



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Eric Holcomb, Governor
Michael Smith, Commissioner

DES. # 2100235 & 2100171

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for a hot mix asphalt (HMA) overlay to SR 43, from the North Junction of SR 18 to 0.2 miles south of US 24/421 in White County.

The purpose of this project is to improve the roadway to good condition. Secondary purposes of this project include improving drainage structures along SR 43 and improving accessibility within the project area by improving select areas of sidewalk and bringing associated curb ramps into compliance with the current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. The condition of this portion of SR 43 is in a deteriorated state as evidenced by severe block cracking and transverse cracking, longitudinal joint damage, stripping within the wheel paths, and rutting.

The preferred alternative for the project will consist of milling the existing asphalt of SR 43 to four inches in depth and repaving it with four inches of HMA.

In addition to HMA overlay activities, eleven small culverts (each less than 48") will be replaced or repaired throughout the project area. Additional work will occur within the Town of Reynolds, including upgrading adjacent curb ramps to bring them into compliance with ADA standards, upgrading adjacent curbs, replacing four adjacent storm sewer inlets, and repairing deteriorated sidewalks along the east and west sides of SR 43. Some work within existing waterways will likely be required to replace the small culverts.

The proposed construction of this project will require 1.53 acres of new permanent right-of-way and less than 0.1 acre of temporary right-of-way.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan proposes partial (phased) closures, daytime flaggers, and brief full closures (less than 30 days). An official state route detour utilizing SR 18, US 421, and US 24 will be used during instances of full closures. Local roads may be used by local traffic. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. Signage at the detour termini will indicate if the Town of Chalmers can be accessed via SR 43 from that direction based on current closures. School corporations and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. The proposed start of construction is the summer of 2025 and should be completed within one construction season.

The cost associated with this project is approximately \$7.5 million, which includes preliminary engineering, right-of-way, and construction with both federal and state funds anticipated to be used. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and INDOT have agreed this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 2 environmental document with no significant impacts to wetlands.

Preliminary design plans along with the draft CE are available for review at the following locations:

- INDOT LaPorte District Website, www.laporte.indot.in.gov
- INDOT LaPorte District Office, 315 E. Boyd Blvd., LaPorte, IN 46350
- Brookston-Prairie Township Public Library, 111 West Second Street, Brookston, IN 47923
- Wolcott Community Public Library, 101 East North Street, Wolcott, IN 47995
- Monticello-Union Township Public Library, 312 West Broadway Street, Monticello, IN 47960

Persons with limited internet access may request project information be mailed. Please contact INDOT Project Manager, Jacqueline Hockaday at jhockaday@indot.in.gov or by phone at 574-601-9352. A hard copy of the CE document can be mailed to interested parties upon request.

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Marie Jaffe with Lochner Engineering. She can be reached by email at mjaffe@hwlochner.com or by phone at 717-432-6435. You can also contact the INDOT Project Manager, Jacqueline Hockaday at jhockaday@indot.in.gov or by phone at 574-601-9352. Concerns or comments may be submitted on or before May 9, 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 Project Manager, Jacqueline Hockaday at jhockaday@indot.in.gov or by phone at 574-601-9352 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, Jacqueline Hockaday at jhockaday@indot.in.gov or by phone at 574-601-9352.

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.