



## News Release for BUT Middletown Bike Lanes FY 21 (PID 113363)

The City of Middletown, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), is proposing to improve and extend bicycle access through the City of Middletown, Ohio. The City intends to add either directional bike lanes or shared lane markings to the following locations: 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, between Water Street and Verity Parkway; S. Verity Parkway and Park Street, between 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue; 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, between Park Street and Verity Parkway; and on the street west of Verity Parkway, between Girard Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

To support this improvement, parking will be permanently eliminated along the following roadway sections: S. Verity Parkway between 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue; the southbound side of Park Street between 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue; and the eastbound side of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue between Park Street and Verity Parkway.

The City also intends to improve approximately 1.4 miles of the existing bike path along Verity Parkway between Lafayette Avenue and Girard Avenue. Improvements will include widening the path from 8 feet to 10 feet and updated pavement markings and signage, with the goal of improving the function and safety of the path.

The project will occur within two of Middletown's Historic Districts: The Main Street Commercial Historic District and the South Main Street District. Proposed work in these Historic Districts involves resurfacing and restriping to add the shared lane markings and directional bike lanes.

In order to safely widen and restripe the existing bike path along Verity Parkway, the path will need to be periodically closed during construction. Pedestrian users can use the existing sidewalk along the opposite side of the roadway while bike users can use the existing roadway. Appropriate signage for alternate routes will be installed to alert bike path users when these closures occur.

Construction is scheduled to begin in April 2021 and will require approximately 3 months to complete. The project will be constructed entirely within roadway right-of-way.

The City welcomes any questions or comments regarding this project. To make comments about this project, please contact Gabriel Bitar, Assistant City Engineer for the City of Middletown, no later than September 17, 2020.

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