



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N758-ES
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (855) 463-6848
(855) INDOT4U

Eric Holcomb, Governor
Michael Smith, Commissioner

Legal Notice of Planned Improvement - DES. #: 2300701

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Crawfordsville District, with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to proceed with the advanced acquisition of property from the southeast quadrant of United States Highway (U.S.) 40 and Ronald Reagan Parkway in Hendricks County, Indiana.

The need for the advanced acquisition of property is due to the future improvement of intersections along U.S. 40. The demanding project schedule and imminent development of parcels necessary for the project at the intersection of U.S. 40 and Ronald Reagan Parkway limits the future potential transportation alternatives and have necessitated accelerated delivery of project components. To capitalize on the economic conditions and fiscal constraints of highway funding, and to maintain all prudent and feasible alternatives, this project seeks to reduce project costs, shorten the project delivery schedule, including real estate acquisition, and maintain all prudent and feasible alternatives. The purpose of the proposed project is to protect INDOT and FHWA from imminent development of potential right-of-way (ROW) and to not limit the future potential transportation activities.

The proposed action is to complete the advanced acquisition of eleven parcels, totaling 4.36 acres, in the southeast quadrant of the intersection of U.S. 40 (locally known as Main Street) and Ronald Reagan Parkway. This action is considered a buy and hold activity. Therefore, no impacts to these properties are anticipated to occur as part of the advanced acquisition. It is anticipated that an appropriate level of environmental documentation that satisfies the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) will be prepared as part of the U.S. 40 Intersection Improvement Project, which is anticipated to modify and improve approximately twelve intersections along the U.S. 40 corridor. Alternatives for the U.S. 40 Intersection Improvement Project will be evaluated as design progresses and a preferred alternative will be described in the environmental document.

There will be no maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan involved with the advanced acquisition of ROW. The project will complete the advanced acquisition of 4.36 acres of new permanent ROW. No temporary ROW will be required. No wetlands will be impacted by the advanced acquisition. No construction activities will occur on these properties as part of the advanced acquisition process.

The cost associated with the project is approximately \$17,100,000 which includes ROW costs associated with the full transportation project. The FHWA and INDOT have agreed this advanced acquisition portion of the project falls within the guidelines of a Level 1, Categorical Exclusion (CE-1) environmental document. The draft advanced acquisition CE-1 Additional Information (AI) document is available for review at the following locations:

1. Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library (1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield, IN 46168)
2. INDOT Crawfordsville District Office (1-855-463-6848; 41 West 300 North, Crawfordsville, IN 47933)
3. INDOT Crawfordsville District Website (<https://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-crawfordsville-district/us-40-and-ronald-reagan-parkway-intersection-improvement/>)

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or submit comments to the attention of Nicole Minton, Lochmueller Group, 6200 Vogel Road, Evansville, Indiana, 47715, at 812-759-4179 or via email at Nicole.Minton@lochgroup.com on or before September 27, 2024.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in alternative formats are encouraged to contact the INDOT for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact Kaitlyn Taylor at 765-376-4754 or kattaylor@indot.in.gov. 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 Kaitlyn Taylor at 765-376-4754 or kattaylor@indot.in.gov.



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In addition, project information, including the environmental document, may be mailed to interested persons upon request. 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 Project Development Public Involvement Procedures Manual* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.