



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2018

### **Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Planned for U.S. 33 Realignment Project**

*City of Goshen planning a community walk, also*

**GOSHEN** – Officials from Indiana Department of Transportation, Goshen and Elkhart County will gather for a ceremonial ribbon-cutting on Wednesday, May 9, to celebrate the opening of the new U.S. 33 alignment in the City of Goshen. The ceremony will take place atop the U.S. 33 bridge over Lincoln Avenue in the City of Goshen.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony and the community walk will mark the first phase of traffic traveling along the new alignment, which has been re-routed away from Goshen’s downtown historic district. The finished project will result in three bridges: one over the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks, one over Lincoln Avenue, and one over Cottage avenues. The \$18.9 million, three-year construction project also included the widening of U.S. 33/Pike Street from S.R. 15/Third Street to the Elkhart River.

“The realignment of U.S. 33 has been a long time coming. We not only appreciate the collaboration and partnership with the City of Goshen, but thank the residents of the community for their patience throughout the ongoing construction process,” said Todd Johnson, INDOT Deputy Commissioner for the Fort Wayne District. “We know the benefits to the community and the corridor will outweigh any inconvenience experienced the past three years.”

The City of Goshen will host a community walk, also on Wednesday, May 9, from 5-6 p.m. The community is invited to take part in the one-time opportunity to walk the Northern Connector overpass to celebrate its opening to traffic. Please note: the Northern Connector overpass will not be open to pedestrians once vehicles begin traveling on it.

“Mark your calendars and be sure to invite your loved ones,” said Dustin Sailor, Director of Public Works for the City of Goshen. “We want to thank everyone for their patience during these last three years of road construction by giving them the chance to get a sneak peek of the overpass before it officially opens to traffic. This is going to be a great day for the community.”

Soon after the ribbon-cutting and community walk, INDOT contractor Rieth-Riley Construction Company plans to switch northbound U.S. 33 traffic onto the new alignment, with both directions using the new stretch of U.S. 33 by early summer.

The realignment project, which began in May of 2016, is expected to be complete by late summer, weather permitting.

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