**DES# 1900142**

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT
Proposed State Road (SR) 37 and Notestine Road Intersection Improvement Project in Allen County**

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for an intersection realignment at State Road 37 and Notestine Road southwest of the town of Harlan in Allen County (DES. #1900142). The proposed project is located along SR 37 from approximately 0.08 mile south to 0.03 mile north of the intersection, and along Notestine Road from approximately 0.18 mile west and 0.14 mile east of the intersection.

The need for this project is due to the above average frequency of crashes at the SR 37 and Notestine Road intersection. From 2015-2019, there were 13 reported crashes at the intersection. Of the 13 reported crashes, there were three fatal and incapacitating injury crashes, one non-incapacitating injury crash, and nine property damage crashes. The SR 37 and Notestine Road intersection has a significant skew, causing sight distance issues leading to right-angle and left turn crashes. The purpose of this proposed project is to reduce the number of crashes to fewer than three crashes per year at the SR 37 and Notestine Road intersection upon the completion of the project.

As currently proposed, the project will realign the intersection 0.05 mile southwest of the existing intersection, eliminating the 45-degree skew and resulting in a 90-degree intersection. Approximately 0.15 mile west of the existing intersection, Notestine Road will be closed to through traffic, and the new roadway will curve to the south and approach the new intersection. Approximately 0.12 mile east of the existing intersection, Notestine Road will be closed to through traffic, and the new roadway will curve to the south becoming an “S” curve as traffic approaches the new intersection. The “S” curve is engineered to meet the 35 MPH design criteria. Along Notestine Road, approximately 0.06 mile west and 0.09 mile east of the existing intersection, access roads will be constructed to maintain access to existing properties.

Existing pavement on Notestine Road, approximately 105 feet to the west of the intersection and approximately 200 feet to the east of the intersection, will be removed. Four new driveways will be constructed to tie into the new alignment. Six new small structures will be installed in the project area. Two new roadway culverts will be installed to convey water south under Notestine Road, and new driveway culverts will be installed at each of the four new driveways to convey water east.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) will utilize lane closures and flaggers and will not require a detour. Access for local traffic will be maintained during construction, and signage will be placed on site a minimum of seven days in advance of the closure.

The proposed project will require approximately 4.72 acres of new permanent right-of-way: 0.17 acre from residential land and 4.55 acres from agricultural land. Approximately 0.07 acre of temporary right-of-way will be required for this project.

Federal and state funds are proposed to be used for construction of this project. The project is anticipated to cost approximately $2,600,000 including engineering, right-of-way, and construction. INDOT and the Federal Highway Administration have agreed that this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion Level 2 (CE-2) environmental document. No significant adverse impacts to the human and natural environment were found during the creation of the environmental document. The CE-2 environmental document describes the proposed project and potential impacts to environmental, social, and cultural resources, and contains preliminary project plans. The CE-2 environmental document is available to view at the following locations:

1. Allen County Public Library – Grabill, 13521 Grabill Rd., Grabill, IN 46741
2. INDOT Fort Wayne District Office, 5333 Hatfield Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46808
3. Online via the INDOT project webpage at [www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-fort-wayne-district/s.r.-37-and-notestine-road-intersection-improvement-in-allen-county/](http://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-fort-wayne-district/s.r.-37-and-notestine-road-intersection-improvement-in-allen-county/)

All interested persons may request a public hearing or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Cassidy Hunter at HNTB, cahunter@HNTB.com, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis, IN 46204. All comments must be received on or before
July 3, 2024. If a hearing is determined to be in the best interest of the public, additional notification will be prepared, and the public notified. Otherwise, any comments or material received will be considered in the decision-making process.

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 Project Manager, Kevin Shaw, kshaw1@indot.in.gov, (260) 969-8234, for the arrangement and coordination of services. 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 Project Manager. Special accommodations related to accessibility and auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters, signers, readers, or large print can be provided upon request.

This notice is published in compliance with Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1) states: “Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program.” 23 CFR 450.212(a)(7) states: “Public involvement procedures shall provide for periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all and revision of the process as necessary.” approved by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation on July 7, 2021.