INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

100 North Senate Avenue Room N642 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 PHONE: (317) 232-6601 E-mail: rclark@indot.in.gov Michael R. Pence, Governor Karl B. Browning, Commissioner

Legal Notice of U.S. 50 North Vernon Bypass – East Project Environmental Assessment (EA) Document Availability and Public Hearing

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will hold a public hearing regarding the recently released Environmental Assessment (EA) for the U.S. 50 North Vernon Bypass – East Project. The public hearing will be held on December 18, 2013 in the GT Room of Jennings County High School located at 800 West Walnut Street in North Vernon. Doors will open to the public at 5:00 p.m. and the community is encouraged to visit with project officials in the Library (adjacent to the GT Room), view project displays and ask questions of the project team. The formal presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by a public comment session. The formal presentation and comment session will extend until 8:00 p.m. During the public comment session, interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to express comments, concerns and input regarding the project. The U.S. 50 North Vernon Bypass – East Project EA is now available for public review and inspection. Comments on the EA are being solicited by INDOT. The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on current design plans and the Section 106 finding of "adverse impact".

Since the last public information meeting held in September 2012, the EA for the U.S. 50 North Vernon Bypass – East Project has been completed. This document highlights changes to the alternatives since the September meeting and includes an analysis of the alternatives. The EA identifies the Preferred Alternative.

This is also the final opportunity to comment on the "adverse effect" finding for this project. Per the National Historic Preservation Act, the views of the public are being sought regarding the effect of the proposed project on historic properties within the area of potential effect (per 36CFR800.2(d), 800.3(e) and 800.6(a)(4)). Pursuant to 36CFR800.6(a)(4), the documentation specified in 36CFR800.11(e) are available for inspection (see address below). The documentation serves as the basis for the "adverse effect" finding. The views of the public on effects of the undertaking are being sought. All comments shall be submitted in writing (see address below) by January 3, 2014.

In addition to offering a public comment session, an area will be provided with comment forms and recording devices to capture public comments for those wishing to express comments outside of the public comment session. All public comments will be entered into the official public record and a hearings transcript will be prepared following the public hearing. INDOT is soliciting comments on the U.S. 50 North Vernon Bypass – East Project EA and encourages the community to attend and participate. The official comment period for the EA begins on December 3, 2013 and will end on January 3, 2014. INDOT respectfully requests that comments be submitted or postmarked by that time. Comments on the EA may be sent to: U.S. 50 North Vernon Bypass – East Project, c/o Parsons, 101 West Ohio Street, Suite 2121, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. You may elect to fax comments to (fax) 317-616-1033. Comments may be e-mailed to daniel.prevost@parsons.com.

The U.S. 50 North Vernon Bypass – East Project EA is available for viewing at the following locations: (1) Jennings County Public Library, 2375 North S.R. 3, North Vernon, Indiana 47265, (2) Jennings County Area Plan Commission, 200 East Brown Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282, (3) INDOT Seymour District Office, 185

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Agrico Lane, Seymour, Indiana 47274, and (4) the U.S 50 North Vernon – East Project website at: http://www.in.gov/indot/projects/2429.htm.

In accordance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act", if you have a disability for which the Indiana Department of Transportation would need to provide accommodations pertaining to the accessibility to project documents and participation at the public hearing venue, please contact Rickie Clark, INDOT Office of Public Involvement at (317) 232-6601 relark@indot.in.gov. Also, persons or organizations representing persons of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requiring assistance pertaining to accessing project documents and/or participating at the public hearing venue, are encourage to contact the INDOT Office of Public Involvement.

This notice is published in compliance with Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111 (h)(1) states: "Each state must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program." 23 CFR 450.212 (a)(7) states: "Public involvement procedures shall provide for periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all and revision of the process necessary" approved by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation and the Indiana Department of Transportation on August 16, 2012.

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