

# State Road 327 Curve Correction with Road Realignment DeKalb County

Garrett Public Library

Jan. 12, 2017



# Welcome

- Rickie Clark, INDOT Office of Public Involvement
- Purpose/explanation of public hearing
- Public hearing format
- Visit our sign-in table
- Informational handouts
- Submitting public comments for hearings transcript
- Project display area



# Welcome

- **Introduction of INDOT Project Team**
  - Project Management
  - Public Involvement
  - Fort Wayne District – INDOT Regional Office
  - Environmental Services
  - Real Estate
- **SJCA Engineers**
  - Design Team
- **Recognition of elected and local public officials**



# Public Hearing

- Sign-in at attendance table to be added to project mailing list
- A public hearing notice was mailed to known property owners within project area
- Announcement of this hearing was posted on INDOT website. A media release was also issued
- A copy of presentation and project documentation is available on-line via INDOT website
- **Legal notice publishing:**
  - The Auburn Star
    - Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016 & Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017

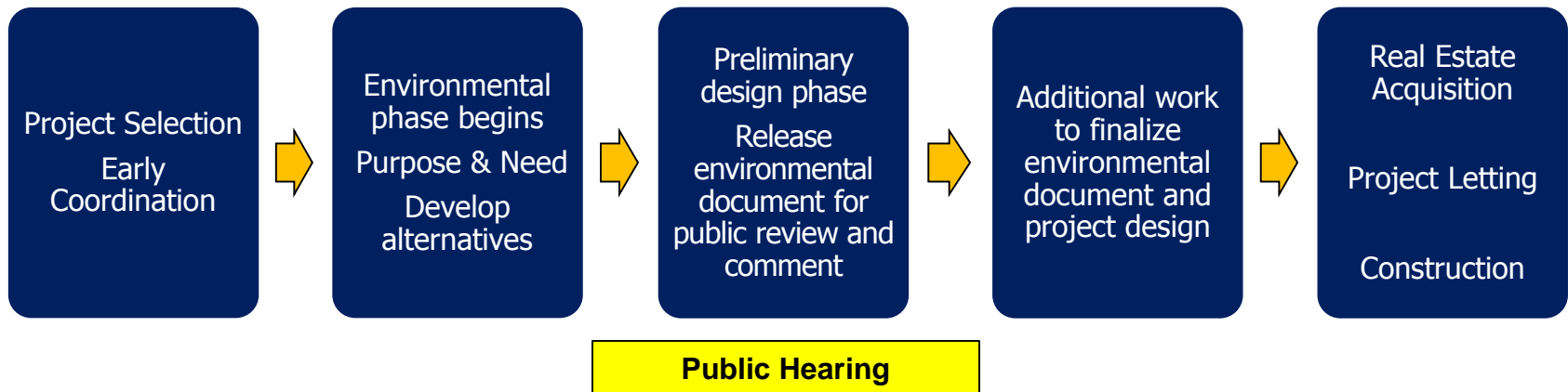


# Project Stakeholders

- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Indiana Division Federal Highway Administration
- DeKalb County
- Elected and local officials
- Community residents and citizens
- Commuters
- Businesses
- Emergency services
- Schools
- Trucking Industry



# Project Development Process



# Environmental Document

- **Requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
- Requires INDOT to analyze and evaluate the impacts of a proposed project to the natural and socio-economic environments
- Impacts are described in environmental document
  - The proposed action to address road curvature on SR 327 involves impact to the natural environment
- Environmental document released for public involvement
  - December 2016
  - Is available for review via public repositories



# Environmental Document

## ■ Environmental Process

- Establish Purpose and Need – Why is the project being proposed?
- Develop a number of possible alternatives
  - The “Do Nothing” alternative is a baseline for comparison
- Evaluate and screen alternatives
- Identify a preferred alternative
- Solicit public comment on environmental document and preliminary design plan
- Solicit, address and fully consider public comment as part of decision making process
- Finalize and approve environmental document





# Environmental Documentation

## A number of items are evaluated

- Right-of-way
- Streams, Wetlands, and Other Waters
- Floodplains
- Endangered Species
- Farmland
- Cultural Resources (Historic/Archaeological)
- Parks and Recreational Lands (Trails)
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Community Impacts
- Environmental Justice
- Hazardous Materials
- Permits
- Mitigation
- Public Involvement
- Commercial Development



# Environmental Documentation

## **INDOT Fort Wayne District Office**

Customer Service Center

5333 Hatfield Road

Fort Wayne, IN 46808

(866) 227-3555; [NEinformation@indot.in.gov](mailto:NEinformation@indot.in.gov)

## **INDOT Office of Public Involvement**

100 North Senate Avenue, Room N642

Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 232-6601; [rclark@indot.in.gov](mailto:rclark@indot.in.gov)

## **Garrett Public Library**

Adult Circulation Desk

107 West Houston Street

Garrett, IN 46738

260-357-5485



# Project Overview

## ■ Curve Correction

- Proposed curve corrections on SR 327 between CR 34 and CR 36 in DeKalb County
- Realign curves currently forming 90 degree junctions by constructing new alignment located south of existing roadway

## ■ Purpose and Need

- Enhance & improve safety within the corridor – this is a safety project
  - 24 vehicular accidents from 2010 – 2013
  - 12 – property damage; 11 – personal injury; 1 fatality (source INDOT Engineer's Report)
- Address two substandard horizontal curves at the north and south junctions of CR 34
- Improve the horizontal alignment of the road
- Improve sight distance
- Upgrade road to current standards



# Alternatives Considered

- **No Build**

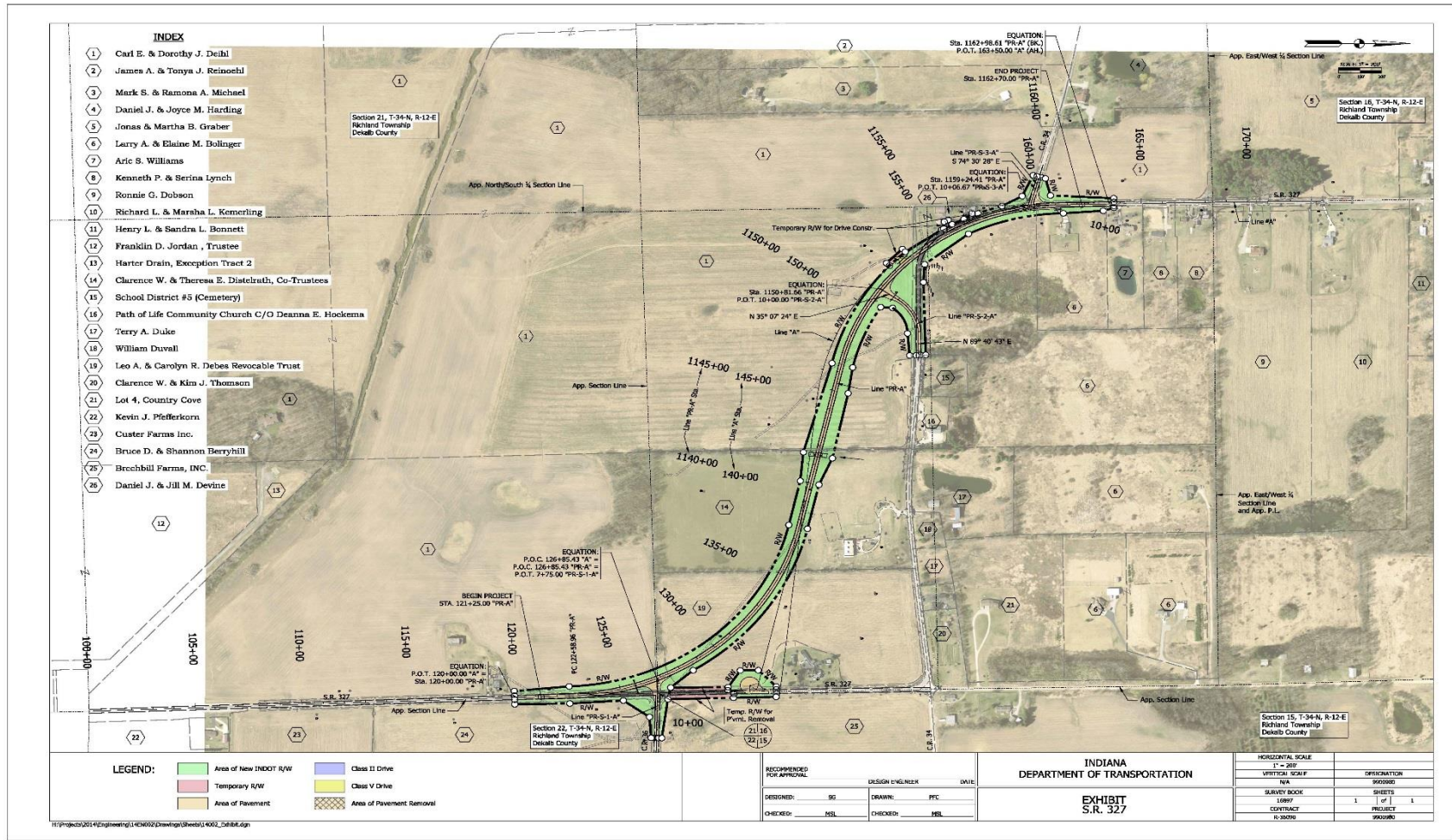
- Would not improve safety within the SR 327 corridor
- Does not address the two substandard horizontal curves

- **Roadway curve correction with road realignment**

- Addresses both substandard horizontal curves forming ninety degree junctions
- New alignment to be located south of existing roadway



# Project Details



# Project Details

## Existing Typical Roadway Section

- Two 11-foot lanes and 2-foot unpaved shoulder

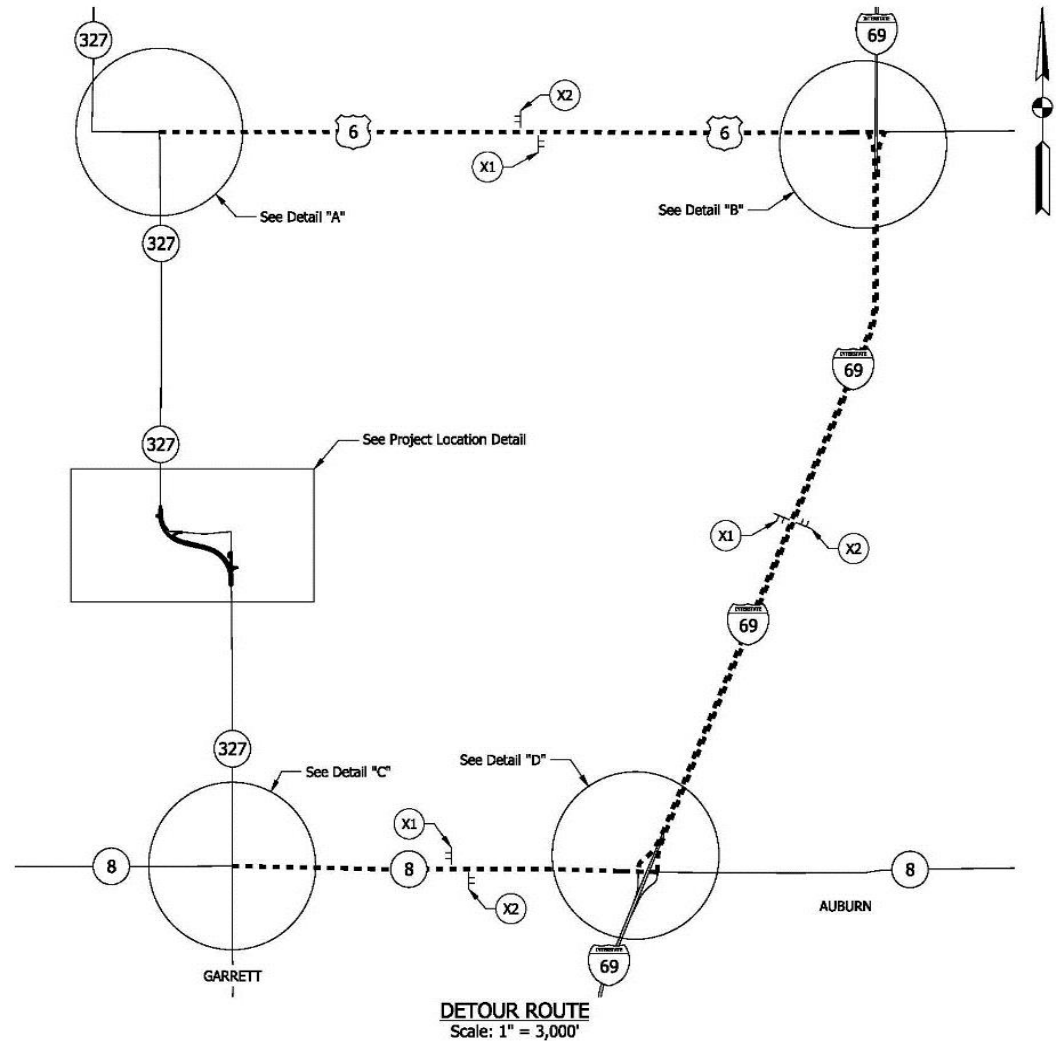
## Proposed Typical Roadway Section and details

- Two 11-foot lanes and 2-foot paved shoulder and 2-foot unpaved shoulder
- Begin project approximately 685 feet south of CR 36 and end approximately 350 feet north of CR 34
- Eliminate the south connection and provide a cul-de-sac
- Realign the roadway to the south of the current east west segment
- Realign roadway to the east at the north tie in point. Provide more room in front of residences
- Reconnect east west segment of old SR 327 south of the 90 degree turn
- Improve drainage by roadside ditches and a new box culvert
- Box culvert: 18'-0 span by 4'-0 rise sumped 1 foot



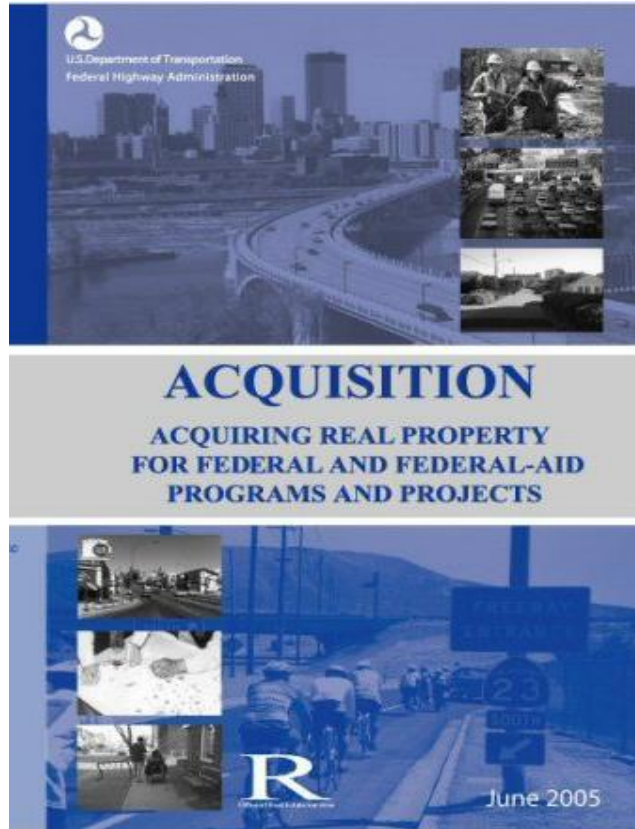
# Maintenance of Traffic

- Existing Roadway will be open to traffic during most of construction
- Existing roadway at the tie in points with proposed alignment will need to be closed for short period of time
- Detour route will be US 6 to I-69 to SR 8





# Real Estate Acquisition Process





# Real Estate Acquisition Process

- **"Uniform Act of 1970"**
  - All federal, state and local governments must comply
  - Requires an offer for just compensation
- **Acquisition Process**
  - Appraisals
  - Review Appraisals
  - Negotiations
- **INDOT Real Estate Team to work with impacted property owners**



# Real Estate Impact

## ■ Right-of-way

- Permanent R/W: 10 acres
  - Agricultural
  - Residential
  - Permanent right-of-way is land/property purchased by INDOT and becomes land/property owned by INDOT
- Temporary R/W: 0.3 acre
  - Temporary right-of-way refers to land/property needed during the construction of a project
  - INDOT pays the legal owner(s) for the right to use the right-of-way for construction purposes
  - At no time does INDOT own land/property identified as temporary R/W



# Project Schedule

- Public Hearing: 1/12/17
- Public comments requested by COB 1/31/17
- INDOT review and consideration of public comments; finalize environmental document and design; reach project decision – Spring 2017
- Real estate acquisition phase – Spring/Summer 2017
- Construction: Spring 2018



# Feedback

- **INDOT would like to hear from you**
  - Talk with INDOT project team members
  - Comment sheet in information packet
  - Email or mail comments to INDOT
  - Sign-in list to be added to project mailing list
  - Visit INDOT Fort Wayne District page at [www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm)
  - All comments are very much appreciated and will be given full consideration by project team



# Submit Public Comments

- **Submit public comments using the options described in first page of information packet:**
  - Public Comment Form
  - Via email
  - Participating during public comment session via microphone
  - Verbal comments recorded and transcribed for inclusion into public hearings transcript
- **INDOT respectfully requests comments be submitted by Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2017**
- All comments submitted will become part of public record, entered into transcript, reviewed, evaluated and given full consideration during decision-making process.



# Next Steps

- **Public and project stakeholder input**
  - Submit comments via options described on page 1 of information packet
- **INDOT review and evaluation**
  - All comments are given full consideration during decision-making process
  - Address comments, finalize/approve environmental document, complete project design
- **Communicate a decision**
  - INDOT will notify project stakeholders of decision
  - Work through local media, social media outlets; paid legal notice
  - Make project documents accessible via repositories
- **Questions? Contact Public Involvement Team**



# Public Involvement Team

- Rickie Clark  
INDOT Office of Public Involvement  
(317) 232-6601  
[rclark@indot.in.gov](mailto:rclark@indot.in.gov)
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# Thank You

- **Please visit with INDOT project officials following the public comment session**
- **Project Open House**
  - Project maps, displays, real estate acquisition table, INDOT project team, and informal Q & A
  - INDOT Fort Wayne District page  
[www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm)





# Public Comment Session

