

# Hamilton Journal News

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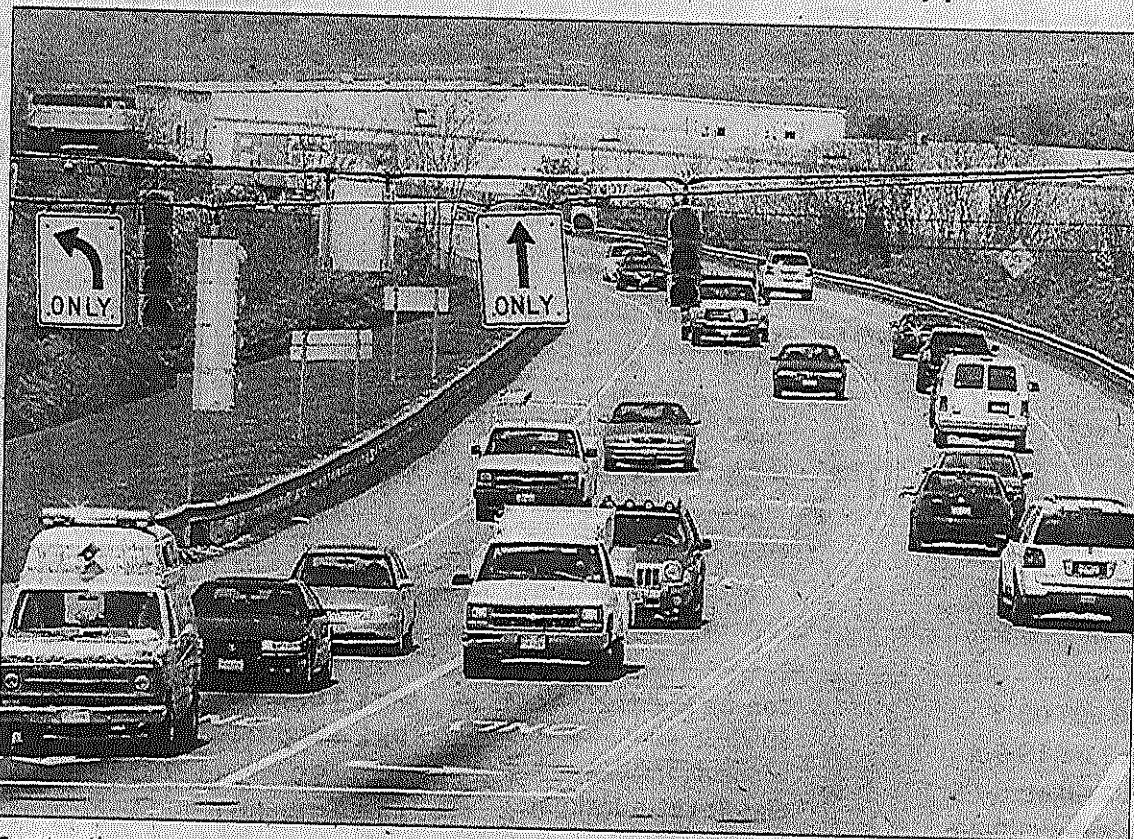


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## Fairfield intersection will be first in region

Traffic engineers to study Ohio 4 and bypass



Construction on the southern portion of the Bypass Ohio 4 project is a few weeks away. Staff photo by Greg Lynch

By Michael D. Pitman  
Staff Writer

FAIRFIELD — Construction on the southern portion of the Bypass Ohio 4 project is a couple of weeks away.

The intersection at Bypass Ohio 4 and Ohio 4 will be studied by many traffic engineers to see if this quadrant roadway intersection model — which had been incorrectly presented as a jug handle — is successful, said Fairfield City Engineer Ben Mann.

"If this is the first one in the region, and someone's looking at alternative intersections, they'll look at us for better or worse," Mann said. "Unfortunately, ODOT is kind of using us as a test case."

Jay Hamilton, Ohio Department of Transportation District 8

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traffic engineer, said his office will evaluate the intersection's success.

"We definitely want to look to see how well we can get traffic to flow through that area so that we can at least propose this in other locations that we have high-traffic volume and limited space to work with," Hamilton said.

The design is one of many ODOT-approved options. This was the most effective design in simulations, Mann said.

"It's supposed to be a safer intersection because taking the left turns out of the equation you don't have those left-turning accidents," Mann said. "By having more left turns, you have more

angled collisions. It should reduce the amount of collisions and it really should reduce the amount of severe collisions."

The \$10.18 million project was awarded to Sunesis Construction in May. It's scheduled to begin at the end of June, just north of Port Union Road, a little more than a mile north of the bypass/Ohio 4 intersection. Mann said the longest part of the project will be replacing the bridge on the bypass that's over the CSX Railroad.

Regardless of the alternative design's success, Mann doesn't expect many nontraditional intersections.

"We would consider the alternative designs for the real heavy areas," he said. "But most of our traffic could be handled by traditional intersections."

**Traffic officials consider designs for intersection. A6**