



LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for a proposed bridge replacement project, located approximately 0.95 mile west of US 27 in Washington and Root Townships, Adams County.

The purpose of this project is to address bridge deficiencies and provide a hydraulically adequate, structurally sufficient structure enhancing safety at this location.

The project proposes to replace the existing bridge with a three-span concrete slab bridge that will be 100 feet in length and 43.5 feet in width and will retain the existing 10-degree skew. A new guardrail and guardrail transitions and end treatments will be installed with the new bridge, as well as at the intersection of US 224 and CR 100 West. Approach work will be required to tie the new structure into the existing roadway. Riprap will be placed along the spillslopes to prevent scour. One existing pipe under the private drive east of the project bridge will be removed and replaced with a new pipe. One existing pipe on the south side of US 224 that is buried will be removed. One existing pipe under CR 100 W will be removed and replaced with a new pipe adjacent to the existing pipe's location. The overhead electric lines on the south side of the road, the existing gas main on the south side of the road, and the existing communication lines on the north and south sides of the road will be relocated.

The proposed construction of this project will require approximately 0.77 acre of permanent right of way (ROW) and approximately 0.12 acre of temporary ROW.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan for the bridge replacement will require a closure of US 224 during construction. An official state detour route utilizing US 27, SR 124, and SR 301 for a total length of approximately 19.5 miles will be required. The detour will be required for the duration of construction which is anticipated to be approximately 120 days in length. The intersection of US 224 and CR 100 West will remain open. Local roads may be used by local traffic. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations, local officials, and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. The proposed start of construction is Spring 2022.

The cost of construction is estimated at \$800,000, with 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. Approximately 800 linear feet of stream impacts will occur to four streams identified in the project area. No impacts to wetlands will occur. The project will require removal of approximately 0.66 acre of trees and approximately 2.0 acres of terrestrial habitat for construction access and construction of the new bridge. Mitigation for impacts to terrestrial habitat are anticipated to be necessary. Preliminary design plans along with the CE document are available for review at the following locations:

- INDOT Fort Wayne District Website, <https://www.in.gov/indot/4164.htm>
- Adams Public Library-Decatur Branch, 128 S 3rd Street, Decatur, IN 46733 (masks required)

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 Erin Mulryan, Director of Environmental Services, SJCA Inc, 9102 N. Meridian St, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46260, (317) 566-0629, or emulryan@sjcainc.com, on or before March 5, 2021.

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 Office of Public Involvement for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact INDOT Project Manager Karen James at kjames1@indot.in.gov or 260-969-8264. 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 INDOT Project Manager Karen James at kjames1@indot.in.gov or 260-969-8264.

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 *Public Involvement Policies and Procedures* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on August 16, 2012.