

*INDOT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MANUAL:
Part 1: INDOT Public Involvement Policies and Procedures
Section IV. Public Involvement in the Project Development Process*

Categorical Exclusion Level Thresholds

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Relocations	None	≤ 2	> 2	> 10
Right of way¹	< 0.5 acres	< 10 acres	≥ 10 acres	≥ 10 acres
Length of added through lane	None	< 1 miles	≥ 1 mile	≥ 1 mile
Traffic pattern alteration	None	None	Yes	Yes
New alignment	None	None	< 1 mile	≥ 1 mile ²
Wetlands*	< 0.1 acres	< 1 acre	< 1 acre	≥ 1 acre
Section 4(f)	None	None	Programmatic/ <i>de minimis</i> Findings ³	Individual 4(f)
Section 6(f)	None	None	Any impacts	Any impacts
Section 106*	“No Historic Properties Affected” or falls within guidelines of Minor Projects PA	"No Adverse Effect"	“Adverse Effect”	If ACHP involved
Noise Analysis Required*	No	No	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁴
Threatened/Endangered Species*	"No Effect", or Falls within Guidelines of USFWS 9/8/93 Programmatic Response	“Not likely to Adversely Affect”	“Not likely to Adversely Affect”	“Likely to Adversely Affect” ⁵
Sole Source Aquifer Groundwater Assessment	Detailed Assessment Not Required	Detailed Assessment Not Required	Detailed Assessment Not Required	Detailed Assessment Required
Approval Level*				
• ESM ⁶	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
• OES			Yes	Yes
• FHWA				Yes

*These thresholds have changed from the March 2006 Manual.

¹Permanent and/or temporary right of way.

²If the length of the new alignment is equal to or greater than one mile, contact the FHWA’s Air Quality/Environmental Specialist.

³The FHWA must review and approve Programmatic and *de minimis* Section 4(f) prior to CE approval.

⁴In accordance with INDOT’s Noise Policy.

⁵If the project is considered Likely to Adversely Affect Threatened and/or Endangered Species, INDOT and the FHWA should be consulted to determine whether a higher class of document is warranted.

⁶Environmental Scoping Manager

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INDOT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN TEMPLATE

Public Involvement Plan Activity	CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE) PROJECTS			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Notice of Survey with detailed project description and contact information for inquiries	If applicable (if project requires entry onto property)	If applicable (if project requires entry onto property)	If applicable (if project requires entry onto property)	If applicable (if project requires entry onto property)
Timely media release/advisory to inform project area residents and motorists	Yes. INDOT utilizes the media to inform the public at various stages of project development.	Yes. INDOT utilizes the media to inform the public at various stages of project development.	Yes. INDOT utilizes the media to inform the public at various stages of project development.	Yes. INDOT utilizes the media to inform the public at various stages of project development.
Public Information Meetings	The relative low impact of these projects would make an early public meeting unlikely. A public information meeting can always be held at INDOT's discretion.	The relative low impact of these projects would make an early public meeting unlikely. A public information meeting can always be held at INDOT's discretion.	The relative low impact of these projects would make an early public meeting unlikely. A public information meeting can always be held at INDOT's discretion.	The relative low impact of these projects would make an early public meeting unlikely. A public information meeting can always be held at INDOT's discretion.
Informational Display Kiosk at public locations				
Notice of <i>Opportunity to Request a Public Hearing</i> and Notice of Availability of Environmental Document. Legal Notice of Planned Improvement	No. Level 1 CE's typically would not meet minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement.	Yes. Level 2 CE's typically meet minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement.	Yes. Level 3 CE's typically meet minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement.	Yes. Level 4 CE's typically meet minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement.
Public hearing, including Notice of Hearing and Notice of Availability of Environmental Document	No. Level 1 CE's typically would not meet minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement.	Yes. Level 2 CE's meet the minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement and a public hearing may be held if necessary.	Yes. Level 3 CE's meet the minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement and a public hearing may be held if necessary.	Yes. Level 4 CE's meet the minimum criteria for this public hearings requirement and a public hearing may be held if necessary.

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Public Involvement Plan Activity	CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE) PROJECTS			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Agency / Project Website	While a dedicated project specific website is unlikely, an agency website could include project related information or contact information.	While a dedicated project specific website is unlikely, an agency website could include project related information or contact information.	While a dedicated project specific website is unlikely, an agency website could include project related information or contact information.	While a dedicated project specific website is unlikely, an agency website could include project related information or contact information.
Electronic notification or List Serve	Could be used to inform subscribers to this type of service	Could be used to inform subscribers to this type of service	Could be used to inform subscribers to this type of service	Could be used to inform subscribers to this type of service
Telephone Hotline or Call Center for project inquiries	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project
Small group presentations to discuss key issues with community interest groups	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project	An option to be considered dependent upon interest of project stakeholders in the proposed project

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