

Public Notice and Opportunity to Comment on the Effects of Installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargers within Depot Park
SOPEC CFI Charger Install Project – Responsive Interregional Deployment of Electrification Solutions (RIDES)

Please provide comments by June 21, 2026.

The Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Village of Glouster, proposes the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at Depot Park located off High St, in Athens County. The charger installation will include two Level 2 Ports (19kW) and two Level 3 Ports (150 kW) which are proposed to be situated in the parking area at Depot Park which also serves Sedalia Crossing.

The final location of the chargers will be determined in later phases of the project; however, they will be installed within the area depicted on the figure. Detours or the closure of the park will not be necessary for the construction activities to install the chargers. Though part of the parking area will be inaccessible during construction, access to Depot Park and Sedalia Crossing and its non-affected parking areas will be maintained at all times. The anticipated installation timeframe will be 3-4 weeks.

Depot Park and Sedalia Crossing are recreational facilities located at 53 High St and 55 High St, Glouster, OH 45732, respectively. As public recreational facilities, these are considered a recreational resource under Section 4(f) of the U. S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-670, 80 Stat. 931; codified at 23 U.S.C. 138; implemented by 23 CFR Part 774) and are provided protection from adverse impacts from federal-aid transportation projects. A *de minimis* impact determination is proposed to fulfill those requirements.

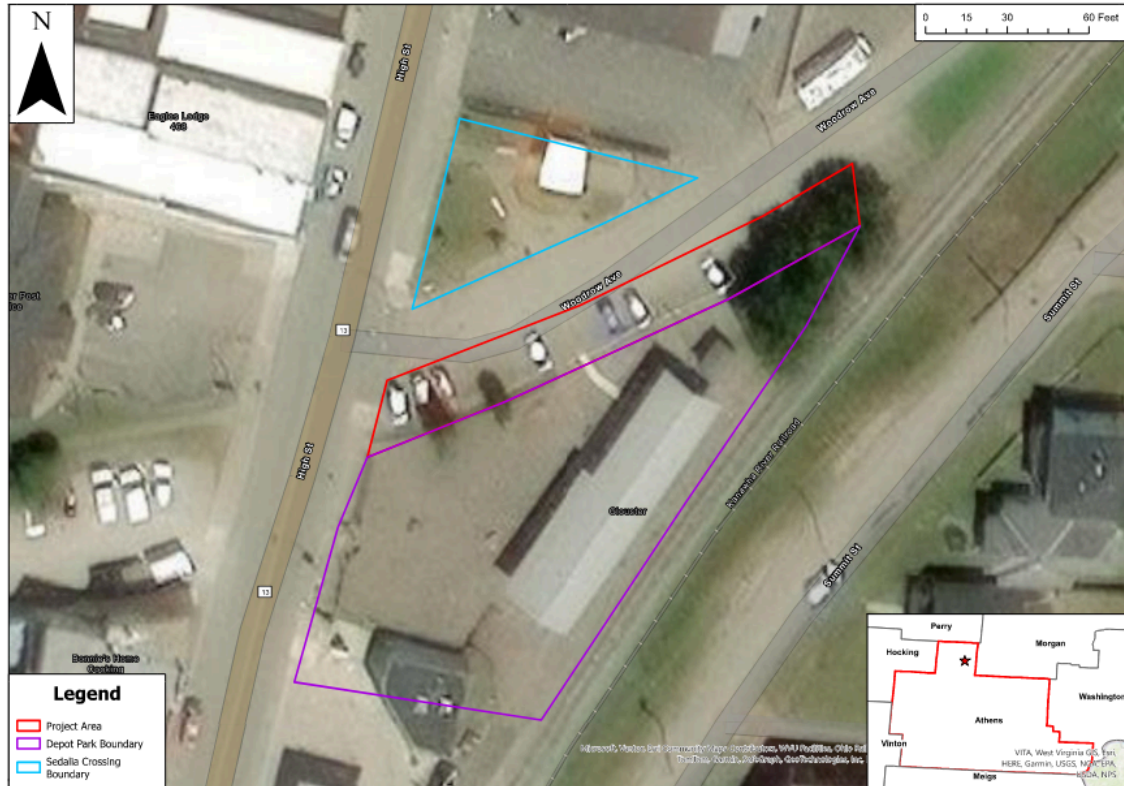
SOPEC has also coordinated with the Village of Glouster as owner and operator of Depot Park and Sedalia Crossing, regarding project impacts to ensure the project will not adversely affect the recreational activities, features, or attributes that qualify the park for protection. The Village of Glouster has provided guidance so that the project will not adversely affect the protected recreational activities, features, or attributes associated with either park.

SOPEC will implement the following measures to minimize harm to Depot Park and Sedalia Crossing:

- Access to Depot Park and Sedalia Crossing will be maintained at all times during construction.
- All staging equipment will be limited to the existing parking area; installation shall not take place outside of the proposed construction area.
- Construction activities will be scheduled to not coincide with any planned or proposed public activities, events or other planned construction at the park.
- Temporary measures such as warning cones or signage will be installed to direct pedestrians safely around the work area.
- Any disturbed parking areas or landscaping will be restored to preconstruction conditions; minor vegetation where removal is necessary will be revegetated.

Based on the assessment of the proposed impacts, defined as a use of the park, FHWA anticipates making a determination of *de minimis* impacts on the proposed temporary use of Depot Park and Sedalia Crossing. *De minimis* impacts are generally minor in nature and, after considering avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures, will not result in an adverse effect on the park. FHWA will make the final *de minimis* impact determination based on the outcome of the public comment process and written concurrence from the Village of Glouster. Comments regarding the impacts on the parks and the proposed *de minimis* impact finding must be submitted to SOPEC by June 21, 2026. Comments may be submitted to SOPEC at rides@sopec-oh.gov or at the below address. Additional project information can be found at <https://www.sopec-oh.gov/rides/#/find/nearest>

Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council
 P.O Box 825
 Athens, Ohio 45701



CFI Charger Install Project Responsive Interregional Deployment of Electrification Solutions	Athens County Community Site
Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council	Depot Park



Date: 3/19/2026
 By: N. Leo