



DES. # 2002045

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

Bridge Replacement Project over Eagle Hollow Creek along State Road 56 in Jefferson County

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for a bridge replacement project over Eagle Hollow Creek along State Road (S.R.) 56 in Jefferson County (Des. No 2002045). The proposed project is located approximately 1.89 miles east of the east junction of U.S. 421. Along S.R. 56, the proposed project area extends approximately 350 feet east and 300 feet west of the center of the existing bridge. Along Eagle Hollow Road, the proposed project area extends approximately 170 feet north of the intersection with S.R. 56.

The proposed project is needed due to deterioration of the existing bridge carrying S.R. 56 over Eagle Hollow Creek. An INDOT Bridge Inspection Report dated August 19, 2024, evaluated the bridge and determined that it has a condition rating of 5 (fair) out of 9 (excellent) with cracking, staining, and efflorescence noted. Therefore, the purpose of the proposed project is to improve the condition rating of the bridge to at least 7 (good).

The preferred alternative would replace the existing bridge on S.R. 56 over Eagle Hollow Creek with a three-span steel beam bridge. The approach roadway would be reconstructed to match the proposed bridge width and profile. Riprap would be installed at both bridge abutments and along both sides of the boat launch approach located approximately 120 feet west of the bridge. Riprap drainage turnouts would be installed in the southeast and southwest quadrants of the new bridge. Additionally, a 5-foot-wide wildlife crossing would be installed at the west and east spill slopes, and a 3-foot-wide wildlife crossing would be installed at the west and east abutments. The approaches for Eagle Hollow Road and the boat launch would be realigned to avoid conflict with the new bridge. A retaining wall would be installed along the west side of Eagle Hollow Road, and guardrails within the project area would be replaced.

This proposed project would require approximately 0.5 acre of new, permanent right-of-way and approximately 0.6 acre of temporary right-of-way. Approximately 103 linear feet of Eagle Hollow Creek would be permanently impacted by the installation of the new bridge piers and riprap, and approximately 120 linear feet of Eagle Hollow Creek would be temporarily impacted due to dewatering. Stream impacts are unavoidable, as the bridge replacement, installation of bridge piers, and installation of riprap along the proposed bridge abutments are necessary to meet the purpose and need of the project. Cumulative permanent impacts to Eagle Hollow Creek are not anticipated to meet the threshold requiring mitigation for water impacts.

The proposed project would require approximately 1.1 acres of habitat disturbance for construction access, tree removal, and installation of cofferdams and dewatering systems. Of that total, an estimated 0.70 acre of tree clearing is anticipated for ditch regrading and access to the stream for riprap installation. Terrestrial habitat impacts have been minimized by limiting the disturbed area to only that which is necessary to allow for construction access and project work and through

restoration of all disturbed areas after project completion. Avoidance of habitat disturbance is not possible due to the nature of work to replace the bridge. Terrestrial habitat impacts will reach a level that will require mitigation through the Construction in a Floodway (CIF) permitting process. It is anticipated that the mitigation would be completed on site within the project area. All disturbed areas would be reseeded according to the current INDOT standard specifications.

The Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) for the proposed project would require the closure of S.R. 56 during construction. Traffic would be maintained by a detour utilizing S.R. 56, U.S. 421, and S.R. 129. The intersection of Eagle Hollow Road and S.R. 56 would be closed for the duration of the project. Residents of Eagle Hollow Road would have access to the north. Additionally, the drive for the boat ramp at the southwest corner would be closed for a portion of the project, but secondary access to the property is located approximately 0.5 mile west of the project location. The closures/lane restrictions would pose a temporary inconvenience to traveling motorists; however, no significant delays are anticipated, and all inconveniences and delays would cease upon project completion.

Federal and state funds are expected to be used for construction of this project. The project is anticipated to cost approximately \$5.3 million, which includes engineering, right-of-way, and construction. INDOT and the Federal Highway Administration have agreed that this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 2 environmental document. The CE-Level 2 environmental document is available to view at the following locations:

1. Jefferson County Public Library, 420 W Main St., Madison, IN 47250
2. Online via the INDOT project webpage at <https://bit.ly/SR56EagleHollow>

All interested persons may request a public hearing or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Linda Bardha, HNTB, at 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis, IN 46204, at 317-636-4682, or lbardha@hntb.com on or before June 29, 2026. In addition, project information, including the environmental document, may be mailed upon request.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, INDOT will provide accommodations for persons with disabilities requiring assistance and/or accommodation, or persons of limited English proficiency (LEP) requiring accommodation related to accessibility to documents and participation at the public meeting venue or on the livestream. Should accommodations be required, please contact Linda Bardha, HNTB, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis IN, 46204, or lbardha@HNTB.com.

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 450.212(a)(7) stating: "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 as necessary." 3) The INDOT Project Development Public Involvement Procedures Manual approved by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation on July 7, 2021.