

Public Information Meeting

US 31 Limited Access Project SR 38 to 286th Street Hamilton County

Meeting No. 2

Wednesday April 21st, 2021



Agenda

- Project Team
- Welcome/ Opening Remarks
- Public Information Meeting
- Environmental NEPA Process
- Feedback
- Purpose and Need
- Project Updates
- Project Schedule



Project Team



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Welcome

Thank you for taking time out of your day to partner with INDOT on the US 31 Limited Access Upgrade. Your feedback is valuable and critical to the success of this project!



US 31 Limited Access Public Information Meeting

- Purpose of Meeting
 - Share updated information about the project
 - Provide Feedback
 - Ask Questions



US 31 Limited Access Feedback

Ways to provide feedback



- Fill out a comment form



- Email team member



- Call a team member



- Visit INDOT website

Please Submit Comments by May 05, 2021



US 31 Limited Access Environmental Document

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act of 1970

- Required for all federally funded highway improvements
- Includes comments from agencies, the public, and analysis of impacts to the natural, cultural, and social resources
- Public Information Meeting
- Public Hearing



Summary of Key Feedback to Date

- Concerns about access to US 31
 - Specifically in Tipton County with only one interchange in 11.5 miles
- Concerns about impacts on Economic Development
- Concerns about increased emergency response times
- Concerns about specific intersection treatments
 - Division Road
 - 296th Street
 - 256th and 266th Streets
 - CR 550N
- Concerns about schools
 - Bus routes
 - Enrollment decreasing
- Concerns about impacts to local roads with additional traffic



Project Purpose

The purpose of the project is to improve safety by converting US 31 to a limited access facility by:

- Removing at-grade intersections along US 31
- Removing residential and commercial drives along US 31
- Providing access to US 31 at interchanges
- Constructing overpasses to maintain cross community connectivity
- Closing unnecessary median openings
- Installing cable median barrier



Project Need

The need for the project derives from the high rate of accidents occurring along the US 31 Corridor.



Accident causes that occur more frequently at intersections

- Following too closely.
- Failing to yield the right-of-way.
- Disregarding a traffic signal/sign

Percent of Accidents Related w/ these Common Causes		
	2014-2016	2018-2020
Tipton County	18%	31%
Hamilton County	37%	44%

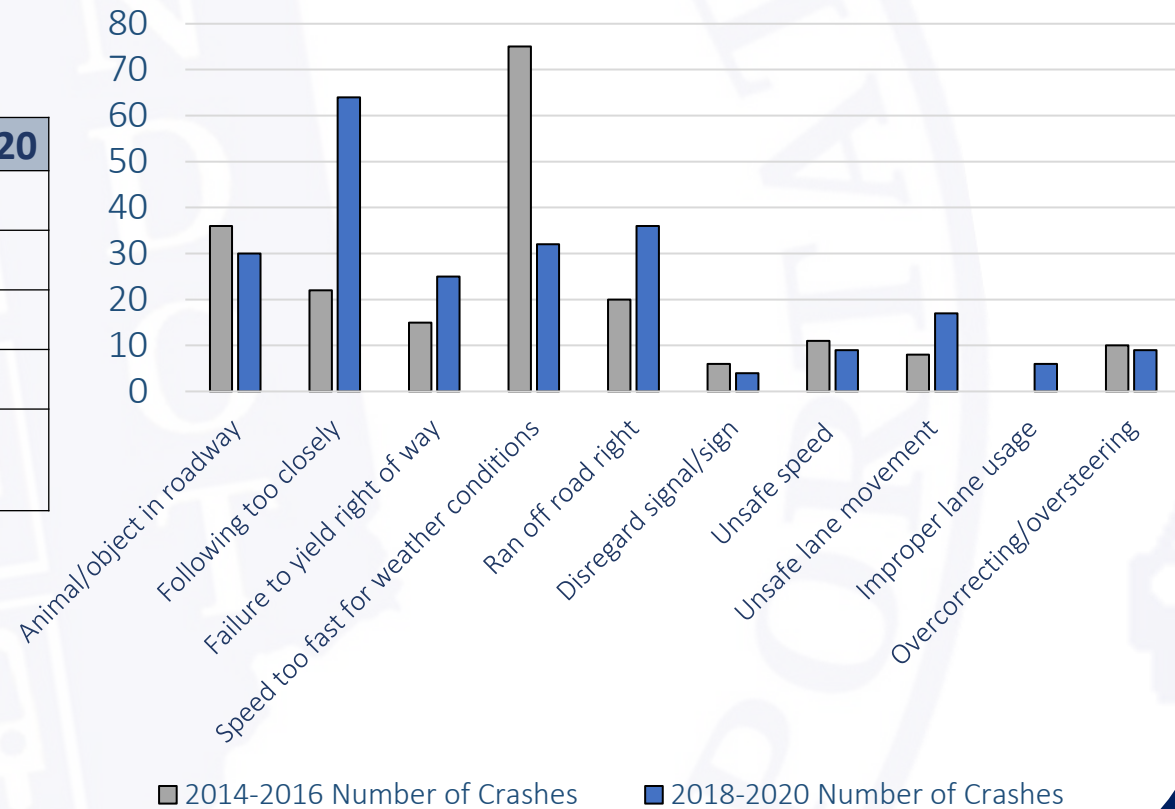


Tipton County Accident Data

	2014-2016	2018-2020
Number of Crashes	244	298
Number of Injuries	72	66
Number of Fatalities	5	3
Number of Deer	25	18
Accident Rate (accidents per mile per year)	6.93	8.35



MOST FREQUENT CRASH TYPES

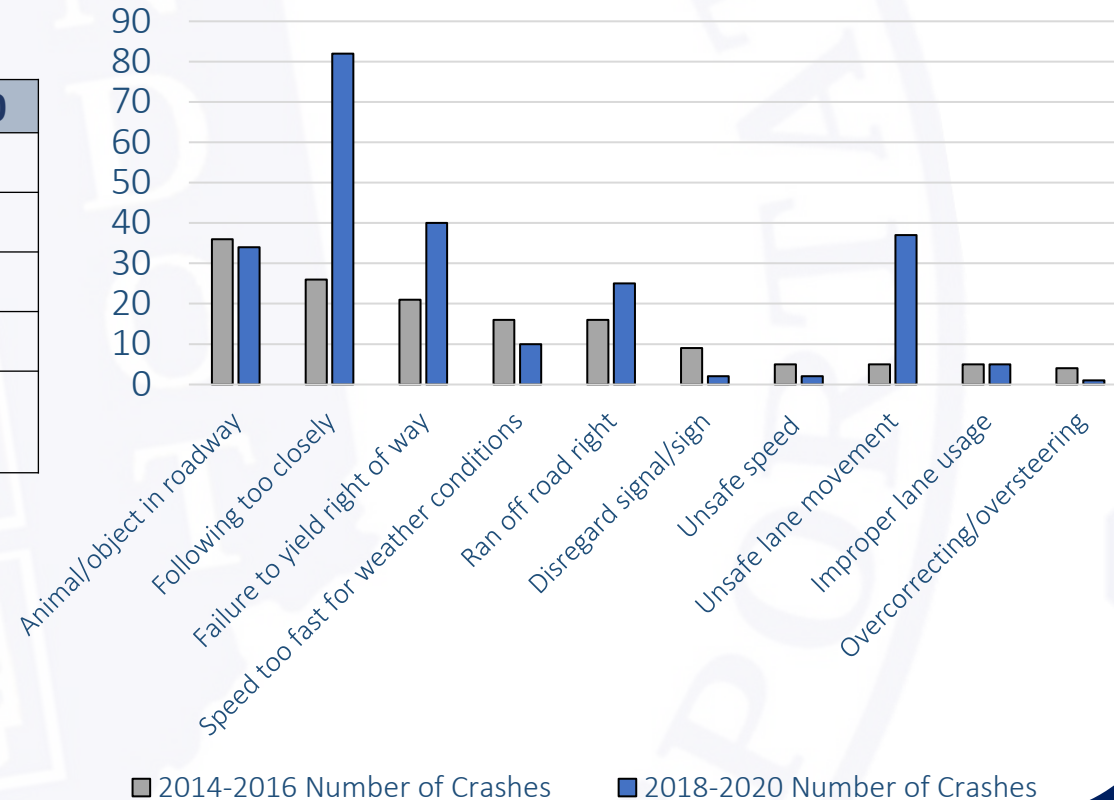


Hamilton County Accident Data

	2014-2016	2018-2020
Number of Crashes	152	280
Number of Injuries	53	33
Number of Fatalities	0	2
Number of Deer	34	29
Accident Rate (accidents per mile per year)	5.96	10.98

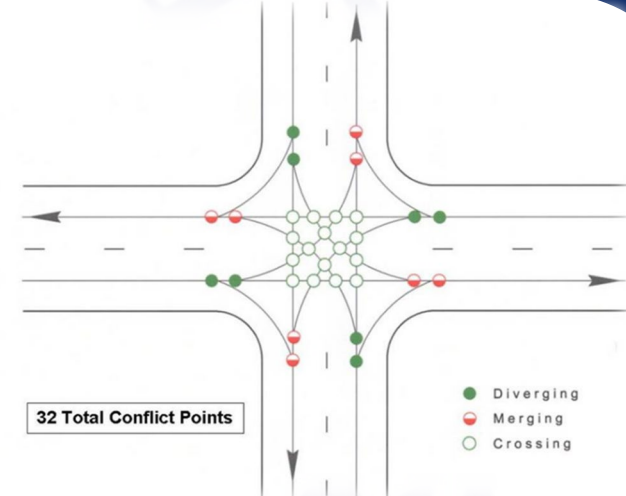


MOST FREQUENT CRASH TYPES



Intersection Crashes

- Intersections are planned points of conflict in roadway systems.
- The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) studies indicate 25% of traffic fatalities and roughly 50% of traffic injuries are attributed to intersections.

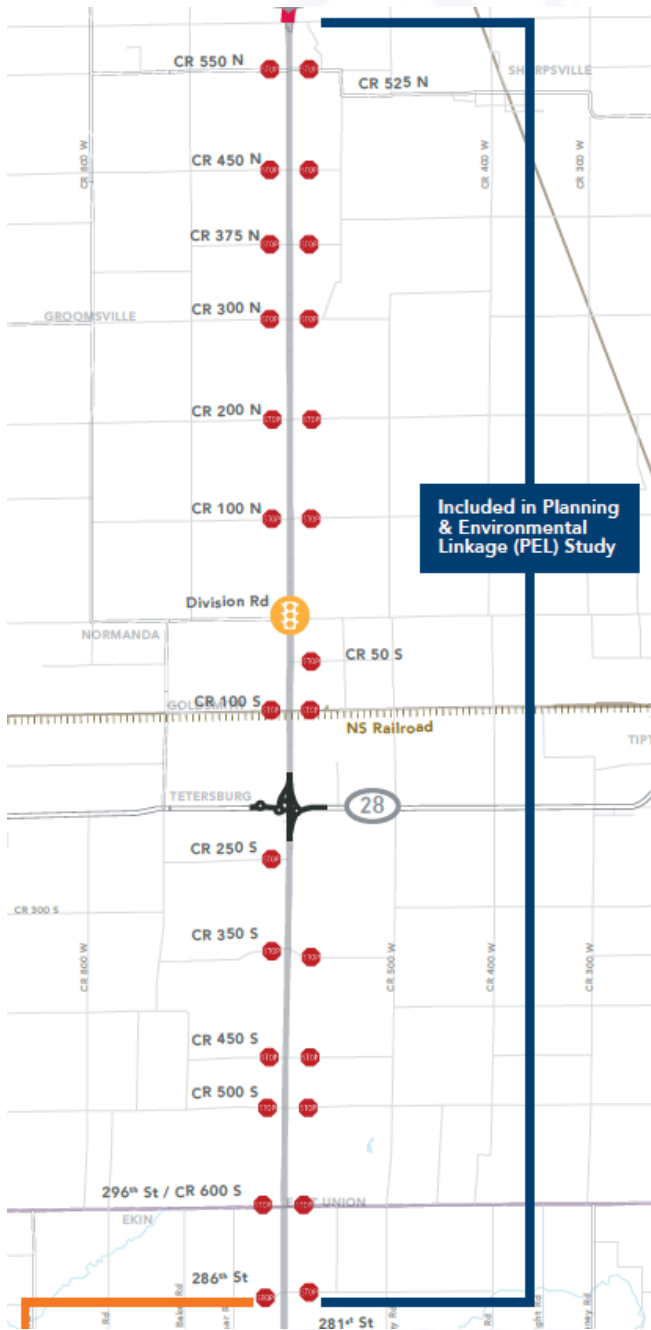


- Eliminating Intersections
 - Reduces the number of conflict points
 - Reduces the frequency and severity of crashes
 - Improves the overall operation and mobility of US 31



Project Limit Update

- SR 38 to 286th Street, Hamilton County
 - 7.5 miles
 - Remains in subject study
- 286th Street in Hamilton to SR 931 in Tipton
 - 12.5 miles
 - Moves to Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study



What is a Planning and Environmental Linkage Study?

- INDOT's Application of a FHWA Process
- Approach to performing planning studies
- Identifies depth and range alternative analysis needed in anticipation determining one alternative
- Completes the needed studies and analysis
- PEL carries forward into the NEPA process

<https://www.in.gov/indot/4035.htm>



When are PEL Study's Appropriate?

- Need for the project has been identified
- Planning funds have been dedicated toward further refinement of the need and range of possible alternative solutions
- Project is large in scale with complex potential impacts
- No construction funding has been committed

<https://www.in.gov/indot/4035.htm>



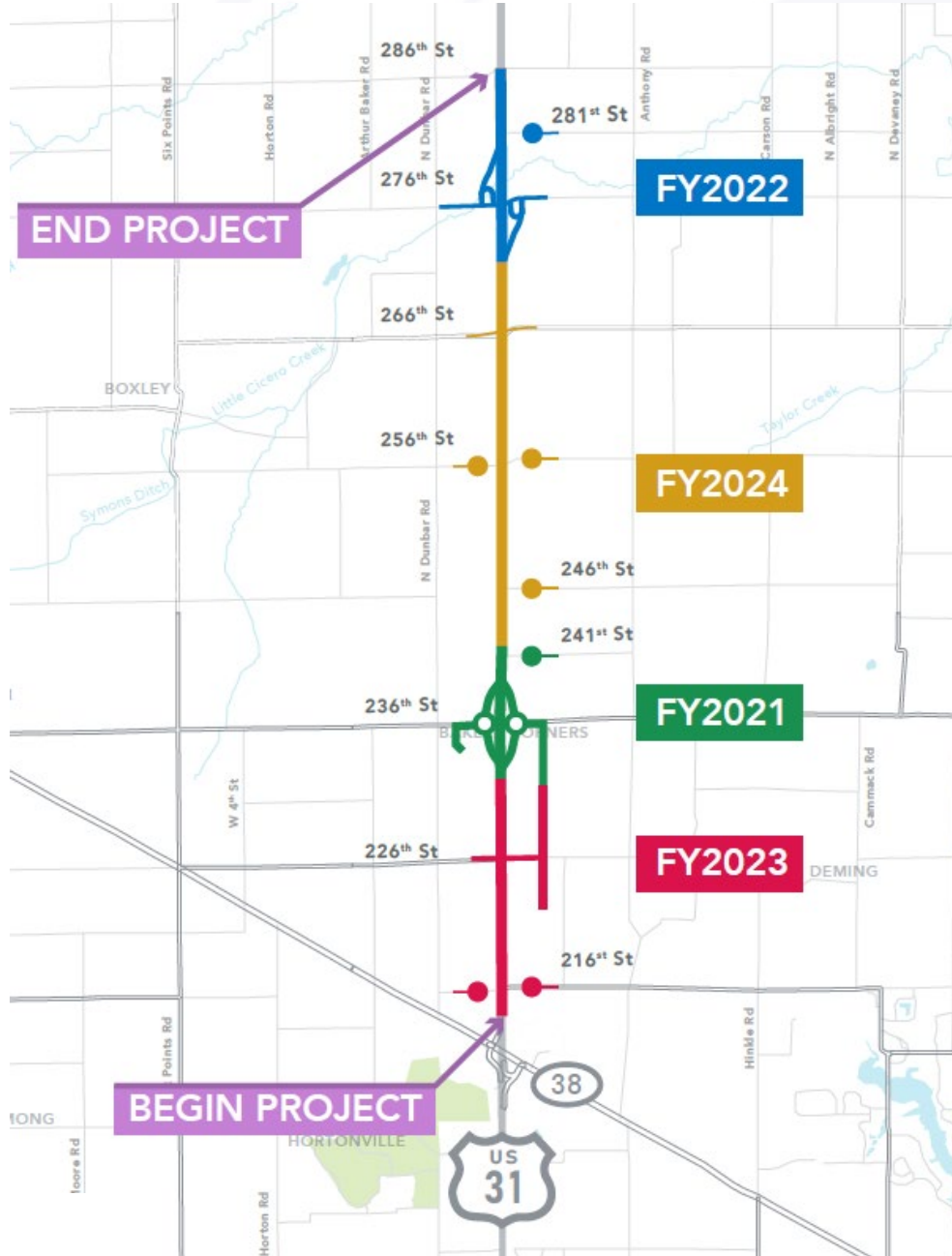
What Does This Mean for Tipton County?

- Cleans the slate on alternatives
- Additional studies and alternative evaluations will be done
 - Access to Tipton County
 - Economic Development
 - Intersection Treatments
- New public involvement process
- Delay in construction of the improvements

<https://www.in.gov/indot/4035.htm>



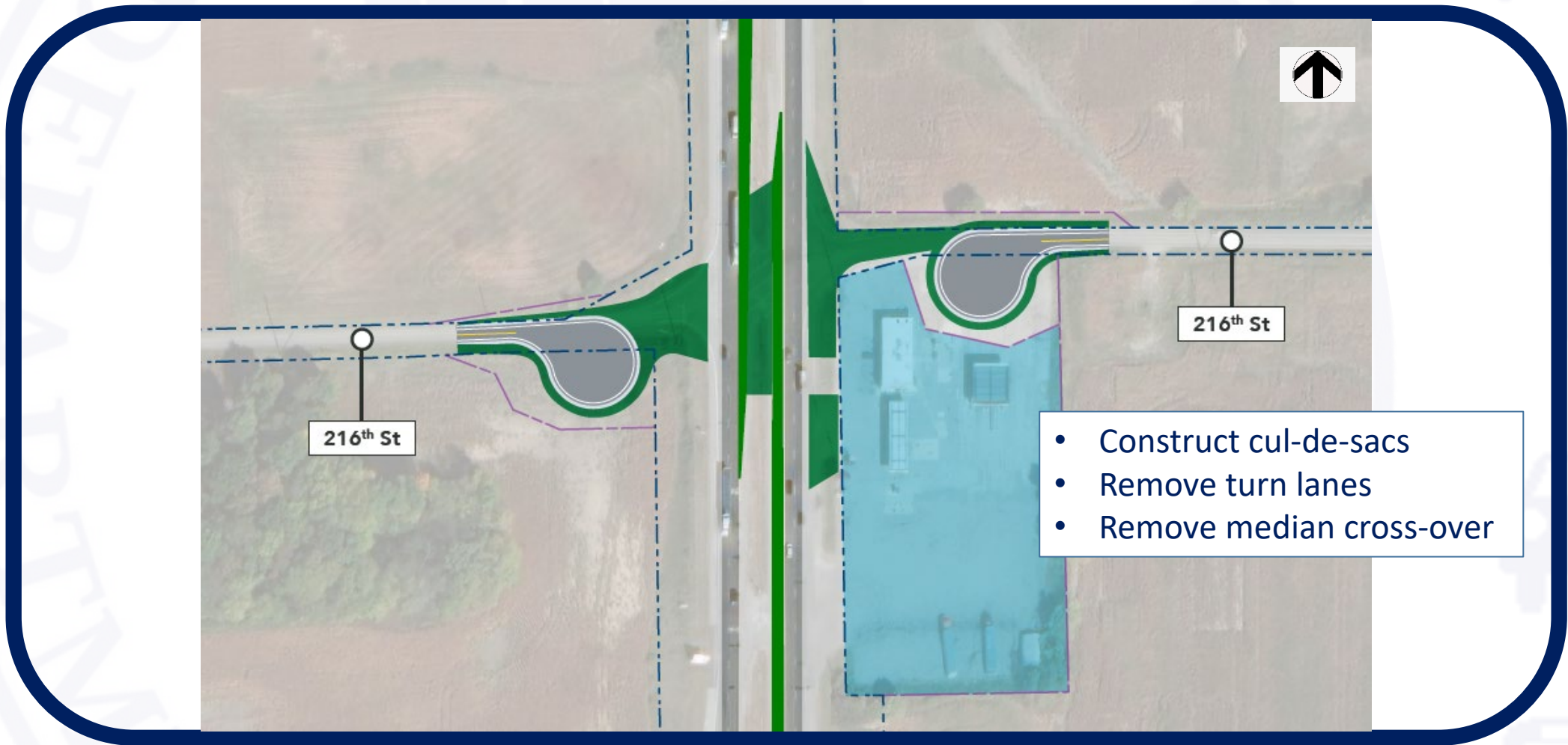
SR 38 TO 286TH Street



- SR38 to 236th Street
 - Under design
 - Funded in FY 2023
- 236th Interchange (Independent Utility)
 - In final stages of design
 - Funded in FY 2021
- 236th Street to 276th Street
 - In early stages of project development
 - Funded in FY 2024
- 276th Street Interchange
 - Under design
 - Funded in FY 2022



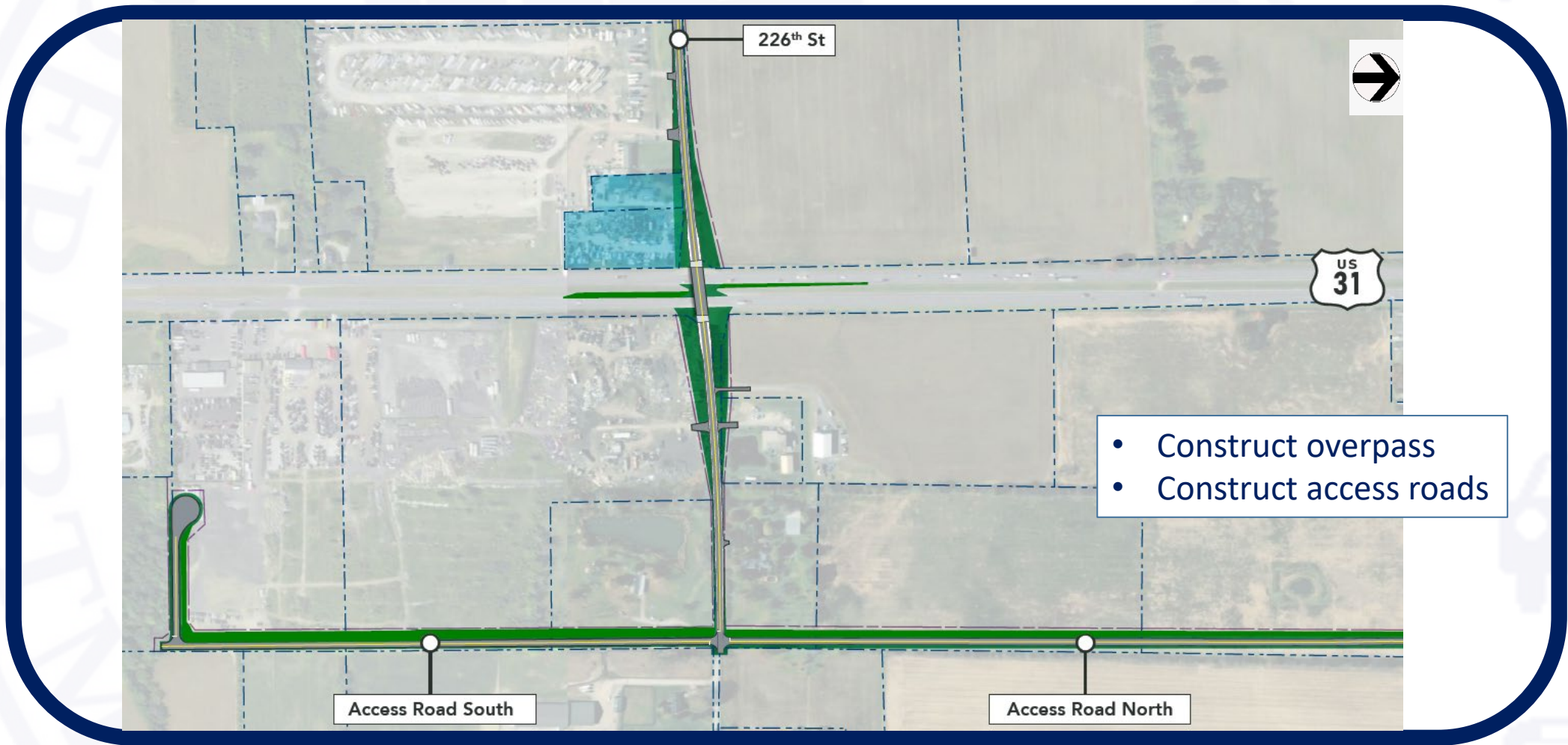
216th Street



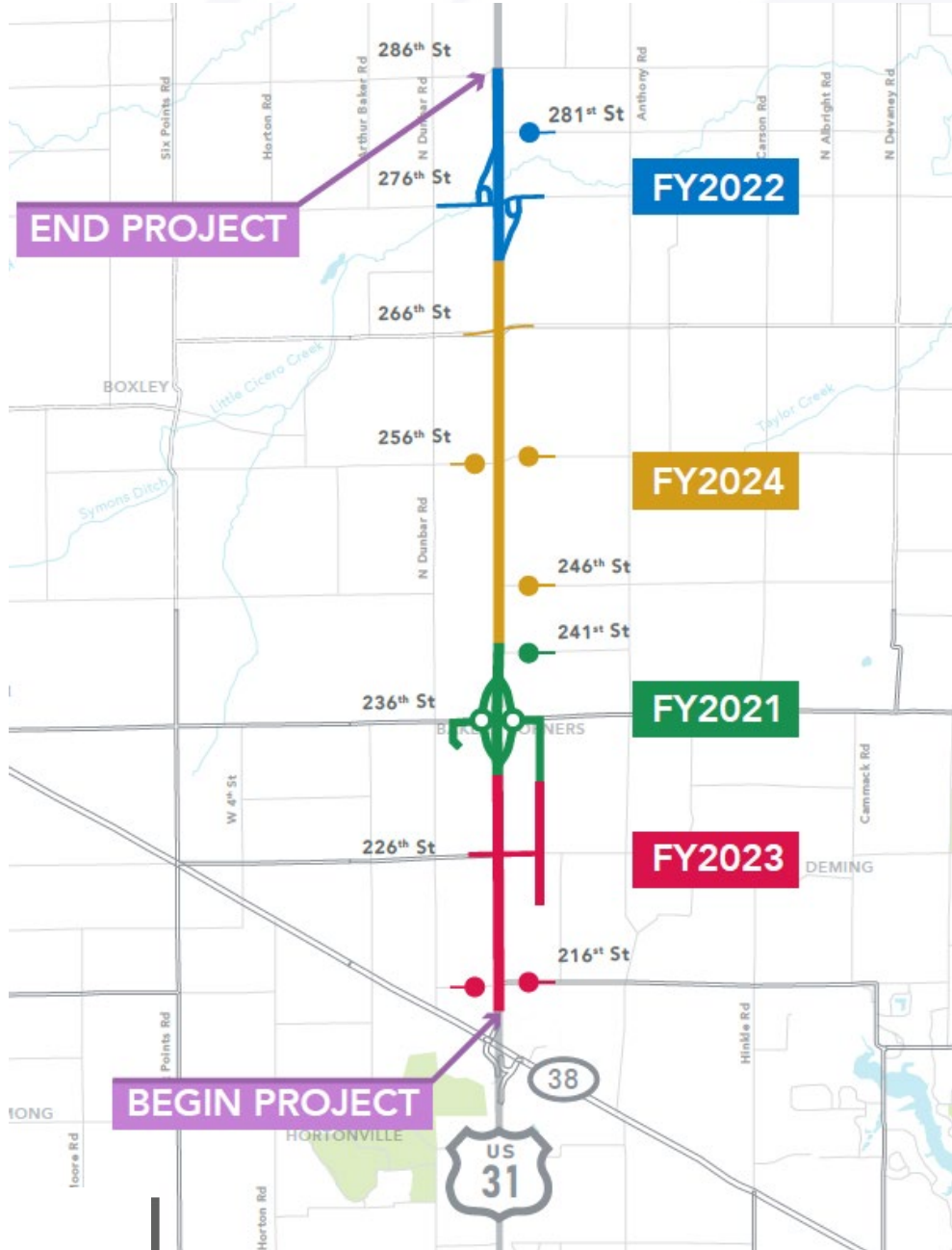
- Construct cul-de-sacs
- Remove turn lanes
- Remove median cross-over



226th Street



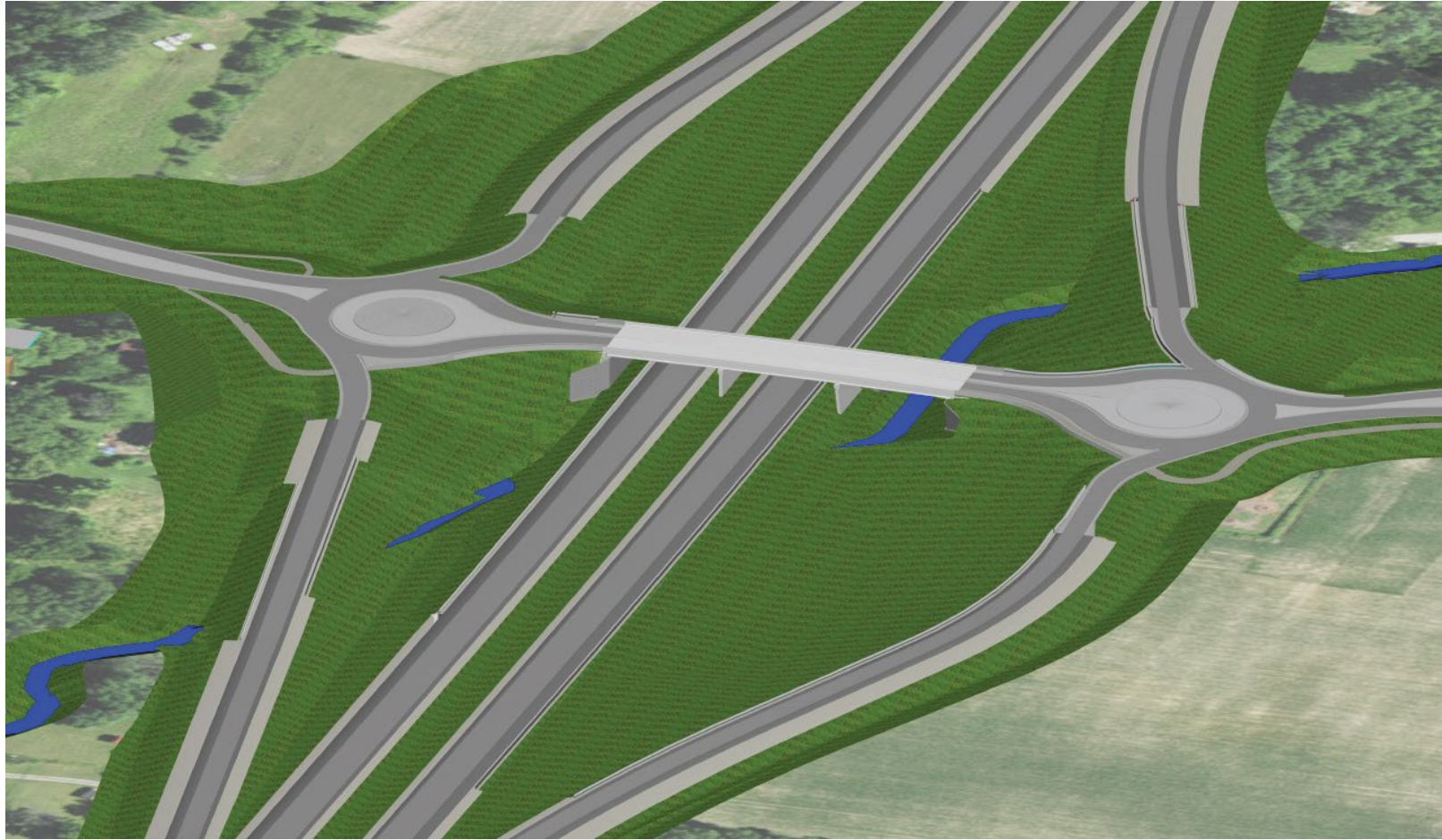
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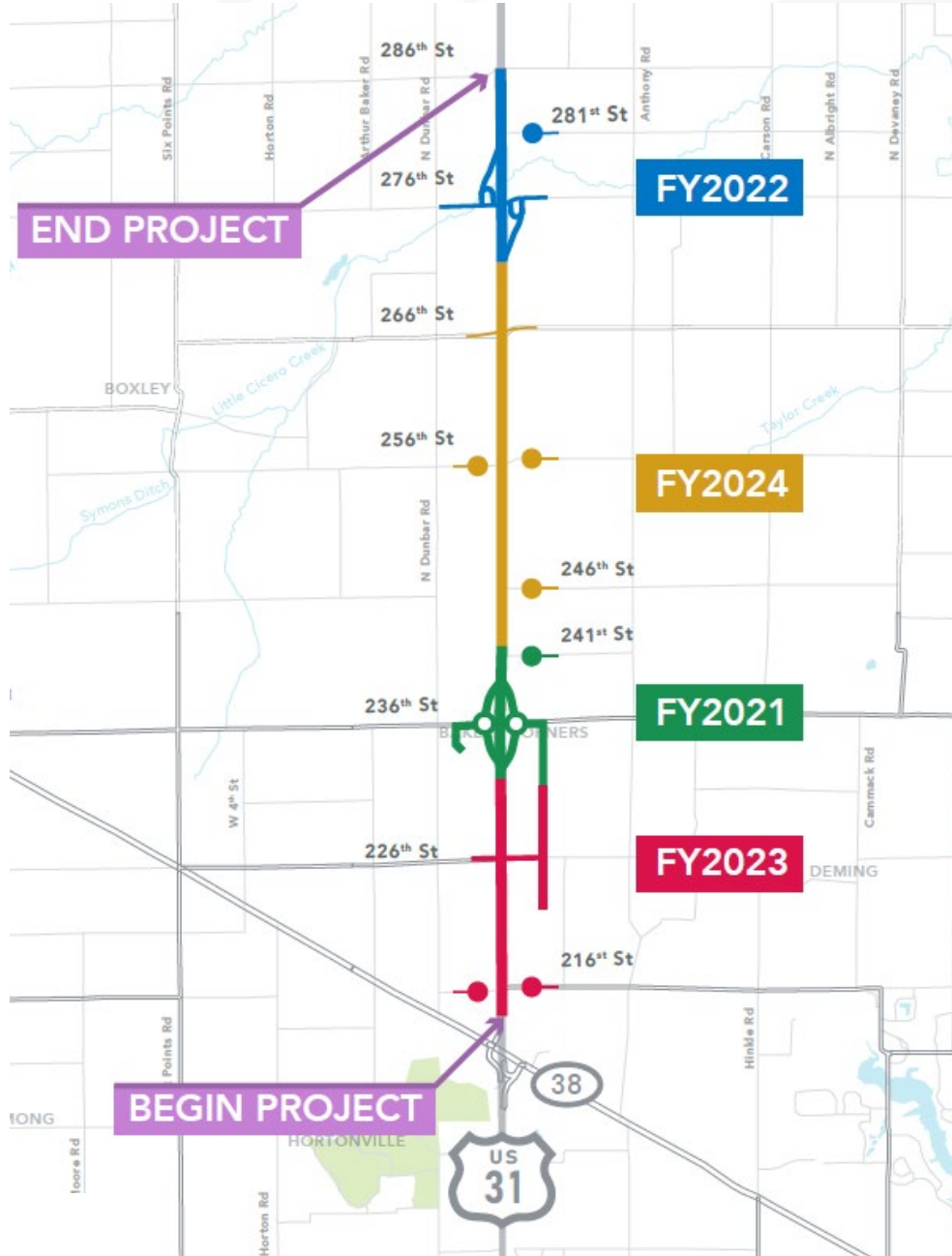
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236th Street Interchange



SR 38 TO 286TH Street



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246th Street

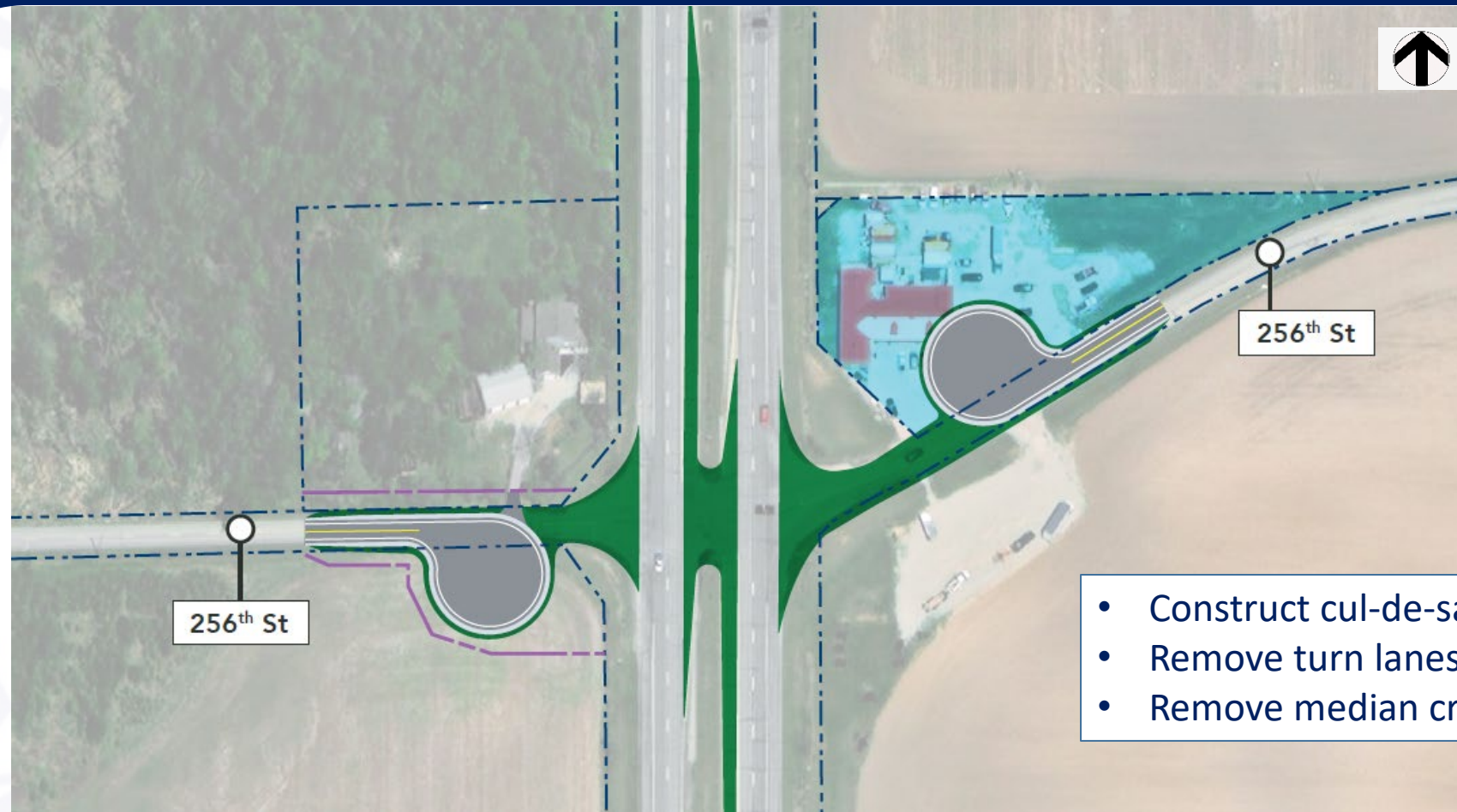


- Construct cul-de-sac
- Remove turn lane
- Remove median cross-over

246th St



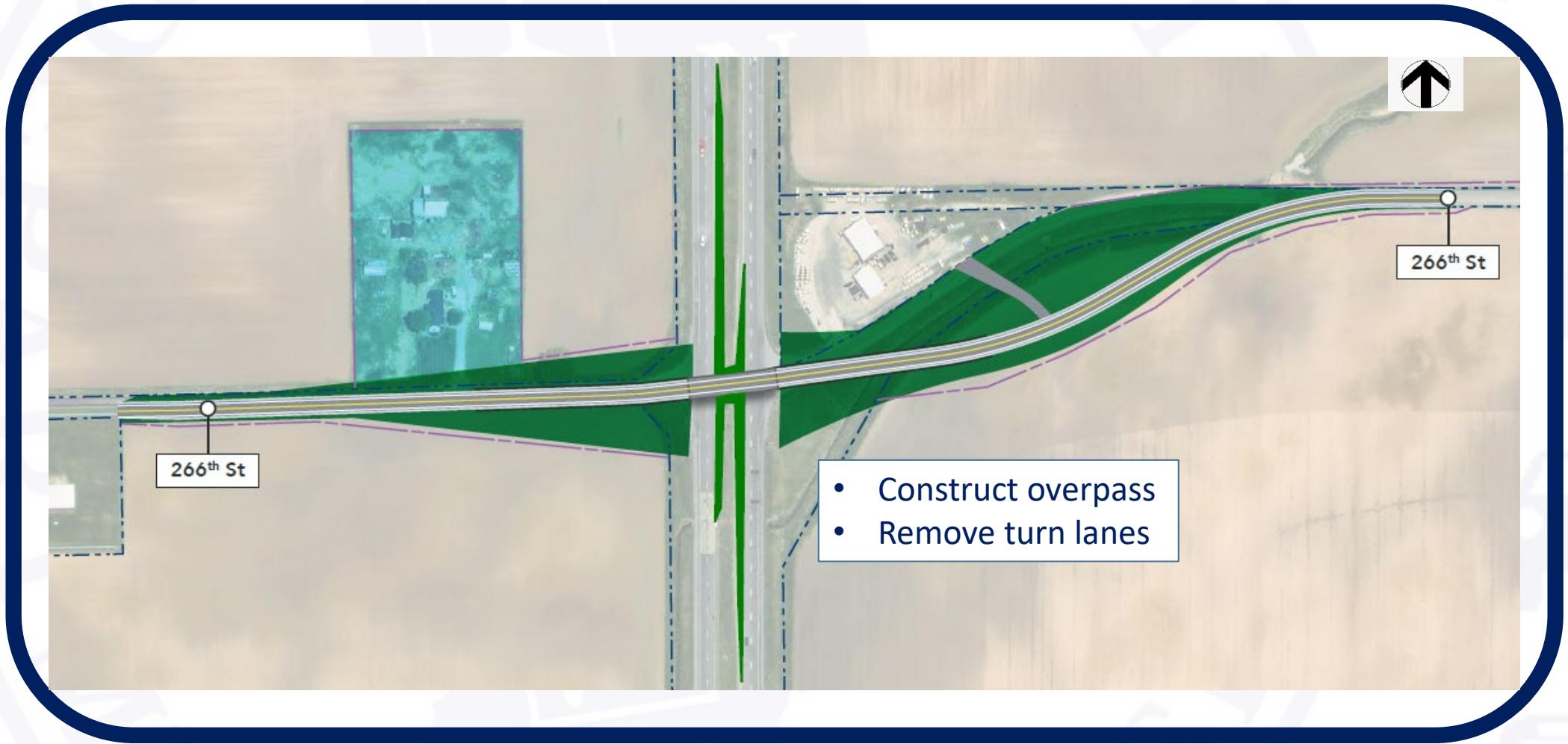
256th Street



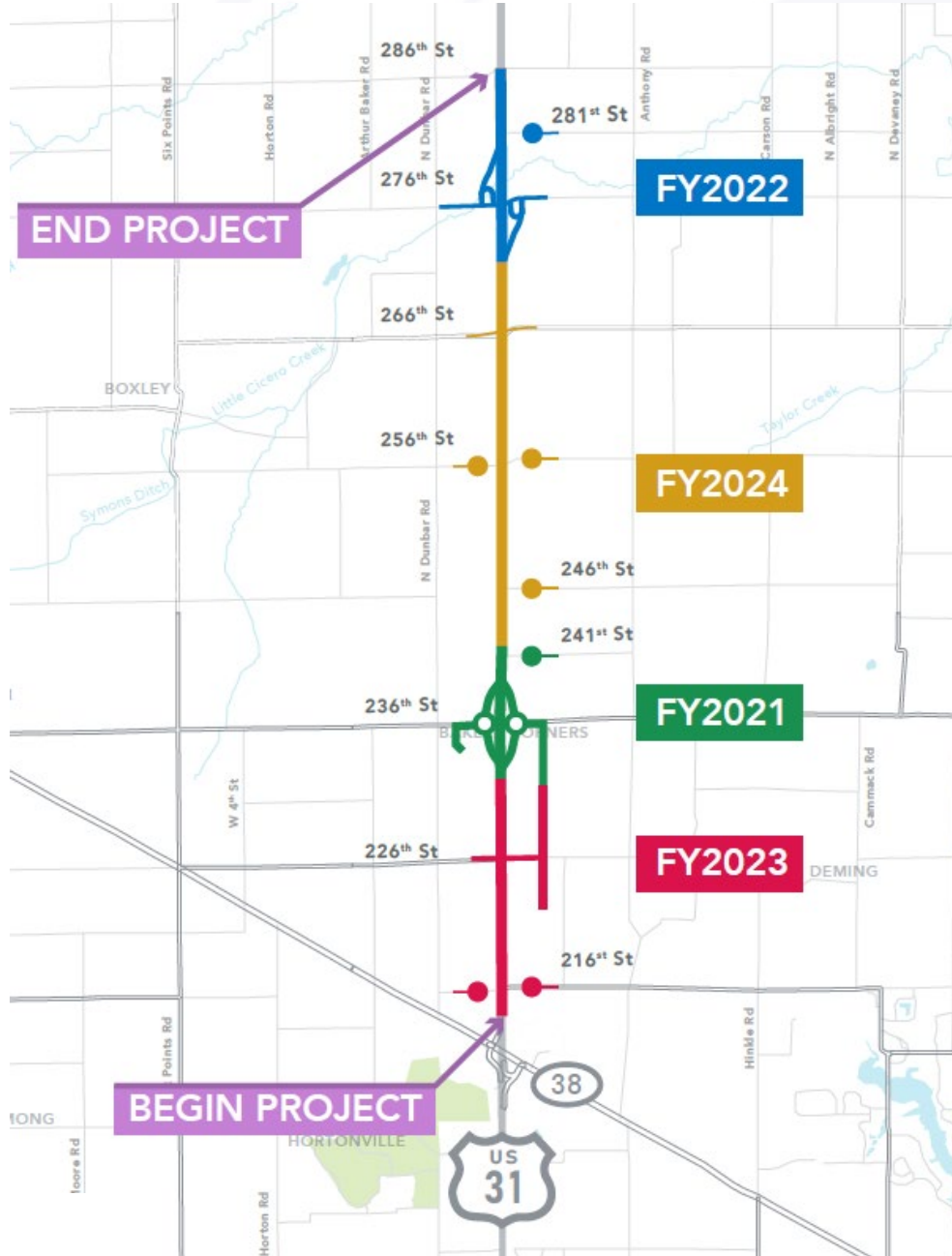
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266th Street



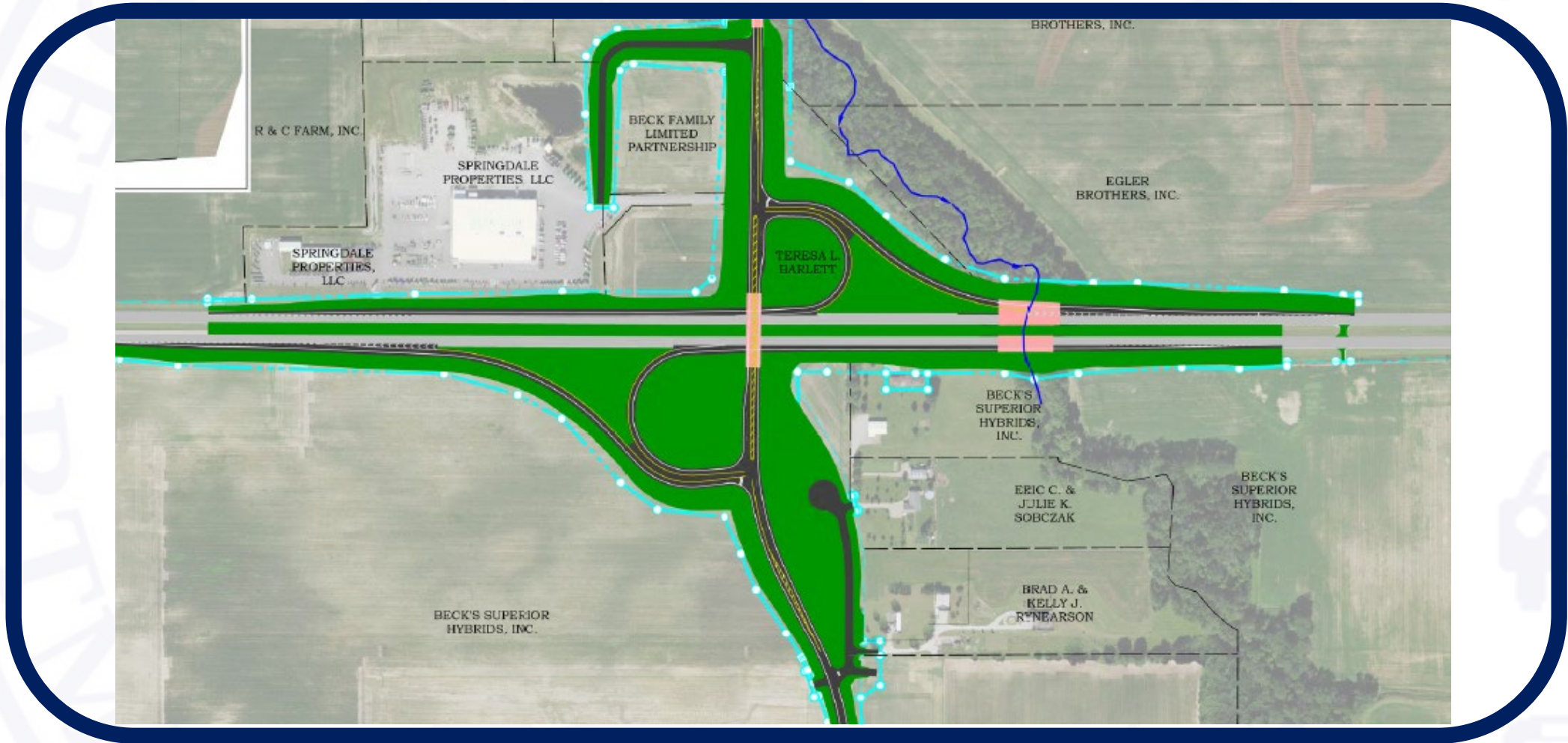
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276th Street Interchange



281st Street



- Construct cul-de-sac
- Remove turn lane
- Remove median cross-over



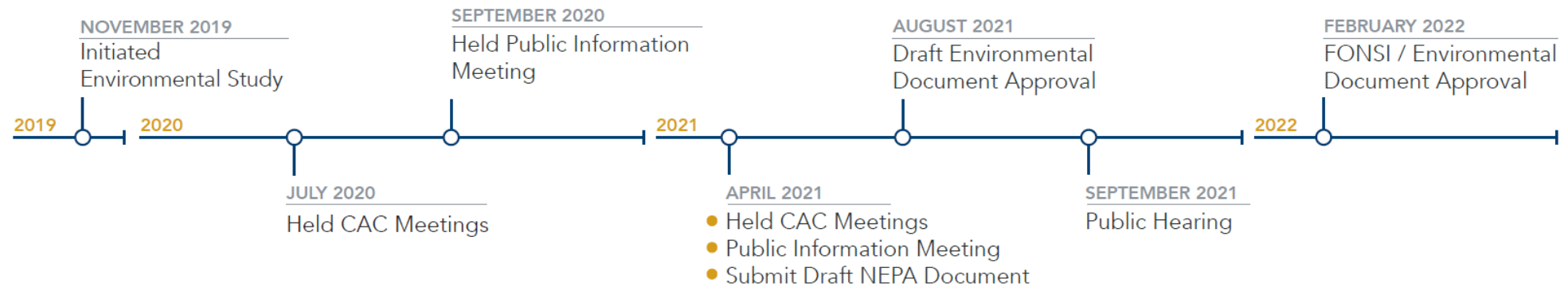
Addressing Previous Comments

- 286th Street to SR 931
 - Concerns related to this section will be addressed with the PEL Study
- Access to US 31 between SR38 and 286th Street
 - 3 interchanges in 7.5 miles
- Intersection treatments 266th Street and 256th Street
 - Minimum spacing for interchanges in rural areas is 2 miles
- Concerns about increased emergency response times
 - Continued coordination needed to look at proposed median cross over locations
 - Will continue to look at alternate US 31 access for emergency vehicle use only
- Concerns about schools
- Concerns about impacts to local roads with additional traffic
 - Continued discussions with local officials



Project Schedule

US 31 ANTICIPATED TIMELINE



Thank You

Comments and Feedback

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Or visit INDOT Project Website:

<https://www.in.gov/indot/4277.htm>

