



DES # 1800269

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for a small structure improvement project on State Road (SR) 250, 4.61 miles east of SR 129. The project is located in Pleasant Township, Switzerland County.

The existing structure carrying SR 250 over an Unnamed Tributary (UNT) to Bear Branch is a temporary structure that was installed in 2018 to replace a failed concrete structure that had developed severe cracks, leaching, and spalling on the walls of the structure. The existing temporary structure consists of twin 36-inch diameter corrugated metal pipes (CMP) and was placed as an emergency response to maintain traffic on SR 250 until a permanent replacement could be designed and constructed. The lifespan of the twin CMPs is approximately 5 years. The purpose of the project is to provide a structurally sound structure carrying SR 250 over UNT to Bear Branch in order to preserve a safe and functional roadway. The goal is to provide a structure that has a lifespan of 75 years.

The preferred alternative is to replace the existing structure, CV 250-078-51.30, with a new 5-foot by 4-foot reinforced concrete box (RCB) culvert with a length of 56 feet. The new structure will be placed at a 33-degree angle to the roadway, and the upstream streambed will be realigned to remove a 90-degree curve in the stream. Wingwalls will be placed at the inlet of the new structure, and riprap will be placed in the stream at the inlet and outlet of the structure to protect from soil erosion. Riprap will also be placed in the roadside ditches on the northwest, southwest, and southeast quadrants of the structure. The travel lanes crossing the structure will be widened to 11 feet with 3-foot-wide shoulders. East and west of the structure the roadway width will taper to tie into the existing roadway width. The roadway approaches east and west of the new box culvert will be milled and overlaid. The new structure will be extended outside the obstruction-free zone and does not meet standards requiring guardrails; therefore, the existing guardrails will be removed and not replaced.

The project requires approximately 0.69 acre of new permanent right-of-way (ROW) along SR 250. No temporary ROW will be required to complete the project. No relocations of residents or businesses will be required for this project.

The maintenance of traffic is anticipated to be a complete closure of SR 250 with a detour. Traffic will be redirected along a detour route utilizing SR 129, SR 56, and SR 101. The detour route length is approximately 25.2 miles and will require an additional 14.3 miles of travel. Signage will notify motorists of the road closure and detour route. SR 250 will remain open to local traffic accessing homes, services, and businesses for the duration of construction. School corporations, local officials, and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. The proposed start of construction is March 2023.

The project cost is estimated at \$386,600 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. Two streams are present within the project area. UNT 1 to Bear Branch flows south to north through the project structure. UNT 2 to Bear Branch flows from west to east along the north side of SR 250 and is an ephemeral stream feature that flows into UNT 1 to Bear Branch. Approximately 113 linear feet of UNT 1 to Bear Branch will be permanently impacted by this project and approximately 35 linear feet will be temporarily impacted. Approximately 162 linear feet of UNT 2 to Bear Branch will be permanently impacted by this project. No impacts to wetlands will occur. Approximately 0.04 acre of trees in the northwest quadrant of the structure will be removed in order to complete this project.

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

- INDOT Seymour District Website, www.seymour.indot.in.gov
- INDOT Seymour District Office, 185 Agrico Lane, Seymour, IN 47274
- Switzerland County Public Library, 205 Ferry St, Vevay, IN 47043

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Victoria Veach, Ecologist, SJCA Inc., 9102 N. Meridian St, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46260, 317-566-0629, or vveach@sjcainc.com, on or before November 15, 2021. In addition, project information, including the environmental document, may be mailed to interested persons upon request.

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 Terry Summers at tsummers@indot.in.gov or 812-524-3749. 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 Terry Summers at tsummers@indot.in.gov or 812-524-3749.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) Code of 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.