

Red Flag Summary Reports Overview

In order to provide the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Region with the highest caliber and most cost-effective project development possible, OKI is taking steps to utilize staff expertise and interests in new, creative ways. One step now being taken internally to reach this objective is the construction of comprehensive "Red Flag Summaries" to comply with the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Project Development Process (PDP). The creation of a Red Flag Summary is one of the three primary documents of a PDP. The other two primary PDP documents are the project's "Purpose and Need Statement" and "Public Involvement Plan."

OKI does not consider Red Flags to necessarily be negative in nature. They are simply existing factors which may or may not require additional investments of time and/or money or result in unacceptable impacts to the community.

Red Flag Summaries have two separate stages that differ in specialization. Stage one is a general survey of the project area where secondary data is examined and summarized. This first Red Flag Summary stage is completed in PDP Task 2.

The second stage of the Red Flag process occurs further within the PDP and necessitates the need for outside professionals due to its high degree of technical research and data collection. Stage two identifies the specific technical issues; including geotechnical, hydrology and underground topographic composition; that could render certain areas of the project unsuitable for construction. This second Red Flag Summary stage typically occurs in PDP Step 5. It is important to understand the existence of both steps in order to effectively complete stage one of the Red Flag summary.

Due to the scope of the Western Hamilton County Transportation Study, a Red Flag Summary has been completed for Stage one only. It was approved by ODOT in November 2005. It is a macro-level report due to the large size of the Study area. As recommendations from the Study are implemented in the future, much more detailed data and technical examination will be possible on a project-by-project basis.