to reach more than 60% of the U.S. population daily. We fought for this \$25 million investment in Franklin County to reduce travel time, improve safety and support the supply chains that keep Ohio’s economy moving forward. I’ll continue to advocate for Made-in-Ohio solutions that ensure our state remains at the heart of our nation’s economic future,” said Senator Jon Husted.

“Our state’s drivers reach over 60% of the country’s population in a single day, making Ohio a leader in transportation. My number one priority is supporting Ohio-based innovation, and I’m thrilled to announce a \$25 million investment in key projects in Franklin County,” said Senator Bernie Moreno. “I’m grateful to Secretary Duffy and Senator Husted for their partnership on these important grants that will ensure Ohio leads the way regionally and nationally.”

“The Alum Creek Drive project aligns with our commitment to infrastructure that promotes equity, economic opportunity, and safety for all Franklin County residents,” said the Franklin County Board of Commissioners President, Erica C. Crawley. “We thank our federal and local partners for helping move this critical project forward.”

Local and private partners on the project include the City of Obetz, City of Groveport, Madison Township, Franklin County Transportation Improvement District (FCTID), Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), and Toy Road, LLC.

“This grant reinforces our office’s commitment to building infrastructure that meets the needs of today and tomorrow,” Fowler added. “Strong roads and safe corridors are the foundation of a thriving community.”

The Franklin County Engineer’s Office will coordinate closely with regional partners and stakeholders to ensure timely delivery of the project and long-term benefits for residents and businesses alike.

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