



I-71 / FIELDS-ERTEL ROAD / MASON-MONTGOMERY ROAD

# INTERCHANGE

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## LOOP RAMP OPEN

Back in 2012, we began the work of gradually addressing the traffic issues at the I-71 & Fields-Ertel/Mason-Montgomery Road (FE/MM) Interchange. And while we realize as long as there is traffic, there will be traffic issues, our project team is thrilled to mark this phase of our work **COMPLETED**. Our improvements to date include:

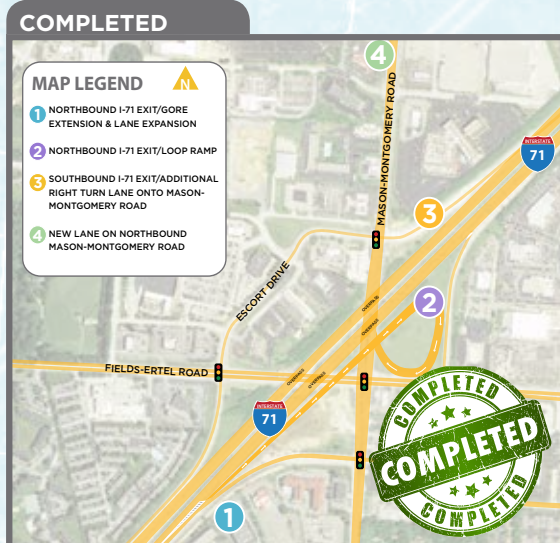
✓ **Northbound I-71 Exit / Gore extension & lane expansion** - Extending the gore (the triangular area of separation between the freeway and exiting traffic) and expanding the exit lane from the northbound I-71 exit at the FE/MM exit is a major safety improvement for drivers in this area. Cars can now exit I-71 sooner, and there is more separation between freeway and exiting traffic.

✓ **Northbound I-71 Exit / Loop Ramp** - Northbound traffic from I-71 can now by-pass the main intersection altogether and continue driving north on Mason-Montgomery. This helps traffic heading north on Mason-Montgomery, but also helps traffic that is continuing to use the "traditional" northbound exit ramp because there are now fewer cars cycling through that signal and moving through the main intersection.

✓ **Southbound I-71 Exit / Additional right turn lane onto Mason-Montgomery Road** - The southbound I-71 exit was widened to provide additional capacity to its intersection with Mason-Montgomery Road and Escort Drive by adding an additional right turn lane for traffic turning right onto Mason-Montgomery Road.

✓ **New lane constructed on northbound Mason-Montgomery Road** - A new northbound lane from Fields-Ertel Road to Parkway Drive added a third travel lane for northbound traffic to ease congestion through the intersection area.

✓ **Traffic signal improvements** - Upgraded computer controllers in twenty-two traffic signals allow signal timing to be coordinated more effectively so that traffic can flow more easily. Signals are continually monitored and adjusted as traffic patterns throughout the area change.



## LOCAL AREA NETWORK IMPROVEMENTS CONTINUE

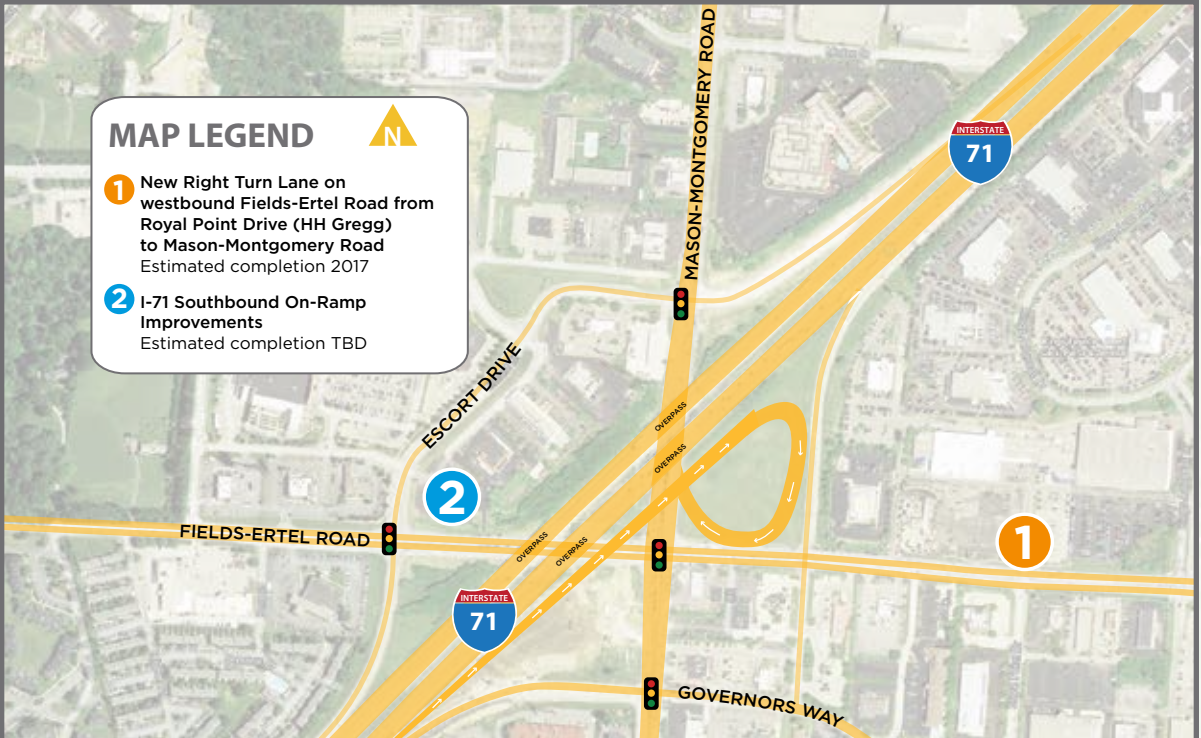
*Making your drive safer, faster & easier is our full-time job . . .*

### INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

#### MAP LEGEND



- 1 New Right Turn Lane on westbound Fields-Ertel Road from Royal Point Drive (HH Gregg) to Mason-Montgomery Road  
Estimated completion 2017
- 2 I-71 Southbound On-Ramp Improvements  
Estimated completion TBD



In the spring of 2016, construction will begin on a new right turn lane on westbound Fields-Ertel Road from Royal Point Drive (at the HH Gregg location) to Mason-Montgomery Road. The Warren County Transportation Improvement District is also studying potential improvements to the southbound entrance ramp to I-71.

In addition to the completed interchange-area projects, there are also several upcoming local improvements that the Warren County Transportation Improvement District (WCTID) is making to help traffic move more easily throughout the area.

Improving the flow of traffic to and from the interstate is a significant portion of our work, but ensuring efficient connectivity with the local roadways that support traffic moving to, from and around the interstate is also important.

To us, making improvements to one without the other would be like maintaining your car by putting air in the tires, but never changing the oil - only doing one without the other will not have the desired outcome.

All of the I-71 Corridor and related local access improvements work together to support our overall goal of improving safety, easing congestion and expanding access to business and shopping for all who travel through the area.

**SOUTHWEST WARREN COUNTY IMPROVEMENTS**



In southwest Warren County, there are a number of infrastructure improvements scheduled over the next several years. Funding for each of these projects has been secured, and each will be completed in a coordinated sequence so as to have the least amount of disruption to local traffic as possible. More information about each of these projects can be found at [www.WCTID.us](http://www.WCTID.us).

**MAP LEGEND** 

- A** I-71 / Fields-Ertel & Mason-Montgomery Road Interchange Improvements  
Completed
- B** I-71 / Western Row Road Interchange Improvements  
Estimated completion 2019
- C** Mason-Montgomery Road Widening  
Estimated completion 2018
- D** Duke Boulevard Widening  
Estimated completion 2018
- E** Socialville-Fosters Road Widening  
Estimated completion 2016
- F** Innovation Way Widening  
Estimated completion 2020
- G** Wilkens Boulevard Widening  
Estimated completion 2022

**SPEAK UP**

Public involvement has been an integral component of our planning, and continues to be an important piece of our work going forward. Please tell us what you think about current and planned improvements.



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## REGIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

### I-71 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS SUPPORT GROWING BUSINESS AND TOURISM ECONOMY

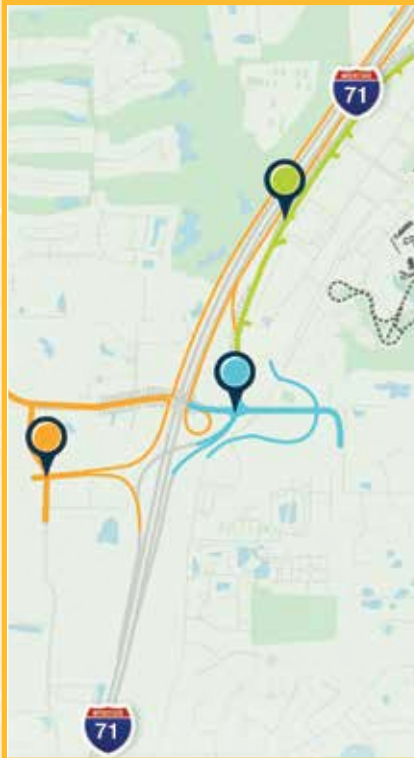
The I-71 Corridor improvements are part of a coordinated regional program that includes infrastructure improvements at the Fields-Ertel Road and Mason-Montgomery Road interchange, the Western Row Road interchange, as well as improvement work on SR 741.

Located in Mason, Ohio, Western Row Road is a key access point along the I-71 business corridor. This popular destination for recreation and business is an important hub for economic development and job creation. An increasing number of businesses and residents are calling the Western Row Road area home.

A regional partnership is working together to plan and implement transportation improvements

to accommodate Western Row Road's growing development. The Western Row Road improvement projects will increase mobility, improve safety and expand access to business and recreational destinations in the area.

The importance of connectivity in this area cannot be overstated. In fact, studies indicate the Western Row improvements will reduce I-71 southbound off-ramp traffic at Fields-Ertel Road by 17 percent. In addition, northbound I-71 on-ramp traffic at Fields-Ertel Road is expected to decrease by 24 percent with the completion of improvements at Western Row.



- **PHASE 1: COLUMBIA ROAD RELOCATION** - This project will support better traffic flow on Western Row Road by **relocating Columbia Road** and improving the northbound I-71 off-ramp. Extending the distance between the I-71 off-ramp intersection and Columbia Road, and improving turn lanes will allow travelers to move more easily through this area. Construction is expected to begin in the winter of 2015/16 and should be completed by the end of 2017.
- **PHASE 2: WESTERN ROW INTERCHANGE** - Construction to create a full movement interchange with north and southbound on- and off-ramps at the **I-71 & Western Row Road Interchange** will begin in 2017. These improvements will provide a new southbound off-ramp and on-ramp connecting directly to Innovation Way, as well as two new northbound on-ramps from eastbound and westbound Western Row Road. This work is expected to be completed by 2019.  
Shared-use paths and pedestrian-friendly elements will be part of the improvements being made at the interchange.
- **KINGS ISLAND DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS** - Work has already started along **Kings Island Drive** to widen the roadway to better support incoming traffic off of I-71. Improvements include the addition of a left turn lane into Kings Island for southbound traffic, new medians, new curbs and gutters, new traffic signals, overhead signage, decorative lighting and a bike path from Western Row Road to Great Wolf Drive. The Kings Island Drive improvements are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2016.

