

# I-69 Section 6 Scoop



## SR 37 makes the cut, what's next?

State Road 37, the I-69 Section 6 route that was approved back in 2004, has been chosen from the 27 alternative routes as the most reasonable corridor for connecting Martinsville to Indianapolis. SR 37 will now undergo a more detailed study.

INDOT announced on March 29 that it would screen out routes B, D, K3 and K4 based on evaluation measures presented to the public during the 2015 fourth quarter public information meetings. Performance measures, impacts to the human and natural environments, costs and public input were factors considered to move SR 37 forward.

A two-part environmental-impact study began in 1999 to determine a selected route for I-69 connecting Evansville to Indianapolis. In the first phase (Tier 1) of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)-approved environmental study in 2004, SR 37



was the selected route for I-69 Section 6. Section 6 resumed its environmental study in October 2014 once I-69 Section 5 (connecting Bloomington to Martinsville) went into construction.

As I-69 moves forward with SR 37, INDOT will continue various studies including analyzing potential interchange locations, access needs, traffic, options to reduce impacts and more. INDOT

is not planning to purchase land for Section 6 until after the impact study is completed with a federal decision, which is anticipated in 2018.

This information will be presented to the Federal Highway Administration in a document called the Draft Environmental Impact Statement or DEIS. This document shows a complete picture of the project from beginning to end. It describes why the project is needed, the alternatives that were studied, potential effects, and public and agency comments. It will be released in early 2017.



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### I-69 Section 6 Project Office Hours

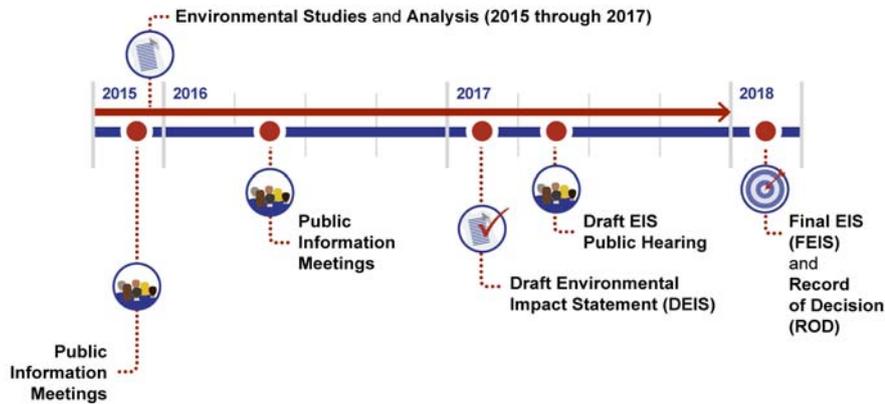
The project office is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., excluding state holidays.



## Section 6 Timeline



# SCHEDULE



INDOT is on schedule to conclude the environmental phase of I-69 Section 6 in the 1st Quarter 2018. INDOT will then move into the design/acquisition phase.

## What's a screening report and what's in it?

The Preliminary Alternatives Screening Report contains data and information that INDOT officials considered before moving forward with the decision to eliminate four of the five preliminary alternative routes, choosing State Road 37 as the most reasonable route.

In this screening report, you can expect a few items. There will be data and information available for you to review as to why State Road 37 was considered to be the best option. This will include more in-depth information about impacts, performance measures and costs.

You will see three variations of proposed I-69 within the SR 37 corridor. These different variations include proposed locations of potential interchanges, overpasses/underpasses (grade separations) and local access roads on the corridor.

There will also be a summary of public comments received during the comment period in the fourth quarter of 2015. INDOT reviewed the public comments before making the decision to choose the SR 37 corridor as the reasonable alternative.

You will have the opportunity to comment on three options for potential locations of new highway lanes, exits, overpasses and access roads along the existing State Road 37 by April 29, 2016. There are a few ways to send in your comments. You can do so by email, phone call, letter or visiting the I-69 Section 6 project office. All information is on the first page of this newsletter.

## I-69 S6 Screening Report Glossary Terms

Here are some glossary terms in the screening report to help you better understand what it means.

**NEPA** – National Environmental Policy Act; law enacted on January 1, 1970; requires a project that involves federal oversight to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that assesses environmental impacts, both natural and human.

**Grade Separation** – A grade separation is the same as an overpass or underpass. It is constructed to allow people to cross from one side of the interstate to the other.

**DEIS** – Draft Environmental Impact Statement; a document that provides an overall summary of the project which includes why the project is needed, alternatives that were studied, potential impacts and comments from the public and state and federal agencies.

