

What is the project?

The project proposes to make pedestrian improvements along Eakin Road. This includes:

- North Side of Eakin Road: Installing a shared use path from S. Wayne Avenue to Whitethorne Avenue.
- South Side of Eakin Road: Installing a shared use path from Whitethorne Avenue to Harrisburg Pike.
- Intersection of Whitethorne and Eakin Road: Installing a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) to facilitate safe crossing.
- Near Brooks End Ct: Adding a crosswalk across Eakin Road and sidewalk on south side of Eakin Road between Brooks End Ct and Hardesty Place W.
- Near Woodbrook Lane: Adding a crosswalk across Eakin Road and sidewalks on the south side of Eakin Road between Woodbrook Lane and Whitethorne Ave.
- Streetlighting – Installing new streetlights between Whitethorne Ave and Harrisburg Pike.

Why is the project needed?

The project is needed to provide safe, designated paths connecting the community to essential services like grocery stores, shops, bus stops and the larger bike and walking network. Existing "goat paths" indicate high foot traffic and a clear demand for structured walkways. Currently, there is no safe connection from this area to key centers to the east and west, posing safety risks for pedestrians and cyclists.



Existing "goat path" at Eakin Road and Whitethorne

What is an RRFB?

An RRFB, or Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon, is a safety device used at pedestrian crossings. It features bright, flashing lights that grab drivers' attention, alerting them to people who are about to cross the street. When a pedestrian presses the button, the lights start flashing, signaling drivers to stop and let the pedestrian cross safely. RRFBs make crossing the road safer and more visible, especially in busy or poorly lit areas.

Why is an RRFB being installed there and not at other crossings?

An RRFB is being installed at this location because it is a shared use path, which means it's a larger facility than a sidewalk and is designed for both pedestrians



RRFB at High Street and Frankfort Street.

and cyclists. This path is expected to have more traffic compared to other crossings in the area. By installing the RRFB here, we can ensure that everyone using the path can cross safely and easily.

How will pedestrians cross the railroad?

Pedestrians will cross the railroad at ground level on a smooth crossing that meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. The existing railroad crossing gate arms will help alert pedestrians and other path users when a train is coming.

Will the parking at Hilltonia Recreation Fields along Eakin Road be impacted?

Yes, it is expected that there will be an impact on the parking occurring south of Hilltonia Park along Eakin Road. Currently, parking is happening on the grass, which is not designated for parking. The City's Department of Public Services is working with the Department of Recreation and Parks to explore potential solutions.

How can I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted at the open house, or you can submit them to the Department of Public Service at 311@columbus.gov or (614) 645-3111 and reference the Eakin Road Shared Use Path project. Comments are accepted at any time, however those submitted by September 26, 2024, will be documented in the official public comment period and responded to.