



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N758-RE
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mike Braun, Governor
Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

DES. # 2401595

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for a pedestrian infrastructure improvement project along Pine Lake Ave., within the City of La Porte, LaPorte County, Indiana. The purpose of this project is to improve conditions for pedestrian traffic by providing ADA-compliant pedestrian facilities, as well as adequate lighting and signage to better control traffic within the project area.

The proposed project will include two different project areas. One is located on Pine Lake Ave, also known as US 35, north of the S.R. 39 intersection and will be referred to as the northern project site. The other is on Pine Lake Ave, also known as S.R. 39, near Hawley St., and will be referred to as the southern project site. The project areas are approximately 1 mile apart.

The northern project area is located approximately 500 ft north of S.R. 39 to 350 ft south of S.R. 39. The northeast side of Pine Lake Ave is adjacent to three commercial properties north of the S.R. 39 intersection. The southwest side of Pine Lake Ave is adjacent to a public park, Kiwanis-Teledyne Park. One midblock crossing and one midblock crossing will be installed at this site.

The southern project area is 33 ft in length, approximately 120 ft south of Hawley St. also known as Wardner Ave. The northern shoulder is adjacent to residential properties; the southern shoulder is adjacent to a public park, Soldiers Memorial Park. One midblock crossing will be installed at this site.

The preferred alternative will install three new pedestrian crossings across the two project areas. All crossings will have ADA-compliant curb ramps, new crosswalk and travel lane pavement markings, and new pedestrian warning signage, including rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) systems, as applicable. The northern project area will also install a pedestrian refuge at the median and new curbing in the immediate area around the curb ramps. Due to a lack of sufficient lighting in the immediate vicinity of the midblock crossing locations, the signage installed at these crossings will include Dark Sky-compliant triggered crosswalk illuminators to further increase pedestrian safety.

To facilitate the pedestrian refuge at the northernmost crosswalk, the existing center median will be extended approximately 200 ft north along Pine Lake Ave. This will cause a permanent change in access for two of the commercial properties north of the S.R. 39 intersection: 1251 Pine Lake Ave and 1233 Pine Lake Ave. Due to the extension of the center median, left turns into and out of these driveways will no longer be possible. Right turns into and out of these driveways will not be impacted and access to the properties through an existing secondary entrance off S.R. 39 will be maintained during and after construction.

The estimated cost for this project is \$790,000. Federal and local funds will be utilized for the construction of the project. The project will take one construction season to complete. The Federal Highway Administration and INDOT have agreed that this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 1 environmental document.

Preliminary design plans and a draft environmental document are available for review at the following locations:

- INDOT LaPorte District Website, www.laporte.indot.in.gov
- INDOT LaPorte District Office, 315 E. Boyd Blvd., La Porte, IN 46350
- LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte, IN 46350

Persons with limited internet access may request project information be mailed. Please contact Marie Jaffe at mjaffe@hwlochner.com or by phone at 919-645-1157. A hard copy of the CE document can be mailed to interested parties upon request.

All interested parties may submit comments and/or request a public hearing by submitting written correspondence to the attention of Marie Jaffe with Lochner Engineering. She can be reached by email at mjaffe@hwlochner.com or by phone at 919-645-1157. Concerns or comments may be submitted on or before June 26, 2026.

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 Marie Jaffe at mjaffe@hwlochner.com or by phone at 919-645-1157 for the arrangement and coordination of services.

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 Marie Jaffe at mjaffe@hwlochner.com or by phone at 919-645-1157.

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 Project Development Public Involvement Procedures Manual approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.