



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N642
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (317) 232-6601
E-mail: rclark@indot.in.gov

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Karl B. Browning, Commissioner

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Dear Local Resident, Concerned Citizen, and Elected Public Official:

Welcome to the Indiana Department of Transportation's (INDOT) public hearing regarding the proposed U.S. 20 Pavement Replacement Project in LaPorte County.

The purpose of this public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to meet with INDOT officials, review the project proposal including environmental document and preliminary design plans, and provide input and public comment regarding the proposal.

There are several ways your comments may be presented this evening. You may submit comments in the following manner:

1. Complete one of the comment forms and return it to any of the INDOT representatives attending the public hearing. Comment forms are attached to this page and additional forms are available at the sign-in table.
2. Mail your comments to the Indiana Department of Transportation's Office of Public Involvement / Attn: Hearings Manager at 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N642 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2216; PHONE: (317) 232-6601. **INDOT respectfully requests comments be submitted by Friday, October 3, 2014.**
3. Participate during the public comment session and have your comments recorded for inclusion into the official hearings transcript / public record.
4. Comments may be e-mailed to the INDOT Office of Public Involvement at: rclark@indot.in.gov.
5. Hearings presentation is available for review via the INDOT LaPorte District page at: <http://www.in.gov/indot/2705.htm>.

All public comments submitted during the comment session or during the public comment period will be included in the official hearing transcript (public record) and will be reviewed, evaluated and given full consideration by INDOT officials during the decision making process. INDOT sincerely appreciates your attendance this evening.

Rickie Clark, INDOT Office of Public Involvement
rclark@indot.in.gov (317) 232-6601

U.S. 20 Pavement Replacement Project

Michigan City High School

Wednesday, September 17, 2014




Welcome

- Rickie Clark, INDOT Office of Public Involvement
- Purpose/explanation of public hearing
- Public hearing format
- Visit our sign-in table
- Informational handouts
- Submitting public comments for hearings transcript
- Project display area




Welcome

- **Introduction of INDOT project officials**
 - Project Management
 - Design
 - Real Estate
 - Public Involvement
- **Lawson-Fisher: Design & Environmental Team**
- **Recognition of elected and local public officials**




Public Hearing

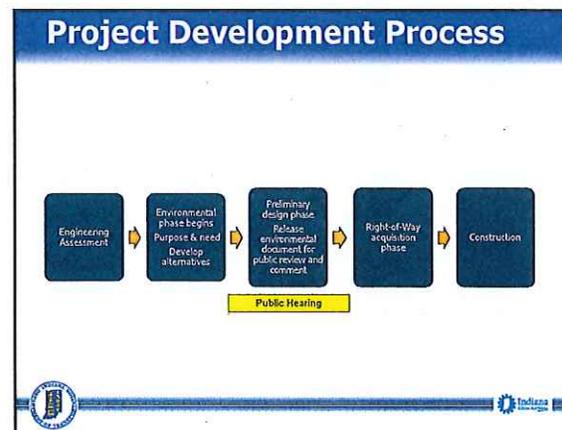
- **Sign-in at attendance table to be added to project mailing list.**
- **A public hearing notice was mailed to known property owners within project area.**
- **Announcement of this hearing was posted to INDOT website. A media release was also issued.**
- **Legal notice publishing:**
 - News Dispatch
 - August 29 and September 8




Project Stakeholders

- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Indiana Division Federal Highway Administration
- LaPorte County
- Michigan City
- Local communities
- Elected public officials
- Community residents and citizens
- Commuters
- Trucking industry
- Schools
- Emergency services





Environmental Document

- **Requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
 - Requires INDOT to analyze and evaluate the impacts of a proposed project to the natural and socio-economic environments
 - Impacts are described in environmental document
 - Categorical Exclusion (CE), Level 4
 - Environmental document was released for public involvement in July 2014




Environmental Document

- **Purpose and need**
 - Develop a number of possible alternatives
 - The "Do Nothing" alternative is a baseline for comparison
 - Screen alternatives to identify a preferred alternative
 - Solicit public comment on environmental document and preliminary design plan
 - Solicit, address and fully consider public comment as part of decision making process




Environmental Documentation

Elements of the Environmental Documentation

■ Real Estate	■ Endangered Species
■ Community Impacts	■ Hazardous Materials
■ Air Quality	■ Environmental Justice
■ Wetlands and Waterways	■ Historic/Archaeological
■ Noise	■ Sole Source Aquifer
■ Floodplains	■ Cultural Resources
■ Farmland	■ Public Involvement




Environmental Documentation

- **Noteworthy Environmental Document findings**
 - Substantial impacts to natural resources
 - Wetlands
 - Jurisdictional Stream (Waters of the U.S.)
 - No historical impacts
 - No hazardous materials identified




Environmental Documentation

INDOT LaPorte District Office
 Planning & Programming Department
 315 East Boyd Boulevard
 LaPorte, IN 46350
 (855) 464-6368; LaPorteDistrictCommunications@indot.in.gov

INDOT Office of Public Involvement
 Indiana Government Center North, Room N642
 100 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204
 (317) 232-6601; rclark@indot.in.gov

LaPorte County Public Library Coolspring Branch
 7089 West 400 North
 Michigan City, IN 47460; (219) 879-3272




U.S. 20 Pavement Project

- **Purpose**
 - Enhance safety for motorists
 - Improve pavement serviceability
- **Need**
 - Address high accident frequency between Woodland Avenue and Johnson Road
 - Address deteriorating pavement conditions
 - Address roadside safety issues
 - Improve corridor safety




U.S. 20 Pavement Project



U.S. 20 Pavement Project

■ **Alternatives considered**

- Construction/Reconstruction of 4-lane cross section and 16 ft. flush median with auxiliary right turn lane with areas of milling and overlay (Preferred)
- Construction/Reconstruction of 4-lane cross section and 16 ft. flush median and intersection improvements with auxiliary right turn lane with areas of milling and overlay
- Construction/Reconstruction of 4-lane cross section and 16 ft. flush median with auxiliary right turn lane
- No action/Do nothing alternative



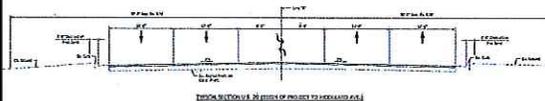
U.S. 20 Pavement Project

■ **Project Description**

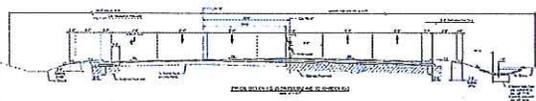
- Mill and overlay from 0.21 miles east of U.S. 421 to 0.27 miles east of U.S. 33/S.R. 212
- Roadway widening between Woodland Avenue and Johnson Road
 - Provide 4 lane cross section with 16 ft. flush median
 - Provide continuous auxiliary right turn lane for westbound traffic adjacent to commercial properties
 - Provide two-way left turn lane within flush median



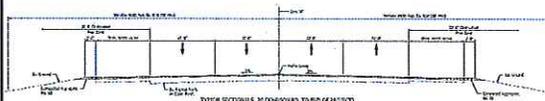
U.S. 20 Pavement Project



U.S. 20 Pavement Project

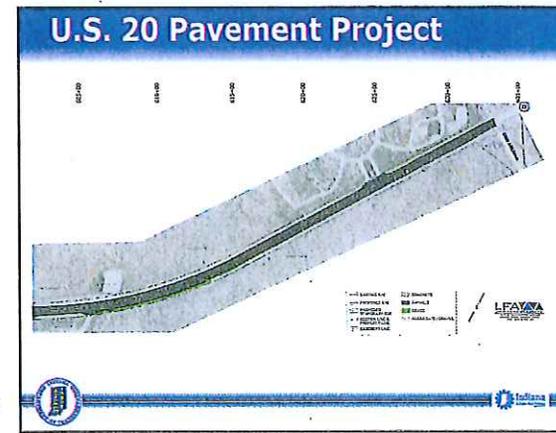
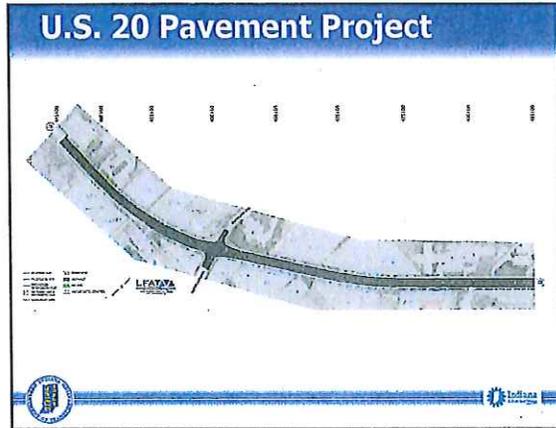


U.S. 20 Pavement Project



U.S. 20 Pavement Project

- Other project features
 - Provide curb and gutter from Woodland Avenue to Johnson Road
 - Install Storm Sewer Network within curb section
 - Culvert replacement at select locations
 - Replace raised median with 3 foot wide center curb at the east and west approaches of Woodland Avenue



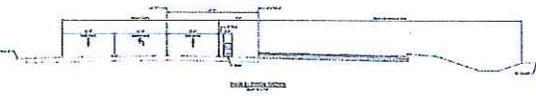
U.S. 20 Pavement Project

- **Maintenance of traffic**
 - Three major phases for construction
 - Advance phase for crossing culvert installations
 - Post phase for surface course placement
 - U.S. 20 will maintain two lanes of traffic
 - One lane in each direction
 - Left turns lanes provided at select road approaches and drives
 - Access to commercial and private properties will be maintained at all times




U.S. 20 Maintenance of Traffic

- **Phase I major construction activities**
 - Construct south third of U.S. 20 between Woodland Avenue and Johnson Road
 - Install storm sewer piping between Woodland Avenue and Johnson Road
 - Maintain traffic on existing U.S. 20 roadway





U.S. 20 Maintenance of Traffic

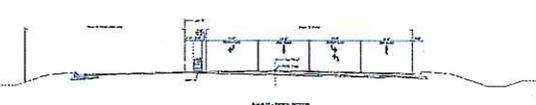
- **Phase II major construction activities**
 - Construct middle third of U.S. 20 from Woodland Avenue to Johnson Road
 - Install storm sewer piping between Woodland Avenue and Johnson Road
 - Maintain eastbound traffic on the proposed south third of U.S. 20 constructed in Phase I





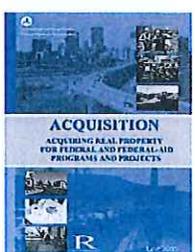
U.S. 20 Maintenance of Traffic

- **Phase III major construction activities**
 - Construct north third of U.S. 20 from Woodland Avenue to Johnson Road
 - Install crossing storm sewer between Woodland Avenue and Johnson Road
 - Maintain traffic on the newly constructed roadway from Phase I and II





Real Estate Acquisition Process





Real Estate Acquisition Process

- **"Uniform Act of 1970"**
 - All federal, state and local governments must comply
 - Requires an offer for just compensation
- **Acquisition Process**
 - Appraisals
 - Review Appraisals
 - Negotiations
- **INDOT Real Estate Team to work with impacted property owners**




U.S. 20 Pavement Project

- **Right-of-way**
 - Permanent R/W: 5 acres
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Agricultural
 - Forest
 - Wetlands (forested)
 - Temporary R/W: 0.5 acre
 - Grading
 - Driveway reconstruction
- No relocation or displacement of structures




Project Schedule

- **Public Hearing: September 2014**
- **Environmental Document finalized: 2014**
- **Preliminary Design Plan refinement: 2014**
- **Real Estate Acquisition activities: 2014 - 2015**
 - Appraising
 - Negotiations/Buying
 - Utilities coordination/Relocation
- **Construction: 2016**




Feedback

- **INDOT would like to hear from you**
 - Talk with INDOT project team members
 - Comment sheet in information packet
 - E-mail or mail comments to INDOT
 - Sign-in list to be added to project mailing list
 - Visit INDOT LaPorte District page at <http://www.in.gov/indot/2705.htm>
 - All comments are very much appreciated and will be given full consideration by project team




Submit Public Comments

- **Submit public comments using the options described in first page of information packet:**
 - Public Comment Form
 - Via e-mail
 - Participating during public comment session via microphone
 - Verbal comments recorded and transcribed for inclusion into public hearings transcript
- **INDOT respectfully requests comments be submitted by Friday, October 3, 2014.**
- All comments submitted will become part of public record, entered into transcript, reviewed, evaluated and given full consideration during decision making process.




Next Steps

- **Public and project stakeholder input**
 - Submit comments via options described on page 1 of information packet
- **INDOT review and evaluation**
 - All comments are given full consideration during decision-making process
 - Address comments, finalize/approve environmental document, complete project design
- **Communicate a decision**
 - INDOT will notify persons on mailing list of decision
 - Work through local media outlets and paid legal notice
 - Make project documents accessible via repositories
- **Questions? Contact Public Involvement Team**




Public Involvement Team

- Rickie Clark
INDOT Office of Public Involvement
(317) 232-6601
rclark@indot.in.gov
- Jennifer Alander
INDOT LaPorte District Customer Service
(855) 464-6368
LaPorteDistrictCommunications@indot.in.gov




Thank You

- Please visit with **INDOT project officials following the public comment session**
- **Project Open House**
 - Project maps, displays, real estate acquisition table, INDOT project officials and informal Q & A



Public Comment Session



