



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N642
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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Eric J. Holcomb, Governor
Joe McGuinness, Commissioner

DES# 1801500

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will hold a public hearing beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday November 17, 2020, at the Crown Point Council Chambers located at 101 North East Street, Crown Point, IN 46307. The public hearing presentation and formal comment period will also be broadcast via Zoom. You may join the meeting via zoom from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84970358286>. You may also join by phone using any of the following: (301) 715-8592 or (312) 626-6799 or (929) 205-6099 or (253) 215-8782 or (346) 248-7799 or (669) 900-6833. The Zoom ID is 849 7035 8286. You may also join the meeting using the Indiana Department of Transportation: Northwest Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/INDOTNorthwest/>. The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on current design plans for the improvement of the I-65 interchange at 109th Avenue, located in Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana. The doors will be open at 5:00 p.m. to give meeting participants time to view displays and talk to project representatives prior to the start of the meeting. The intent of the project is to improve the operational efficiency of the interchange to support both current and projected local and regional traffic volumes.

The project limits begin approximately 600 feet west of the I-65 southbound ramps and extend approximately 800 feet east of the I-65 northbound ramps for a total length of about 2,200'. The preferred alternative includes the construction of two-lane roundabouts at the intersections of 109th Avenue and the I-65 interchange ramps, as well as widening of the roadway to the east and west of the proposed roundabouts to accommodate four travel lanes. No work on mainline I-65 is included in the scope of these improvements. The proposed roadway cross-section will provide two 12-foot wide vehicular travel lanes in either direction within the project limits. The roundabouts will provide two 15-foot wide travel lanes including a truck apron on the inside curves. The I-65 interchange ramps will retain their general configuration but will be tied into the proposed roundabouts. The preferred alternative will tie into the recently constructed four-lane cross-section of 109th Avenue at Mississippi St. east of the interchange. New permanent lighting will be installed within the project limits. New storm sewers, curbs, and gutters will be installed along the project corridor. The existing 4-sided concrete box culvert that is near the eastern ramp intersection will be extended to accommodate the widened pavement in that area. The project requires approximately 1.1 acre of permanent right-of-way acquisition from residential, commercial, and agricultural properties. No easements, temporary right-of-way, property relocations or displacements will be required. 109th Avenue and all four I-65 interchange ramps will be closed during construction. An official signed detour route utilizing State Road (SR) 53, US 231, and Iowa Street will be available for both local and interstate traffic to route around the

construction at the interchange. At present, both state and federal funds are available for construction of the project.

The proposed work will result in approximately 101 linear feet of permanent stream impacts and 0.667 acre of permanent wetland impacts. A Categorical Exclusion Level 4 Environmental Document is being prepared for this project. The environmental document including preliminary design plans is available to view at <https://www.in.gov/indot/4095.htm>, at the Crown Point Community Library located at 122 N. Main Street, Crown Point, IN 46307, or upon request.

Persons with limited internet access may request project information be mailed to them. Please contact Rich Connolly, HNTB, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis IN 46204 or rconnolly@HNTB.com or 317-636-4682 for information.

The in-person public hearing will include appropriate social distancing measures. Meeting attendees and the project team are required to wear masks per local ordinance and will practice social distancing. Attendees who do not have a mask will be provided one, and hand sanitation stations will be available. The public hearing presentation and formal comment period will also be broadcast live Zoom meeting and on the Indiana Department of Transportation: Northwest Facebook page, so that people may participate virtually.

In accordance with the “Americans with Disabilities Act”, if you have a disability or need assistance with accessibility to the above documents such as interpreters or readers, please contact Rich Connolly, HNTB, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis IN 46204 or rconnolly@HNTB.com or 317-636-4682 who can provide accommodations.

Comments will be accepted in writing via a comment form or verbally via a court reporter at the public hearing or via U.S. Postal Service or E-mail. Comments can be submitted to Rich Connolly, HNTB, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis IN 46204 or rconnolly@HNTB.com or INDOT’s Project Manager, John Krueckeberg, Indiana Department of Transportation LaPorte District, 315 E. Boyd Blvd., LaPorte, IN 46350 or JKrueckeberg@indot.IN.gov. Comments will be accepted through December 1, 2020.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) 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.” 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 provide full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate.”; and 3) The INDOT Public Involvement Policies and Procedures were approved by the FHWA on August 16, 2012.