

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT
Des. No. 2000505
Taylorsville Rest Area Modernization and Truck-Parking Conversion Project

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) proposes a rest area modernization and truck-parking conversion at the Taylorsville Rest Area, located on Interstate 65 (I-65) northbound and southbound, approximately 3.0 miles south of the intersection of I-65 and US 31, in Bartholomew County, Indiana. The construction is 100% state funded; however, federal funds via Truck Parking Information and Management System (TPIMS) grant may be used.

The existing Taylorsville Rest Area was built in 1975, and the rest area truck parking lots are undersized for current and predicted future capacity demands. The northbound rest area currently has 37 semi/truck parking spaces with an average 100-percent capacity during peak hours. The southbound rest area has 44 semi/truck parking spaces with an average 81-percent capacity during peak hours. The purpose of the project is to reduce truck parking congestion at the rest areas to reflect the goals of INDOT's "[Rest Area and Truck Parking Plan](#)". The project will provide sufficient parking capacity and improved buildings / modernized facilities to support the current and projected traffic volume.

The proposed improvements will include reconstruction of the I-65 northbound and southbound Taylorsville rest areas and will reconfigure the parking lots to provide 75 additional semi/truck parking spaces and to eliminate car parking areas available to the general public. Additional private sector travel break opportunities that the general public can utilize are available in the area, including private facilities located 4 miles north of the northbound rest area facility at Mile 73 and 6 miles south of the southbound rest area facility at Mile 68, meeting the FHWA and INDOT standards for spacing between facilities that offer travel break opportunities.

In order to provide additional truck parking and appropriate drainage, the construction of the new parking lot will gradually elevate to the east by 4 ft. from the existing ground elevation. All seven existing buildings and infrastructure at the two locations will be demolished to facilitate construction of new proposed restroom facilities with vending facilities and new maintenance buildings with modernized equipment. All existing signs and light poles/high masts within the limits of the rest areas will be removed and replaced with conventional light poles and more sustainable lights that will work to reduce light pollution. At the southbound facilities, an existing electric service point for a lift station will be eliminated and combined with a generator that will provide backup power to the on-site lift station. Ancillary work will include the addition of Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps, changes to existing sewer and water utilities, landscaping, and inlets and storm sewer construction to drain the proposed facilities. Existing drainage patterns will be maintained; however, a conventional detention pond is proposed at the northbound rest area, and inline detention will be constructed at the southbound rest area, due to lack of sufficient existing right-of-way.

Based on the findings of a Noise Analysis Report, installation of an optimized noise barrier is proposed at the northbound Taylorsville Rest Area to minimize noise impacts from the truck-parking conversion. Currently, the proposed placement of the barrier is approximately 5 feet within the right-of-way at a length of 2,484 feet and height from 20 feet to 22 feet tall. The final decision on the installation of any abatement measure(s) will be made upon the completion of the project's final design and the public involvement processes.

Construction is currently expected to take up to 23 months (Spring 2025 to Winter 2026). The Taylorsville Rest Area will be closed to motorists during reconstruction and signage will be posted on I-65 alerting motorists of the closure.

No new, additional, permanent or temporary right-of-way will be required for the project. Approximately 0.807 acres of permanent wetland impacts will result from the project, in addition to the removal of approximately 4.196 acres of trees. Approximately 0.578 acre of permanent wetland impacts will require an IDEM Section 401 Isolated Wetland Individual Permit. Any required mitigation for the permanent wetland impacts will be determined during the permit process. The construction cost is approximately \$16,470,000.00, with state funds anticipated to be used. This project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 4 environmental document.

The preliminary design plans along with the Draft CE Level 4 will be available for review at the following locations:

1. Bartholomew County Public Library, located at 536 5th Street, Columbus, IN 47201
2. Online at <https://on.in.gov/Taylorsville-Rest-Area>
3. INDOT Seymour District Office, located at 157 Agrico Lane, Seymour, IN 47274

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Mr. Steve McAvoy, INDOT Statewide Facilities Director, 100 North Senate Avenue, IGCN, Room N758-FM, Indianapolis, IN 46204 or smcavoy@indot.in.gov on or before **November 7, 2024**. Additionally, any questions about the project can be directed to Imtiyaz Dalal, Project Manager, Janssen & Spaans Engineering, 9120 Harrison Park Court, Indianapolis, IN 46216 or idalal@jsengr.com. Copies of project information may be mailed upon request.

In accordance with the “Americans With Disabilities Act” if you have a disability and/or Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requiring auxiliary aids including language interpretation services and document conversion for which INDOT needs to provide accommodations, please contact Mr. Steve McAvoy, INDOT Statewide Facilities Director, 100 North Senate Avenue, IGCN, Room N758-FM, Indianapolis, IN 46204 or via email at smcavoy@indot.in.gov for services such as interpreters, signers, readers, or large print material. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in another language are encouraged to contact the INDOT Facilities Management Office. The location of the hearing is ADA accessible.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1) stating, “Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program.”; 2) 23 CFR 450.210(a)(1)(ix) stating, “Provide for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate.”; and 3) The INDOT Public Involvement Policies and Procedures approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.