

Project 421 is the Indiana Department of Transportation's study of the half-mile section of U.S. Route 421 through Madison, Ind., that approaches the Milton-Madison Bridge, which spans the Ohio River between Madison and Milton, Ky.

The goal of Project 421 is to select a route that best addresses the safety concerns, mobility challenges, and economic development needs of Madison.

The current alignment routes nearly 11,500 vehicles on U.S. 421 through a portion of the National Historic Landmark Madison Historic District, causing traffic backups, safety concerns and negative environmental impacts.

Project 421 will also evaluate pedestrian and bicycle movement through Madison, ensuring access is maintained to the Milton-Madison Bridge.

Project 421 has two phases:

- ▶ **Now–Late 2016:** This planning phase includes preliminary engineering, alternative analysis, utility coordination, title research, environmental survey and topographic survey. By November 2016, INDOT will identify the preferred alternative for U.S. 421.
- ▶ **Late 2016–2018:** This detailed design phase includes right of way acquisition, and developing final design and construction plans.

One significant component of the first phase is examining the potential impacts to historic properties in and around the project area. INDOT will follow all guidelines of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 when analyzing the alternatives.

The new Milton-Madison Bridge opened to traffic in April 2014. This half-mile truss superstructure is the longest bridge in North America to be slid laterally into place. It includes two 12-foot lanes and eight-foot shoulders. It also includes a cantilevered sidewalk on the downstream side.

The Milton-Madison Bridge Project was a joint effort between INDOT and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, and has received numerous state and national engineering awards for innovation.



PROJECT 421

Gateway to Madison