



**DES. # 2002063**

## **LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT**

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for a proposed bridge replacement project (DES. # 2002063) on State Road (SR) 68 over Mill Creek, approximately 0.26 mile east of SR 61 located in Warrick County, Indiana.

The purpose of this project is to address the deterioration of the existing bridge and provide a structure with an INDOT Bridge Inspection Application System (BIAS) rating of 7 (good condition) or better. The need for this project is due to the deteriorating condition of the existing bridge (Structure No. 068-87-01583; NBI #024490). According to the July 9, 2021, INDOT Bridge Inspection Report, the deck underside surfaces are exhibiting intermittent cracking with efflorescence. One minor spall and two impending spalls were noted. The superstructure is exhibiting widespread longitudinal cracking along most of the beam lengths with pronounced efflorescence. Map cracking, rust stains, and spalls were also noted on the superstructure. The substructure is exhibiting exposed reinforcing, full height vertical cracking, moisture stains, and rust stains. The deck, superstructure, and substructure have a current INDOT BIAS rating of 5 (fair condition), while the wearing surface has a current INDOT BIAS rating of 4 (poor condition). The BIAS rating scale ranges from 0 to 9, with a rating of 0 applied to structures in failed condition and a rating of 9 applied to structures in excellent condition.

The project proposes to replace the existing bridge with a 64-foot long, precast reinforced concrete 3-sided structure (arch top). Realignment of approximately 130 linear feet of the existing stream, including channel grading and bank protection, are proposed to protect against scour issues on either end of the structure. The proposed cross section will include two 11-foot travel lanes (one in each direction), 2-foot paved shoulders, and a 2-foot guardrail offset approaching the structure. The proposed structure will likely create a grade raise requiring vertical alignment and approach work to tie into the existing profile.

The proposed construction of this project will require 1.0 acre of new permanent right-of-way and 0.2 acre of reacquired right-of-way. No temporary right-of-way is needed for this project. No relocations or displacements will occur as a result of this project.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan proposes a road closure for 11 months. An official state route detour utilizing SR 68, SR 61, I-64, and SR 161 will be used during construction. Local roads may be used by local traffic. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. The proposed start of construction is August of 2024.

The project will result in a total of 238 linear feet of stream impacts to Mill Creek. A total of 0.67 acre of tree removal is anticipated.

The cost associated with this project is approximately \$2,100,012 which includes preliminary engineering, right-of-way, construction with both 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. Preliminary design plans along with the CE-2 are available for review at the following locations:

1. Lynnville Branch Public Library – 211 N. Main Street, Lynnville, IN 47619
2. INDOT Vincennes District Office: 3650 South U.S. Highway 41, Vincennes, IN 47591
3. INDOT Vincennes District website – <https://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-vincennes-district/>

**All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Kenan Lochmueller at Lochmueller Group, Inc., 6200 Vogel Road, Evansville, Indiana 47715 or at (812)-759-4177 or at [kenan.lochmueller@lochgroup.com](mailto:kenan.lochmueller@lochgroup.com) on or before March 15, 2024.**

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 Lochmueller Group, Inc. for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact Kenan Lochmueller at [kenan.lochmueller@lochgroup.com](mailto:kenan.lochmueller@lochgroup.com) or (812)-759-4177. 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 Kenan Lochmueller, Lochmueller Group, Inc. at [kenan.lochmueller@lochgroup.com](mailto:kenan.lochmueller@lochgroup.com) or (812)-759-4177.

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 Project Development Public Involvement Procedures* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.