



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, 9.11 miles east of SR 129, near Lake Geneva/Allensville Road. The project is located in Cotton Township, Switzerland County.

The need for this project is due to the poor rating of the existing structure carrying an unnamed tributary (UNT) to South Fork Laughery Creek under SR 250, which has a condition rating of 4 of 9 (poor) due to perforations that have occurred throughout the length of the structure, complete section loss on the north side, and a scour hole that has developed above the header wall. This condition rating scale provides a numerical value to the conditions of various components of bridge and structures such as wearing surfaces, superstructures, and channel conditions, with 0 out of 9 being the worst scenario (failed conditions) and 9 out of 9 being the best scenario (excellent conditions). If not addressed, these deficiencies could further deteriorate, which could result in more expensive maintenance repairs in the future or possible failure of the culvert or roadway. The purpose of this project is to improve the existing crossing of SR 250 over UNT to South Fork Laughery Creek in order to maintain a safe and functional roadway and stream crossing, as well as provide a crossing with an overall rating of 7 out of 9 (good condition) or higher.

The preferred alternative is to replace the existing structure, CV 250-078-55.80, with a new 6-foot by 5-foot reinforced concrete box culvert. The roadway approaches east and west of the new box culvert will be milled and overlaid, the roadway crossing the new structure will be reconstructed, and new guardrails will be installed within the project area. The reconstructed roadway will provide a two-lane cross section with two 11-foot travel lanes and two 2-foot paved, 3-foot usable shoulders. Riprap will be placed within the UNT to South Fork Laughery Creek at the culvert outlet for erosion protection and control. New concrete headwalls will be constructed at the culvert inlet and outlet. A field entrance drive will be constructed approximately 90 feet west of the project culvert along the south side of SR 250, extending south approximately 32.5 feet from an existing paved drive entrance. A pipe will be installed under the new drive for drainage control, and the proposed structure will consist of a 46-foot-long pipe with a 24-inch diameter and two end sections.

The project requires approximately one (1) acre of 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 and SR 56, adding approximately 25.2 miles or 35 minutes of additional travel. Signage will notify motorists of the road closure and detour route. SR 250 will remain open for local traffic access to 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 construction cost is estimated at \$521,000 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 77 linear feet of total permanent stream impacts and 17 linear feet of total temporary stream impacts will occur from this project. No impacts to wetlands will occur.

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 Christian Radcliff, Permitting Specialist/Ecologist, SJCA Inc, 9102 N. Meridian St, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46260, 317-566-0629, or cradcliff@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 812-5243-749. 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 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.