



DES. # 1702994

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Improvement, Roundabout at US 231 and Parrish Avenue in Lake County

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host a public hearing on Thursday, July 11, 2024, at St. John Town Hall (10955 W 93rd Ave., St. John, IN 46373). Materials will be available for review from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. A presentation will be held at 6:00 p.m. and formal comments will be taken immediately following the presentation. The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on current preliminary design plans to the proposed roundabout intersection of US 231 and Parrish Ave. in St. John in Lake County (Des. #1702994). The purpose of the project is to reduce crash frequency and severity at the intersection.

The proposed project involves the construction of a 2x1 roundabout with dual lane approaches on US 231 and single lane approaches on Parrish Avenue. The existing signal infrastructure will be removed, and new signing and lighting will be added. Each approach leg will have a splitter island to separate and manage traffic approaching the center island. Each quadrant of the intersection will have pedestrian sidewalks with buffers, and the central island will have a truck apron.

The Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan for the project involves closures of Parrish Avenue and US 231 at the intersection, with detours provided on local highways. Access to adjacent properties and local drives will always be maintained. MOT details will be presented during the public hearing. INDOT will coordinate with emergency services, local school corporation officials and project stakeholders to ensure potential disruptions and impacts are minimized as much as possible. The project will require approximately 2.66 acres of permanent new right-of-way, in addition to 0.23 acres of temporary right-of-way needed during construction. No residential relocations are required for the project. There are no impacts to threatened or endangered species. There will be 91 ft of stream impacts and approximately 0.13 acres of wetland impacts for the project improvements. Construction is expected to begin in June 2026. The estimated construction cost is approximately \$3.8 million.

Federal and state funds are proposed to be used for construction of this project. INDOT and the Federal Highway Administration have agreed that this project poses minimal impact to natural environment. A Categorical Exclusion (CE) environmental document has been prepared for the project. The environmental documentation and preliminary design information are available to view at the following locations:

1. St. John Branch of the Lake County Public Library, 9450 Wicker Ave., St. John, IN 46373
2. INDOT LaPorte District Office, 315 E. Boyd Blvd., LaPorte, IN 46350, 855-463-6848
3. LaPorte District website: <https://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-laporte-district/>

During emergency situations, public viewing locations may be limited or prohibited as part of the Notice of Planned Improvement. Project documents may only be available on-line during emergency situations. INDOT will mail project documents upon request.

A project webpage has been created to ensure project information is available on-line via the INDOT LaPorte District website <https://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-laporte-district/us-231-and-parrish-ave.-roundabout/>.

Public statements for the record will be taken as part of the public hearing procedure. All verbal statements recorded during the public hearing and all written comments submitted prior to, during and for a period of two (2) weeks following the hearing date, will be evaluated, considered, and addressed in subsequent environmental documentation. Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and within the comment period to Chad Kelly, Kaskaskia Group, 630-332-9157, e-mail: ckelly@kaskaskiaeng.com, or by mail at 8520 Allison Pointe Blvd, Ste 100 Indianapolis, IN 46250. **INDOT respectfully requests comments be submitted by July 26, 2024.**

With advance notice, INDOT will provide accommodations for persons with disabilities with regards to participation and access to project information as part of the hearings process including arranging auxiliary aids, interpretation services for the hearing impaired, services for the sight impaired and other services as needed. In addition, INDOT will provide accommodations for persons of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requiring auxiliary aids including language interpretation services and document conversion. Should accommodation be required please contact Chad Kelly, Kaskaskia Group, 630-332-9157, e-mail: ckelly@kaskaskiaeng.com.

In the event of inclement weather resulting in hazardous driving conditions, please call the Indiana Department of Transportation's LaPorte District office to learn of any postponement of the public hearing. If the public hearing is postponed due to inclement weather, it will be rescheduled for and the public comment period would be extended.

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.