## FHWA-Indiana Environmental Document CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION / ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Road 1	No./County:	State Road (SR) 2 and Cou	nty Road (CR) 500 West (W) / LaPorte County					
Design	nation Number(s):	2200043						
Projec Descri	et ption/Termini:	Intersection Improvement I	Project / 3.27 Miles West of SR 39					
X	Categorical Exclusion,	Level 2 – Required Signatories: I	NDOT DE and/or INDOT ESD					
	Categorical Exclusion,	Level 3 – Required Signatories: I	NDOT ESD					
	Categorical Exclusion, Level 4 – Required Signatories: INDOT ESD and FHWA							
	Environmental Assessment (EA) – Required Signatories: INDOT ESD and FHWA							
	<b>Additional Investigation (AI)</b> – The proposed action included a design change from the original approved environmental document. Required Signatories must include the appropriate environmental approval authority							
Approv		Γ DE Signature and Date	INDOT ESD Signature and Date					
	FHV	VA Signature and Date						
Release	e for Public Involveme	nt <u>SFM 1</u> INDOT DE Ini	0/22/2025 tials and Date INDOT ESD Initials and Date					
Certific	cation of Public Involv	ement	INDOT Consultant Services Signature and Date					
INDOT	Γ DE/ESD Reviewer Si	gnature and Date:						
Name a	and Organization of C	E/EA Preparer:	Samantha Wickizer, Metric Environmental, LLC					

County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 V	/est	Des. No.	2200043	
		Pa	rt I – Public In	volvement			
		some level of publi	c involvement, providint should be commensur	ng for early and conti		rtunities throu	ighout the projec
Dogg th	a musicat hava a hist	- 	d van don the Historia D	midaaa DA*9		Yes	No X
If No, the		one bridge processe	d under the Historic B	riages PA*?			Α
Oppo	ortunity for a Public		s processed under the F	listoric Bridges Progra	mmatic Agre	X eement betwee	n INDOT, FHWA
		activities (legal notic	es, letters to affected pi	operty owners and resi	dents (i.e. no	otice of entry)	, meetings, specia
	eetings, newspaper art			4		1 27 2022	
about the		dividuals responsible	y affected property over for land surveying and x G, page G-1.				
(FHWA) 9, 2025, commen	's) finding of "No H offering the public	istoric Properties A an opportunity to su 30 days on August	Section 106, a legal refrected" was published bmit comment pursua 3, 2025. No comments 5.	d in the <i>LaPorte Cou</i> nt to 36 CFR 800.2(d	nty Herald- ), 800.3(e),	Dispatch nev and 800.6(a)	wspaper on July (4). The public
Developed submit confor this	ment Public Involve comments and/or req project. Therefore, a	ement Procedures Muest a public hearing legal notice of pul	s described in the cur Manual which require g. INDOT has determ blic hearing will appe t will be revised after	s the project sponsor ined that it is in the par ar in a local publicat	to offer the bublic's interion conting	he public an rest to hold a gent upon the	opportunity to a public hearing e release of this
	-			•	•		
	C <b>ontroversy on Env</b> ublic controversy co		<b>18</b>   and/or natural resou	rce impacts, including	g what is be	ing done dur	ing the project to
ninimize i		: 1 11:				1	
At this ti	me, there is no subs	tantiai public contro	versy concerning impa	icts to the community	or to natura	ai resources.	
	Part II - Gene	eral Project Id	<u>lentification, D</u>	escription, and	<u>l Design</u>	Informa	<u>ation</u>
Sponsor	of the Project:	INDOT			INDOT I	District:	LaPorte
Local Na	ame of the Facility:		W			_	
Funding	Source (mark all the	at apply):	Federal X	State X	Local		Other*
1 unumg	source (mark an inc	ii appiy).	redeful 11	State 11	Local		
*If other	is selected, please ic	dentify the funding s	ource:				
PURPO	SE AND NEED:						
The need	should describe th		ation problem or dej				
			solution to the traffic p h frequency of car cra				
			2019. Of these, 4 cra				
			, 3 crashes (13.64%)				
			crashes (13.64%), 1 dency of crash type i				
			d these crashes often				
			section with intersecti				
			s a roadway is perfor on. Crash data for this				
			ontrolling traffic at thi				
This:	is naga 2 of 23	Project name:	Intersection Improve	nant Project	Data	· October 3	1 2025

County <u>LaPorte</u>	Route SR 2 and C	R 500 West	_ Des. No.	2200043	
factors such as speed, travel designation from A to F, w conditions (breakdown flow travel hour and a LOS of D expected to reach a LOS of	term used to qualitatively describe time, mobility and delay. There with LOS A representing the best conduction of the conduction of the conduction of the conduction of the conduction of the conduction of the conduction of the conduction of the c	are six criteria to de t operating condition s a LOS of C (stable ng the PM peak trav ). Excerpts relating	termine LOS and e as (free flow), and e flow, at or near free yel hour. The LOS	ach level is assig LOS F the worse flow) during the on southbound C	ned a letter st operating ne AM peak R 500 W is
	s to improve the safety and efficie the number of right-angle crashes			tion by reducing	the ICF to a
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	N (PREFERRED ALTERNATIV	/E):			
County: LaPorte	Municipa	lity: N/A			
Limits of Proposed Work:	Project limits will extend approx north and 389 ft. south along CR		t.) west and 820 ft. 6	east along SR 2 ar	nd 297 ft.
Total Work Length:	0.60 Mile(s)	Total Work Ar	rea:	5.64 Acre(s)	
	ment (IAD) <sup>1</sup> required? provide a Determination of Engine f the approved CE/EA document must		1 2	Yes¹ Date: for final approval of	No X
deficiencies, roadway description the project will meet the Purpose INDOT and FHWA intend to Location  The project is located at the Specifically, the project is located at the specifically.	luding township, range, city, county, n, surrounding features, etc. Preferred and Need. Logical termini and independent of proceed with a proposed intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 Vocated within Sections 5, 6, 7, and inted States Geological Survey (US)	d alternative should intendent utility also need ration improvement prower approximately 3.2 d 8, Township 36 No.	clude the scope of wediscussed. Toject in LaPorte Co 27 miles west of SR orth, Range 3 West	unty, Indiana.  39 (Appendix B as illustrated on	pacts, and how
west 12 ft. wide travel lane. the intersection with CR 500 south 11 ft. wide travel lane for traffic traveling on CR movements and limits capacilimits during the three-year crashes. There are no sideway project area is 55 miles-per-	The travel lanes are bordered by 60 W. CR 500 W is classified as a with no usable shoulders. Traffic 500 W. This configuration increity especially during peak travel period (2017 through alks or other pedestrian amenities perhour (mph) and the posted speed ltural and residential dwellings with	of ft. wide gravel shou Rural Local Agency on SR 2 is free-flow eases the potential of periods. A total of 22 2019) with the high present in the project limit on CR 500 W	alders, and there are y Collector roadway ving. There is a two for right angle crass 2 recorded crashes est frequency of crass area. The posted spis 30 and 45 mph.	e dedicated right-ty that provides on o-way stop at the shes caused durintook place within ashes being left topeed limit on SR Land use within	urn lanes at the north and intersection ing left turn the project irn or angle 2 within the the project
roundabout will consist of a providing a 38 ft. interior gr provide 12 ft. entry and ex approximately 3 ft. paved she will have approximately 2 ft along with enclosed drainage quadrant of the intersection.	ill modify the existing intersection 140 ft. diameter roundabout with ass area and a 13 ft. truck apron be it lanes from the approaches of oulders with an additional 8 ft. grate, paved shoulders. The proposed e and underdrains that will direct to Other features of the roundabout pavement markings will include design.	one 19 ft. circulator pordered by concrete SR 2 and CR 500 evel shoulder in a few drainage infrastructurunoff into a detentio will include raised m	ry travel lane and are curb and gutter. The W. The approach of locations. The appure includes installation basin that will be nedians on each leg	n inscribed diame ne roadway cross- roads along SR roach roads along tion of new road constructed in th of the roundabou	ter of 51 ft. section will 2 will have g CR 500 W side ditches e southwest t of varying

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County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 West	Des. No.	2200043

Seven 160-watt type II LED lights will be installed throughout the interchange. The lights will be installed in a staggered orientation and will extend approximately 230 ft. along the east approach and 175 ft. along the west approach of SR 2 and 80 ft. along the north approach and 30 ft. along the south approach of CR 500 W. Project plan sheets are provided in Appendix B, pages B-22 to B-43.

It is anticipated that the project will require 2.35 acres of reacquired right of way (ROW) and 2.02 acres of permanent ROW with 2.22 acres planned to be converted from prime farmland. The project will also require temporary ROW for driveway construction consisting of 0.023 acre of residential land and 0.096 acre of commercial land. Tree clearing is also planned as a part of the project and will include 0.014 acre of tree removal. The project will result in 5.63 acres of land disturbance and will require a Construction Stormwater General Permit (CSGP).

The project termini are logical because they encompass only the area necessary to reconstruct the intersection with the single-lane roundabout and tie the improvements into the existing roadways for a smooth transition. The project limits will extend approximately 1,640 ft. west and 820 ft. east along SR 2 and 297 ft. north and 389 ft. south along CR 500 W. The project has independent utility as it does not depend on the construction of a secondary project to be considered complete.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan will require a detour as the intersection will be closed during construction. The detour will utilize SR 39, US 6, and US 421 (Appendix B, B-31 to B-32). Additional details are provided in the MOT During Construction section of this document. The preferred alternative will meet the purpose and need of the project by improving the safety and efficiency of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection by reducing the ICF to a level less than 2 by reducing the number of right-angle crashes and improving the LOS to a level A.

## OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Provide a header for each alternative. Describe all discarded alternatives, including the No Build Alternative. Explain why each discarded alternative was not selected. Make sure to state how each alternative meets or does not meet the Purpose and Need and why.

#### No Build

The "No Build" alternative would allow the existing intersection to remain in place with no improvements and would not require the expenditure of funds. Although this alternative is feasible it would not be prudent to allow the existing conditions to persist and contribute to high frequency of right-angle crashes and low LOS for the surrounding community. This alternative does not meet the purpose and need of the project and was discarded from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, pages I-6 to I-7 and I-14.

#### **Signalized Intersection**

The signalized intersection alternative consists of installing a traffic signal at the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection. An eastbound and westbound left turn auxiliary lane would be constructed. SR 2 would require approximately 6 ft. of pavement widening on each side of the existing pavement. This alternative is predicted to improve the intersection to LOS B or greater for all approach movements and improve safety by reducing right angle crashes. However, the installation of traffic signals has the potential to increase rear-end and red-light running accidents. Although this alternative was deemed a viable option, further analysis identified that the preferred alternative performed more proficiently in regards to both safety and efficiency. This alternative does not address the purpose and need of the project by improving the intersection to LOS A for all approach movements. For these reasons, the signalized intersection alternative was discarded from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, page I-17. Further discussion of this alternative is provided in Appendix I, page I-14.

#### Median U-turn (J-turn)

A median U-turn (J-turn) intersection requires installation of a median along SR 2 with dedicated left turn lanes for through traffic and rerouting of cross traffic from CR 500 W to a U-turn. This alternative requires extensive reconstruction of both roadways to accommodate a concrete median and widened roadways. This alternative would require expansion of the project footprint in relation to the preferred alternative, likely to result in the need for additional permanent ROW and increased expenditure of funds. This alternative would likely meet the purpose and need by reducing the potential for right angle crashes and improving the LOS; however, due to the expanded footprint, potential increase in expenditure of funds and environmental impacts it was determined to be a less desirable option. Therefore, it was dismissed from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, page I-8.

## **Displaced Left-turn (DLT) intersection**

A DLT intersection is a type of intersection in which all left-turns from the mainline road and sometimes the minor roadway are made in a two-stage process. Vehicles first cross from the center to the opposite side of the roadway at an initial signalized

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intersection and then proceed to the primary signal via a special roadway parallel to the main roadway. At the primary signal, vehicles complete the left turn at the same time as through traffic since they are no longer in conflict with one another. Installation of a DLT at the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection involves installation of 3 traffic signals and requires extensive alteration of the existing intersection to construct the special parallel roadway. This alternative would require expansion of the project footprint in relation to the preferred alternative, likely to result in the need for additional permanent ROW and increased expenditure of funds. This alternative would likely meet the purpose and need by reducing the potential for right angle crashes and improving the LOS; however, due to the expanded footprint, potential increase in expenditure of funds and environmental impacts it was determined to be a less desirable option. Therefore, it was dismissed from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, page I-8.

#### **Jughandle Intersection**

A Jughandle intersection removes the left turns from SR 2 by constructing left turning ramps to CR 500 W. This configuration removes the left turn movements from the intersection and requires extensive reconstruction of the intersection to accommodate the left turning ramps. This alternative would require expansion of the project footprint in relation to the preferred alternative, likely to result in the need for additional permanent ROW and increased expenditure of funds. This alternative would likely meet the purpose and need by reducing the potential for right angle crashes and improving the LOS; however, due to the expanded footprint, potential increase in expenditure of funds and environmental impacts it was determined to be a less desirable option. Therefore, it was dismissed from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, pages I-8 to I-9.

#### Offset "T" Intersection

The offset "T" intersection creates a staggered or offset configuration where CR 500 W northbound and southbound traffic would intersect SR 2 at two separate points, rather than one continuous intersection. This alternative would require extensive reconstruction of the intersection to allow for the north leg of CR 500 W to tie into SR 2 approximately 700 ft. west of the intersection and the realignment of approximately 2,000 ft. of CR 500 W. This alternative would require expansion of the project footprint in relation to the preferred alternative, likely to result in the need for additional permanent ROW and increased expenditure of funds. This alternative would likely meet the purpose and need by reducing the potential for left and right angle crashes and improving the LOS; however, due to the expanded footprint, potential increase in expenditure of funds and environmental impacts it was determined to be a less desirable option. Therefore, it was dismissed from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, page I-9.

#### **Continuous Green "T" Intersection (CGT)**

A CGT intersection consists of a 3-leg intersection in which through traffic does not have to stop and cross traffic is controlled via a stop signal. Left turn movements for both through traffic and cross traffic consist of dedicated deceleration and acceleration lanes. This type of intersection is only applicable to an existing "T" intersection. Since the existing intersection is not a "T" intersection, this alternative was removed from consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, page I-9.

### **Quadrant Roadway Intersection**

A quadrant roadway intersection consists of rerouting all four left-turn movements at the intersection onto a new road that would connect the intersection of CR 500 W and SR 2 to another intersection. This alternative would require expansion of the project footprint in relation to the preferred alternative, likely to result in the need for additional permanent ROW and increased expenditure of funds. This alternative would likely meet the purpose and need by reducing the potential for right angle crashes and improving the LOS; however, due to the expanded footprint, potential increase in expenditure of funds and environmental impacts it was determined to be a less desirable option. Therefore, it was dismissed from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, page I-9.

## **Grade Separation**

A grade separation requires the construction of a bridge to carry CR 500 W over SR 2. This alternative would eliminate access between CR 500 W and SR 2, causing traffic to travel further to other intersections to get to SR 2. This alternative would require expansion of the project footprint in relation to the preferred alternative, likely to result in the need for additional permanent ROW and increased expenditure of funds. This alternative would remove right angle crashes entirely but does not meet the purpose and need due to elimination of the intersection and LOS rating. Therefore, this alternative was dismissed from further consideration. This alternative is discussed in the Engineer's Report provided in Appendix I, page I-9.

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The No Build Alternative is not feasible, prudent or practicable because (Mark all that apply): t would not correct existing safety hazards; t would not correct existing safety hazards; t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated and duplicate for each roadway.  SR 2  Existing Proposed  State Proposed		maran	.a 2 opa o	oaoportati	<b></b>	
t would not correct existing capacity deficiencies; t would not correct texisting safety hazards; t would not correct texisting safety hazards; t would not correct texisting deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would result in serious impacts to the motoring public and general welfare of the economy. Dither (Describe):  **ROADWAY CHARACTER:**  **ROADWAY CHARACTER:**  **CROADWAY CHARACTER:**  **CRUTERIAL Principal Arterial  **Current ADT:**  **CRUTERIAL Principal Arterial  **CRU	County <u>LaPorte</u>	Route	SR 2 and CR 50	0 West	Des. No.	2200043
t would not correct existing capacity deficiencies; t would not correct texisting safety hazards; t would not correct texisting safety hazards; t would not correct texisting deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would result in serious impacts to the motoring public and general welfare of the economy. Dither (Describe):  **ROADWAY CHARACTER:**  **ROADWAY CHARACTER:**  **CROADWAY CHARACTER:**  **CRUTERIAL Principal Arterial  **Current ADT:**  **CRUTERIAL Principal Arterial  **CRU	The No Ruild Alternative is no	nt feasible nru	dent or practicable	hecause (Mark all tha	at annly):	
twould not correct existing safety hazards; twould not correct existing roadway geometric deficiencies; twould not correct existing roadway geometric deficiencies; twould not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or twould result in serious impacts to the motoring public and general welfare of the economy.  The proposed action includes multiple roadways, complete and duplicate for each roadway.  Name of Roadway SR 2  Summer of Lanes:  Type of Lanes:  Shoulder Width:  Median Width:  Sidewalk Width:  Summer of Roadway  Functional Classification:  Current ADT:  Sesigned Speed (mph):  Solomal Speed (mph):		· -	_	because (mark an ma	u appiy).	1
t would not correct the existing roadway geometric deficiencies; t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or t would result in serious impacts to the motoring public and general welfare of the economy.  Define (Describe):    Common		· -	ics,			
t would not correct existing deteriorated conditions and maintenance problems; or twould result in serious impacts to the motoring public and general welfare of the economy. Other (Describe):  **ROADWAY CHARACTER:**  **CRADWAY CHARACTER:**  **CRA		•	atric deficiencies:			
The continuent of the motoring public and general welfare of the economy.   Continuent of the proposed action includes multiple roadways, complete and duplicate for each roadway.	_		·	ea nroblems: or		
Describe   Company   Com					mv	
### ACOUNTY CHARACTER:  ### CROADWAY CHARACTER:  ### CRUTCH CHARACTER:  ### CROADWAY		is to the motorn	ig public and genera	i wellare of the econor	ny.	
Second   Company   Compa	other (Bescribe).					
SR 2   Rural Principal Arterial	ROADWAY CHARACTER:					
SR 2   Rural Principal Arterial	the proposed action includes w	vultinle roadway	es complete and dun	dicate for each roadwa	71.	
Rural Principal Arterial   9,008   VPD (2027)   Design Year ADT:   9,668   VPD (2042)   Design Hour Volume (DHV):   1,001   Truck Percentage (%)   1.97   55   Legal Speed (mph):   55			ь, сотрые ини иир	wate for each roudwa	<i>.y</i> •	
Design Year ADT:   Q,008   VPD (2027)   Design Year ADT:   Q,668   VPD (20427)   Design Hour Volume (DHV):   1,001   Truck Percentage (%)   1.97     55	•		al Arterial		-	
Design Hour Volume (DHV):   1,001   Truck Percentage (%)   1.97     55     Legal Speed (mph):   55				Design Vear ADT:	9.668 V	PD (2047)
Existing   Proposed				_	2,000 V	10 (2047)
Sumber of Lanes:   2   2   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   12 ft. travel lanes   12 ft. travel lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   12-15 ft.	` ,		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
Sumber of Lanes:   2   12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane   10 ft. circu	Designed Speed (mpn).		gai speed (mpii).			
12 ft. travel lanes			Existing	Proposed	d	
Type of Lanes:   12 ft. travel lanes   19 ft. circulatory travel lane	Number of Lanes:		2	2		
19 ft. circulatory travel lane   24   ft.   30   ft.   3-8   ft.		12	ft traval lance	12-15 ft. entry/e	exit lanes	
Shoulder Width:   6   ft.   ft.   5-10   ft.   5-10   ft.     Sidewalk Width:   N/A   ft.   N/A   ft.   N/A   ft.     Sidewalk Width:   N/A   ft.   N/A   ft.     Sidewalk Width:   N/A   ft	Гуре of Lanes:	12	it. traver lanes	19 ft. circulatory	travel lane	
Median Width:   N/A   ft.	Pavement Width:	24	ft.	30	ft.	
Asidewalk Width: N/A ft. N/A f	Shoulder Width:	6	ft.	3-8	ft.	
Name of Roadway   CR 500 W   Functional Classification:   Rural Local Agency Collector   Current ADT:   2,249   VPD (2027)   Design Year ADT:   2,249   VPD (2044)   Design Hour Volume (DHV):   224   Truck Percentage (%)   1.34   30 & 45   Designed Speed (mph):   30 & 45   Des	Median Width:	N/A	ft.	5-10	ft.	
Rural Local Agency Collector   2,249   VPD (2027)   Design Year ADT:   2,249   VPD (2047)   Design Hour Volume (DHV):   224   Truck Percentage (%)   1.34   30 & 45   Legal Speed (mph):   30 & 45     Truck Percentage (mph):   30 & 45	Sidewalk Width:	N/A	ft.	N/A	ft.	
Rural Local Agency Collector   2,249   VPD (2027)   Design Year ADT:   2,249   VPD (2047)   Design Hour Volume (DHV):   224   Truck Percentage (%)   1.34   30 & 45   Legal Speed (mph):   30 & 45     Truck Percentage (mph):   30 & 45		GD =00 ***				
Current ADT:   2,249   VPD (2027)   Design Year ADT:   2,249   VPD (2047)	-		~ "			
Design Hour Volume (DHV):						
Existing   Proposed					2,249 V	PD (2047)
Existing         Proposed           Number of Lanes:         2         2           Type of Lanes:         11 ft. travel lanes         12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes           Pavement Width:         22         ft.         24-30         ft.           Shoulder Width:         0         ft.         2-1         ft.           Median Width:         N/A         ft.         5-10         ft.           Sidewalk Width:         N/A         ft.         N/A         ft.           Setting:         Urban         Suburban         X         Rural			- ' '			
Number of Lanes:         2         2           Type of Lanes:         11 ft. travel lanes         12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes           Pavement Width:         22         ft.         24-30         ft.           Shoulder Width:         0         ft.         2-1         ft.           Median Width:         N/A         ft.         5-10         ft.           Sidewalk Width:         N/A         ft.         N/A         ft.           Setting:         Urban         Suburban         X         Rural	Designed Speed (mph):	30 & 45 Leg	gal Speed (mph):	30 & 45		
Number of Lanes:         2         2           Type of Lanes:         11 ft. travel lanes         12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes           Pavement Width:         22         ft.         24-30         ft.           Shoulder Width:         0         ft.         2-1         ft.           Median Width:         N/A         ft.         5-10         ft.           Sidewalk Width:         N/A         ft.         N/A         ft.           Setting:         Urban         Suburban         X         Rural						
Number of Lanes:         2         2           Type of Lanes:         11 ft. travel lanes         12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes           Pavement Width:         22         ft.         24-30         ft.           Shoulder Width:         0         ft.         2-1         ft.           Median Width:         N/A         ft.         5-10         ft.           Sidewalk Width:         N/A         ft.         N/A         ft.           Setting:         Urban         Suburban         X         Rural			Existing	Propose	·d	
Type of Lanes:         11 ft. travel lanes         12-15 ft. entry/exit lanes           Pavement Width:         22 ft.         24-30 ft.           Shoulder Width:         0 ft.         2-1 ft.           Median Width:         N/A ft.         5-10 ft.           Sidewalk Width:         N/A ft.         N/A ft.           Setting:         Urban         Suburban         X Rural	Number of Lanes:					
Pavement Width:  Shoulder Width:  Median Width:  N/A  Sidewalk Width:  Urban  19 ft. circulatory travel lane  24-30  ft.  24-30  ft.  2-1  ft.  5-10  ft.  N/A  ft.  Suburban  X  Rural					exit lanes	
Pavement Width:         22         ft.         24-30         ft.           Shoulder Width:         0         ft.         2-1         ft.           Median Width:         N/A         ft.         5-10         ft.           Sidewalk Width:         N/A         ft.         N/A         ft.           Setting:         Urban         Suburban         X         Rural	Type of Lanes:	11 1	tt. travel lanes			
Shoulder Width:         0         ft.         2-1         ft.           Median Width:         N/A         ft.         5-10         ft.           Sidewalk Width:         N/A         ft.         N/A         ft.           Setting:         Urban         Suburban         X         Rural		22	ft.			
Median Width:  N/A ft.  Sidewalk Width:  N/A ft.  N/A ft.  N/A ft.  N/A ft.  N/A ft.  N/A ft.  Rural						
Sidewalk Width: N/A ft. N/A ft. N/A ft.  Setting: Urban Suburban X Rural			_			
Setting: Urban Suburban X Rural						
	rae walk wilder.	11/71		11/71	1t.	
	Setting:	Urban		Suburban [	X Rural	
LONOGRANDAY:   X   Level       Kolling     Hilly		X Level		Rolling	Hilly	
Tomas Inniy	copograpity.	11 Lovei				

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County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500	West	_ Des. No	o. <u>220004</u>	43	
BRIDGE	ES AND/OR SMALL S'	TRUCTURE(	S):					
	osed action includes multi			e for each brid	lge and/or small sti	ructure. Inc	lude both	existing and
proposed br	ridge(s) and/or small struct	ure(s) in this sec	ction.					
Structure	/NBI Number(s): N/A				Sufficiency Ratio	ng: N	J/A	
		F	Existing		Proposed			
Bridge/St	ructure Type:		N/A		N/A			
Number of			N/A		N/A			
	estrictions:		ton		ton			
	estrictions:	N/A	ft.	N/A	ft.			
	Curb Width:	N/A	ft.	N/A	ft.			
	o Outside Width:	N/A	ft.	N/A	ft.			
Shoulder	Width:	N/A	ft.	N/A	ft.			
	C4	1						
	Structure	Size (linea	r ft. (lft.) x inches	7	Гуре	Appendix	K	
	Number	,	(in.))		Гуре	В	K	
	Number 11	33	(in.)) lft. x 15 in.	Ne	ew pipe	<b>B</b> B-34	K	
	Number 11 12	33 32	(in.))  lft. x 15 in.  lft. x 15 in.	Ne Ne	ew pipe	B-34 B-34	<u> </u>	
	Number 11 12 13	33 1 32 1 27 1	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.	Ne Ne Replaced	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe	B-34 B-34 B-35		
	Number 11 12	33 32 27 99	(in.))  lft. x 15 in.  lft. x 15 in.	Ne Ne Replaced Ne	ew pipe	B-34 B-34	K	
	Number 11 12 13 15	33 32 27 99 86	(in.))  lft. x 15 in.  lft. x 15 in.  lft. x 15 in.  lft. x 15 in.  lft. x 18 in.	No No Replaced No No	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe	B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37		
	Number  11 12 13 15 16 18 17	33 32 27 99 86 23	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 24 in.	No Replaced No No Replaced	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe	B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4	1	
	Number  11 12 13 15 16 18 17	33 32 27 99 86 23 118	(in.))  Iff. x 15 in.  Iff. x 15 in.  Iff. x 15 in.  Iff. x 18 in.  Iff. x 24 in.  Iff. x 24 in.  Iff. x 24 in.  Iff. x 21 in.	No No Replaced No Replaced No New in	ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4	1	
	Number  11 12 13 15 16 18 17 19 20	33 32 27 99 86 23 118 55 11 lft x 15	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes	B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33	1	
	Number  11 12 13 15 16 18 17	33 32 27 99 86 23 118 55 11 lft x 15	(in.))  Iff. x 15 in.  Iff. x 15 in.  Iff. x 15 in.  Iff. x 18 in.  Iff. x 24 in.  Iff. x 24 in.  Iff. x 24 in.  Iff. x 21 in.	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in	ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4	1	
MAINTE	Number  11 12 13 15 16 18 17 19 20	33 32 27 99 86 23 118 55 11 lft x 15 37 lft. x 15	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 lft x 6 in.	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes	B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33	1	
MAINTE	Number  11  12  13  15  16  18  17  19  20  21	33 32 27 99 86 23 118 55 11 lft x 15 37 lft. x 15	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 lft x 6 in.	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes	B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33	1	
	Number  11 12 13 15 16 18 17 19 20 21	33 32 27 99 86 23 118 55 11 lft x 15 37 lft. x 15	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 lft x 6 in.	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33 B-36	1	No
Is a tempo	Number     11     12     13     15     16     18     17     19     20     21     ENANCE OF TRAFFIC	33 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 3	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 lft x 6 in.	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33 B-36	1 1	X
Is a tempo	Number  11  12  13  15  16  18  17  19  20  21  ENANCE OF TRAFFIC	33 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 3	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 Ift x 6 in.  RING CONSTRUC	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d tin-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes ure with 2 pipes	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33 B-36	Yes	
Is a tempo Is a tempo Will the p	Number  11  12  13  15  16  18  17  19  20  21  ENANCE OF TRAFFIC	33 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 3	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 Ift x 6 in.  RING CONSTRUCT	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d tin-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes ure with 2 pipes	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33 B-36	Yes X	X
Is a tempo Is a tempo Will the p Provis	Number  11  12  13  15  16  18  17  19  20  21  ENANCE OF TRAFFIC  orary bridge proposed? orary roadway proposed oroject involve the use of sions will be made for acceptance.	33 32 27 99 86 23 118 55 11 lft x 15 37 lft. x 15 C (MOT) DUE	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 Ift x 6 in.  RING CONSTRUCT	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d tin-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes ure with 2 pipes	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33 B-36	Yes XXX	X
Is a temporal in the provise Provise	Number  11  12  13  15  16  18  17  19  20  21  ENANCE OF TRAFFIC  orary bridge proposed? orary roadway proposed' oroject involve the use of the cions will be made for actions will be made for the cions will be	33 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 3	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 Ift x 6 in.  RING CONSTRUCT	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe d tin-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes ure with 2 pipes	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33 B-36	Yes X X X X	X
Is a temporal Is a temporal Will the provise P	Number  11  12  13  15  16  18  17  19  20  21  ENANCE OF TRAFFIC  orary bridge proposed? orary roadway proposed oroject involve the use of sions will be made for acceptance.	33 32 32 37 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32	(in.))  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 15 in.  Ift. x 18 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 24 in.  Ift. x 12 in.  in. and 6ft. x 12 in.  in. and 25 Ift x 6 in.  RING CONSTRUCT  quire a ramp closured araffic and so posted. ependent businesses. To local special events	Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No Replaced No New in New struct New struct  FION:	ew pipe ew pipe d in-kind pipe ew pipe let with pipe ure with 2 pipes ure with 2 pipes ure with 2 pipes	B B-34 B-34 B-35 B-37 B-37 B-39 B-37 & 4 B-37 & 4 B-33 B-36	Yes XXX	X

This is page 7 of 23 Project name: <u>Intersection Improvement Project</u> Date: <u>October 15, 2025</u>

Will the project require a sidewalk, curb ramp, and/or bicycle lane closure? (describe below) Provisions will be made for access by pedestrians and/or bicyclist and so posted (describe below).

County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 West	Des. No.	2200043
measures sh	ould be quantifie	ed to the extent possible, po	1 ,	perties such as Section 4(f) res	impacts from these temporary sources and wetlands. Discuss

The MOT for the project will require the closure of the intersection and a detour will be necessary. Road closure barricades and signage will be placed along all 4 quadrants of the intersection with detour signage along the official detour route. Westbound traffic will be routed to SR 39 S to US 6 West and ultimately US 421 North. Eastbound traffic will be routed to US 421 South to US 6 East, and ultimately SR 39 North.

The total detour length is approximately 15.6 miles with approximately 6.5 miles of additional travel length resulting in approximately 9-10 minutes of additional travel time. The detour will be in place for approximately 9-12 months. Access to all properties will be maintained for the duration of construction. The MOT sheets are provided in Appendix B, pages B-31 to B-32.

The LaPorte County Fair is located approximately 2.5 miles east of the project area. An unofficial local detour will be coordinated with the LaPorte County Engineer prior to construction.

The closure will pose a temporary inconvenience to traveling motorists (including school buses and emergency services); however, no significant delays are anticipated, and all inconveniences and delays will cease upon project completion.

#### ESTIMATED PROJECT COST AND SCHEDULE:

Engineering: \$300,000 (2023) Right-of-Way: \$250,000 (2025) Construction: \$2,150,000 (2027)

Note: The ROW amount may need

updated, prior to the CE approval, based on the updated TIP and STIP.

Anticipated Start Date of Construction: Fall 2027

#### **RIGHT OF WAY:**

	Amount (acres)		
Land Use Impacts	Permanent	Temporary	
Residential	0.57	0.023	
Commercial	0.26	0.096	
Agricultural Land	1.19	0.00	
Forest	0.00	0.00	
Wetlands	0.00	0.00	
Other:	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL	2.02	0.119	

Describe both Permanent and Temporary right-of-way and describe their current use. Typical and Maximum right-of-way widths (existing and proposed) should also be discussed. Any advance acquisition, reacquisition or easements, either known or suspected, and their impacts on the environmental analysis should be discussed.

The existing ROW along SR 2 is approximately 30 ft. north to south (full width) and approximately 40 ft. east to west (full width) along CR 500 W. The existing ROW consists of agricultural properties, maintained lawns, and roadside drainage.

The project requires a total of approximately 2.02 acres of new permanent ROW and reacquiring 2.35 acres of ROW as a result of the expanded roadway footprint for installation of the proposed roundabout, paved and gravel shoulders, medians and drainage improvements. The proposed new permanent ROW consists of 0.57 acres of residential land, 0.26 acre of commercial land, and 1.19 acres of agricultural vacant land. The reacquired ROW will consist of 1.17 acres of residential land, 0.50 acre of commercial land, and 0.68 acre of agricultural vacant land. The temporary ROW for the project will require 0.023 acre of residential land and 0.096 acre of commercial land for driveway construction. The new ROW acreage varies along both sides of each roadway to construct the roundabout and detention basin. The proposed ROW along SR 2 will extend approximately 100 ft. to 357 ft. north to south (full width). The permanent ROW along CR 500 W will extend approximately 40 ft. to 422 ft. east to west (full width).

If the scope of work or permanent or temporary ROW amounts change, the INDOT Environmental Services Division (ESD) and the INDOT District Environmental Section will be contacted immediately.

This is page 8 of 23	Project name:	Intersection Improvement Project	Date:	October 15, 2025

County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 West	Des. No.	2200043	
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## Part III - Identification and Evaluation of Impacts of the Proposed Action

## **SECTION A - EARLY COORDINATION:**

List the date(s) coordination was sent and all resource agencies that were contacted as a part of the development of this Environmental Study. Also, include the date of their response or indicate that no response was received.

Early coordination letters (ECL) were sent on April 1, 2024, January 29, 2025, and May 7, 2025, to the agencies listed below. A copy of the ECL is provided in Appendix C, pages C-1 to C-2.

Agency	Date Sent	Response Received	Appendix C
FHWA	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
INDOT LaPorte District	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
INDOT Project Manager	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC)	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife (IDNR-DFW) US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Northern Indiana	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025 April 1, 2024 and	April 17, 2024 April 1, 2024	Pages C-4 to C-5 Pages C-6 to C-7
Field Office INDOT, Office of Aviation	January 29, 2025 April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	April 1, 2024	Page C-31
Indiana Geological and Water Survey (IGWS)	May 7, 2025 (automated)	May 7, 2025 (automated)	Pages C-26 to C-28
LaPorte County Surveyor's Office	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
LaPorte County Highway Department	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
LaPorte County Board of Commissioners	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
LaPorte County Emergency Management Agency	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
LaPorte County Emergency Medical Services	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
LaPorte Fire Department	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
LaPorte Police Department	April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025	No Response	N/A
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	April 1, 2024, January 29, 2025 and May 7, 2025	May 13, 2025	Pages C-29 to C-30

All applicable recommendations are included in the *Environmental Commitments* section of this Categorical Exclusion (CE) document.

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County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 We	est	Des. No.	2200043	_
_							
SECTION	N B – ECOLOGICAI	RESOURCES	:				
				Pre	<u>esence</u>	<u>Im</u> Yes	oacts No
Federa State N Nation Outstan Naviga	Rivers, Watercourses I Wild and Scenic Rivers Intural, Scenic or Recrewide Rivers Inventory Inding Rivers List for Intuble Waterways  Inture:  Intu	ers eational Rivers (NRI) listed		al impacted stream	m(s): 0.0		Linear feet
Stream 1		on Total Siz Project A (linear fe	e in Impacted Inear feet	Comments (i.e the US, append	. location, flov	v direction, lik	ely Water of
N/A	A N/A	N/A	N/A		N/	'A	
There are confirmed A Waters Appendix watercour	of the U.S. Determinate F for the Waters of	vatercourses, or agust 2, 2023, contion/Wetland Detailed U.S. Determinal features are	vers, watercourses, or of other jurisdictional fe nducted by Metric Environmentation Report was chination/Wetland Delin located within the project	atures within or ronmental. Ther completed for the reation Report. I	adjacent to the efore, no impart on Market was determined.	the project are expect arch 5, 2024. ned that no s	ea, which was ed.  Please refer to streams, rivers,
				<b>Presence</b>	<u>Impact</u>	t <u>s</u>	
Reserv Lakes Farm P Retenti		cilities			Yes N	No	
will occur to mitigate if in	the features identified. In pacts will occur.	nclude if features	r within the project area. are likely subject to federo	al or state jurisdict	ion. Discuss me	easures to avoid	d, minimize, and
Based on 3), there is project are expect  A Waters Appendix	the desktop review, the is one open water feat the ea, which was confirm the destroyed.  of the U.S. Determinate F for the Waters of the	ure within the 0 ed by the site vistion/Wetland De the U.S. Determin	the project area (Appen .5-mile search radius. 'sit on August 2, 2023, or elineation Report was conation/Wetland Delineates all final determination	There are no ope conducted by Me completed for the tion Report. It w	en water featur tric Environme e project on Ma eas determined	res within or a ental. Therefore arch 5, 2024.	adjacent to the ore, no impacts  Please refer to
This is	page 10 of 23	Project name:	Intersection Improvem	ent Project	_ Date	: October 15	5, 2025

			-	-				
County Lal	Porte	Route	SR 2 and CR 50	00 West	Des. No.	2200043		
Wetlands  Total wetland a	nrag.	0.012	Acre(s) To	Presen  X  otal wetland area impa			Acre(s	c)
Total wetland a	iica.	0.012	Acic(s)	otar wettand area impa	<u></u>	<u>,                                      </u>	Acic(	3)
Wetland No.	Classification	Total Size (Acres)	Impacted Acres	Comments (i.e. locat				ŕ
A	PEM1A	0.012	0.00	Located within a country the Investigated Are Water of the		the south side	e of SR 2.	
Wetlands (Man	rk all that apply)		<u>Docum</u>	nentation	ESD A	Approval Da	<u>ates</u>	
Wetland De	termination			X	3/6/2024			
Wetland De	lineation			X	3/6/2024			
	lated Waters Dete	ermination		·-	0,0,2021			
<b>result in</b> (Mark Sub Sub	all that apply an estantial adverse i estantially increase	d explain): impacts to adjacted project costs	cent homes, busines	not practicable becauses or other improved publems;		ance would		
			c, or environmenta					
	e project not mee			<b>F</b> ,				
Describe all wetla	nds identified adjac fied. Include if fea	cent or within the	project area. Includ	de whether or not impact state jurisdiction. Disci				
3), there are three confirmed by the project area Emergent, Perconstruction lir included as a fi	ree wetlands with the site visit condu- a, west of the wes- sistent, Tempora mits; thus, it will rm commitment i	in the 0.5-mile ucted on Augus sternmost constrily Flooded (not be impacted the Environment of the Environment).	search radius. Ther at 2, 2023, by Metri cruction limits alon PEM1A) and is a d. The wetland will mental Commitment	Appendix B, page B-3 re is one wetland with the Environmental. One g the south side of SE approximately 0.012 ll be labeled "Do Not as section of this documents are the section of the se	in or adjacent e wetland, We R 2. Wetland A acre in size. Disturb" on the ment.	to the projectland A, is load A is classified. The wetlan he project pl	et area, who ceated adjuded as a Pal ad is beyonans and h	acent to lustrine, ond the nas been
Appendix F fo	r the Waters of t	the U.S. Detern	nination/Wetland 1	Delineation Report. It nat determinations reg	t was determin	ned that ther		
				Presence	_	Yes	npacts	No
Terrestrial Ha	bitat			X		X		
	habitat in projec		Acre(s)		ree clearing:	0.0014	Acre(	. ,
impacts will occur avoid, minimize, a	r to habitat identif nd mitigate if impa	ied. Include tota cts will occur.	al terrestrial habitat	awn, etc) adjacent or w impacted and total tree	e clearing that	will occur. L	Discuss med	asure to
area (Appendix and agricultura	k B, page B-3), the l/pasture fields. T	ne predominant The dominant v	land use in the pro regetation along the	etric Environmental, a oject area consists of r e project roadway cor ed (Asclepias syriaca)	residential dwe nsists of red m	ellings with a nulberry ( <i>Mo</i>	maintaine	d lawns
This is page	11 of 23	Project name:	Intersection Imp	rovement Project	Dat	te: October	r 15, 2025	

Des. No. <u>220</u>0043

SR 2 and CR 500 West

Route

County

LaPorte

Approximately 2.22 acres of terrestrial habitat consisting of residential maintained lawns, scrub shrub, mature trees, and cultivated agricultural land will be impacted to reconstruct the existing intersection.
Approximately 0.0014 acres of trees and brush will be removed from the northwest, northeast and southwest quadrants of the intersection. The dominant tree species to be removed is red mulberry. All efforts to minimize terrestrial impacts were considered during the design phase of the project. The construction limits have been reduced to the extent that is practical to build the project while limiting terrestrial disturbance. All disturbed areas will be stabilized, graded and re-seeded per INDOT standard specifications. No terrestrial habitat restoration or mitigation will be necessary.
The IDNR-DFW responded on April 17, 2024, with recommendations to minimize terrestrial impacts including revegetating all bare and disturbed areas that are not currently mowed and maintained with a mixture of grasses (Appendix C, pages C-4 to C-5). All applicable recommendations are included in the Environmental Commitments section of this CE document.
Protected Species
Federally Listed Bats Yes No
Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) determination key completed  Section 7 informal consultation completed (IPaC cannot be completed)  Section 7 formal consultation Biological Assessment (BA) required  X  X
Determination Received for Listed Bats from USFWS:  NE NLAA X LAA
Other Species not included in IPaC  Additional federal analysis found in prairie to an (head on IPaC analysis line)  Yes  No
Additional federal species found in project area (based on IPaC species list)  State species (not bird) found in project area (based upon consultation with IDNR)  X  X
Migratory Birds Yes No
Known usage or presence of birds (i.e. nests)  State bird species based upon coordination with IDNR  X  X
Discuss IDNR coordination and species identified. Describe USFWS Section 7 consultation and determination received for Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat impacts. Discuss if other federally listed species were identified. If so, include consultation that has occurred and the determination that was received. Discuss if migratory birds have been observed and any impacts.
Based on a desktop review and the RFI report (Appendix E, page E-4) completed by Metric Environmental on March 7, 2024, the IDNR LaPorte County Endangered, Threatened and Rare (ETR) Species List has been checked. According to the IDNR-DFW early coordination response letter dated April 17, 2024 (Appendix C, pages C-4 to C-5), the Natural Heritage Program's Database has been checked and no plant or animal species listed as state or federally threatened, endangered, or rare have been reported to occur in the project vicinity. An INDOT 0.5-mile bat review occurred on January 3, 2024, and no reports of the Indiana Bat or the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) have been documented within 0.5 mile of the project site.
Project information was submitted through the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) portal and an official species list was generated (Appendix C, pages C-16 to C-23). The project is within range of the federally endangered Indiana Bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> ). Other species were generated in the IPaC species list along with the Indiana Bat.
The official species list generated from IPaC indicated three other species present within the project area: the Whooping Crane ( <i>Grus americana</i> ), the Salamander Mussel ( <i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i> ), and the Monarch Butterfly ( <i>Danaus plexippus</i> ).
The Whooping Crane is listed as endangered wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population according to the Environmental Conservation Online System ( <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758</a> ). The Whooping Crane is listed as an experimental population in this location. The Salamander Mussel is proposed for future listing as an endangered species and the Monarch Butterfly is proposed for future listing as a threatened species. There are proposed critical habitats designated for these species; however, the project area does not overlap the designated critical habitat. The project will not jeopardize their continued existence and no further coordination with USFWS is required.
The project qualifies under the Programmatic Biological Opinion/Conference Opinion for Transportation Projects in the Range of the Indiana Bat, Northern Long-Eared Bat, and Tricolored Bat dated December 2024 between FHWA, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and USFWS.
This is page 12 of 23 Project name: Intersection Improvement Project Date: October 15, 2025

County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 West	Des. No.	2200043
provided, (Appendix review of the Avoidance clearing to contractors	the project was four the C, pages C-8 to C the finding. On Marc e and Minimization to what is specified	nd to "May Affect -15). INDOT revie ch 27, 2025, the US Measures (AMMs in the plans, app environmental con	ing the Project Submittal Form/Not Likely to Adversely Affewed and verified the effect fire SFWS concurred with the effect of include directing temporary lying time-of-year restrictions miniments and AMMs. The ament.	ect" (NLAA) the Indian nding on March 26, 202 t finding (Appendix C, I lighting away from suit for tree removal and	a Bat, the NLEB, and TCB 25, and requested USFWS's page C-24).  Table habitat, restricting tree ensuring all operators and
amended.			on this project as required u		
Coologica	l and Mineral Reso	NHWOOS		Yes	No
_	located within the In		n	1 es	$\overline{X}$
_	eatures identified wi	_			$\frac{X}{X}$
			ied in the project area		X
On/gas	or exploration/aban	doned wens identifi	ied in the project area		A
Date Karst	Evaluation reviewe	ed by INDOT EWP	O (if applicable): N	//A	
Discuss if pr	roject is located in the	Indiana Karst Regi	on and if any karst features have	heen identified in the pro-	iect area (from RFI) Discuss
			if any mines, oil/gas, or explorati		
			apleted and results. (Karst invest		
			nd coordinated and reviewed by IN		
			Region map, the project is loc		
			Features during Project Deve		
map of the	e project area (Appe	endix B, page B-2)	and the RFI report (Appendix	E, page E-3), there are	no karst features identified
within or a	adjacent to the project	ct area.			
			2025, IGWS did not indicate the		
			is a moderate liquefaction p		
resources.	The aforementioned	d geological feature	es will not be affected because	the scope of work will:	not involve deep excavation
(i.e., greate	er than 5 ft. below g	ground surface). Th	e response from IGWS has bee	n communicated with the	ne designer on June 5, 2025.
No impact	s are expected.				
SECTION	N C – OTHER RES	OURCES			
			<u>Pres</u>	ence <u>Im</u>	<u>pacts</u>
<b>Drinking</b>	Water Resources			Yes	_No
Wellhe	ad Protection Area(s	s)			
Source	Water Protection Ar	rea(s)			
Water V		· /	X		X
	zed Area Boundary				
	Water System(s)				
1 done	water System(s)		L		
				Yes	No
Is the proje	ect located in the St.	Joseph Cole Cours	a Aquifar (SSA):		X
					A
	is the FHWA/EPA S				<del></del>
II Yes,	is a Groundwater As	ssessment Kequired	1.6		
			below. Provide details about a esponses in the Appendix.	impacts and summarize r	resource-specific coordination
This is j	page 13 of 23	Project name:	Intersection Improvement Proje	ct Date	October 15, 2025

County	LaPorte	Route _	SR 2 and CR 500 W	est	Des. No.	2200043	
legally do (EPA)/IN	ct is located in LaPorte C esignated sole source ac DOT Sole Source Aquifer ter assessment is not neede	quifer in the Memorandun	state of Indiana. The state of Understanding (Note: 1987)	Therefore, the FHW	/A/Enviror	nmental Protection	Agency
(http://ww	diana Department o www.in.gov/idem/cleanwater/ ithin a Wellhead Protection	/pages/wellhe	ad/) was accessed on	May 6, 2025, by Me	Proximity etric Enviro		website t is not
Environm the constr	R Water Well Record Databental. One well is located suction limits. Therefore, needed, a cost to cure will limits.	south of the p	roject area. The featu e expected. Should it	re will not be affected be determined during	d because 1	the well is located our	tside of
(https://wv	on a desktop review ww.in.gov/idem/cleanwate d within an Urban Area Bo	<u>r/ms4s-bound</u>					website oject is
	a desktop review, a site vis x B, page B-3), no public w					of the project area	
Elandula:				Presence	-	Impacts	
Floodplai Project	<b>ns</b> : located within a regulated	floodplain			Ye	s No	
	udinal encroachment	поочрши					
	erse encroachment						
Homes	located in floodplain with	in 1000' up/d	ownstream from proje	ect			
If:	applicable, indicate the Flo	oodplain Leve	1?				
				I1 4	T1 5		
Le	evel 1 Level 2	2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5		
to the classij	R Floodway Information Portication system. If encroachm stency with the local flood pla	nent on a flood					
The		Indiana	Floodway	Information		Portal	website
	dnr.maps.arcgis.come/apps						
	8, 2023, by Metric Envir						
	odplain maps (Appendix F FR 771, and 44 CFR. No in	, , ,	*	fall within the guide	lines for th	e implementation of 2	23 CFR
	,,						
ъ .	<b>.</b>			<u>Presence</u>		<u>Impacts</u>	<b>N</b> T
Farmland Agricu	ı ltural Lands			X		Yes X	No
_	Farmland (per NRCS)			X		X	
	•	CD 1 106/1D	4.0.0.640				
	oints (from Section VII of C *If 160 or greater, see CE I		· -	<u>111                                  </u>			

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County	LaPorte	Route _	SR 2 and CR 500	) West I	Des. No.	2200043
Discuss exis considered.	ting farmland resource	s in the project ar	ea, impacts that w	vill occur to farmland, and	mitigation	and minimization measures
Based on (Appendix ECL was a C, page C Since this result from	a B, page B-3) the prosent on May 7, 2025, 2-30). NRCS's threshoproject score is less t	ject will convert 2. to the NRCS. Coordid score for significant the threshold, ternatives other the second	22 acres of prime dination with NR ficant impacts to no significant los	farmland as defined by th CS resulted in a score of 1 farmland that result in the ss of prime, unique, statew	e Farmlan  11 on the consider  ide, or lo	ial map of the project area ad Protection Policy Act. An AD- 1006 Form (Appendix ation of alternatives is 160. cal important farmland will vill be investigated without
SECTION	N D – CULTURAL F	RESOURCES				
Minor Pr	ojects PA	Category(ies) ar	nd Type(s)	INDOT App	roval Dat	te(s) N/A X
	<b>fect Finding</b> ic Properties Affected	X	No Adverse	Effect Adver	se Effect	
	d/or Listed Resource ilding/Site/District(s)	es Present	Archaeology	NRHI	P Bridge(s	s)
APE, Eli 800.11 I Historic Archaeo Archaeo Other: Memora If the project 106, use the indicate the p	headings provided. The	Short Report  A and Assessment  By Report  By Report  Completion of the Soft the paper(s) and the	'ection 106 process le comment period a	requires that a Legal Notice	es (List all	O Approval Date(s) October 10, 2024 July 30, 2025 October 10, 2024 April 11, 2025 April 11, 2025 Asignatories)  If the project requires full Section thed in local newspapers. Please 6 work which must be completed
Qualified Standards directly or influenced [36 CFR § which eler use, or pu property d	defined an Area of P indirectly cause alter by the scale and natus 800.16(d)]. The APE ments of the project n blic access. For above leep on each side of	otential Effect (Aleations in the charater of an undertaking includes all located by the visible or a page of the country of t	PE). The APE is "acter or use of his ng and may be disions where the proudible; all locations, the APE extend W. The APE for	the geographic area or are toric properties, if any suc fferent for different kinds oject may result in disturbans where activity may result at least 500 ft. beyond the	eas withing the propert of effects ance of the alt in character project ject footp	Professional Qualifications which an undertaking may ies exist. The APE effect is caused by the undertaking" e ground; all locations from ages in traffic patterns, land end points, and at least one wint, including all proposed
Section 10 undertakir undertakir effects, an	ngs on historic propert ng were invited to pard d seek ways to avoid,	storic Preservation ies. In accordance ticipate in efforts minimize or mitig	with 36 CFR 800 to identify historate any adverse ef	.2(c), individuals and grou ic properties potentially a fects on historic properties	ps with a ffected by 	account the effects of their demonstrated interest in the the undertaking, assess its
This is	page 15 of 23	Project name: _	Intersection Impro	vement Project	Date	October 15, 2025

County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 West	Des. No. 2200043	
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stakeholders and interested parties (Appendix D, pages D-39 to D-41). On February 12, 2024, INDOT-Cultural Resource Office (CRO) announced effective immediately, that the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (MBCI) will be added as a Tribal Consulting Party for projects in all Indiana counties, and they were then invited to serve as a consulting part to this undertaking. The ECL provided project information, project location maps, and invited recipients to become consulting parties to the undertaking. The parties were requested to indicate whether they agreed or did not agree to participate as a consulting party within 30 days of receipt of the invitation. It was noted that if the invited party did not reply, they would not be considered a consulting party and would not receive further information about the undertaking unless the scope changed. Below is a list of invited consulting parties for this undertaking:

Invited Organization	Accepted/Declined
Indiana State Historic Preservation Office	Accepted
NIRPC	No Response
LaPorte County Commissioners	No Response
LaPorte County Highway Superintendent	No Response
LaPorte County Highway Engineer	No Response
LaPorte County Historian	No Response
LaPorte County Genealogical Society	No Response
LaPorte County Historical Society	No Response
Westville Community Historical Society	No Response
Indiana Landmarks – Northern Regional Office	No Response
Indiana Lincoln Highway Association, Inc.	No Response
Preserve Historic La Porte	No Response
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma	No Response
Shawnee Tribe	Accepted
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma	No Response
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	No Response
Forest County Potawatomi Community	Accepted
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians	No Response
MBCI	Accepted

In an email dated December 11, 2023, the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) accepted the invitation to serve as a consulting party and offered a finding of No Historic Properties affected of significance to the FCPC. They issued their "standard caveat sent with each proposed project reviewed by the FCPC Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO)" which requested that work cease immediately and to be consulted if an inadvertent discovery occurred at any phase of the project (Appendix D, page D-43).

In an email dated December 20, 2023, Shawnee Tribe accepted the invitation to serve as a consulting party and concurred "that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project." They requested immediate consultation "in the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, use, or maintenance of this location" (Appendix D, page D-44).

In a letter dated January 4, 2024, the SHPO acknowledged receipt of the ECL and noted they were not aware of any parties who should be invited to participate, "beyond those whom INDOT already has invited" (Appendix D, pages D-45 to D-46).

No other replies were received in response to the ECL.

#### Archaeology:

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(b), a Qualified Professional Archaeologist with Metric Environmental conducted an archaeological records check which involved a review the State Historical Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD), site maps on file with the IDNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, cultural resource management reports, cemetery records, and historical data. A Phase Ia Archaeological Survey was conducted on August 29 and September 19, 2024. No archaeological resources were identified in the project area. An Archaeological Short Report (ASR) was prepared by QP Samuel Snell of Metric Environmental (Snell, 3/12/2025). The report recommended the project proceed as planned. Excerpts of the ASR are provided in Appendix D, pages D-29 to D-32.

The ASR was submitted to INDOT-CRO for review and concurrence to the INDOT-CRO on March 12, 2025. INDOT-CRO

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responded with minor comments and indicated the report should be submitted once the comments were adressed. The ASR, and the document was uploaded to INSCOPE and distributed to the SHPO and tribes only for review and comment on March 12, 2025 (Appendix D, page D-58 to D-63).

In a letter dated April 11, 2025, SHPO acknowledged receipt of the ASR and concurred with the archaeological report's conclusions that there are no National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible archaeological sites within the project's APE (Appendix D, pages D- 64 to D- 65).

#### **Historic Properties:**

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(b), personnel with Metric Environmental, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards as per 36 CFR Part 61, reviewed the Indiana SHAARD, the 1989 LaPorte County Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, the 2009 INDOT-sponsored Indiana Historic Bridge Inventory (IHBI; Mead & Hunt), the NRHP Database, the Indiana Historic Buildings, Bridges, and Cemeteries Map (IHBBCM), and the CRO Public Web Map Application. These resources revealed that the APE does not contain any previously surveyed or previously determined NRHP eligible sites. The results of field surveys were reported in a Historic Property Short Report (HPSR) (Vorndran/Receveur, 9/10/2024). The HPSR recommended no resources within the APE as eligible for listing in the NRHP. Excerpts of the HPSR are provided in Appendix D, pages D- 25 to D- 27.

The HPSR was submitted to INDOT-CRO for review and concurrence and the HPSR was distributed to consulting parties for review and comment on September 10, 2024 (Appendix D, pages D-51 to D-54).

In an email dated September 11, 2024, the MBCI stated, "MBCI THPO office defer to the nearest THPO/SHPO office to the APE." (Appendix D, page D-55).

SHPO concurred with the limits of the established APE and with the findings of the HPSR in a letter dated October 10, 2024 (Appendix D, page D-56).

In an email dated November 12, 2024, the Shawnee Tribe concurred "that no historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project," though they noted that "there is still potential for the discovery of unknown resources" (Appendix D, page D-57).

No other responses were received.

### **Documentation, Findings:**

On July 2, 2025, INDOT approved the APE and issued a "No Historic Properties Affected" finding (Appendix D, page D-3).

On July 3, 2025 the finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" and 800.11 documentation was provided to the SHPO and other consulting parties for a 30-day review and comment period (Appendix D, pages D-68 to D-72).

On July 9, 2025 the Shawnee Tribe responded that they have no issues or concerns at this time and to please continue with the project as planned. They request, in the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, to please re-notify them (Appendix D, pages D-73 to D-74).

On July 30, 2025 SHPO responded and concurred with the "No Historic Properties Affected" finding (Appendix D, pages D-1 to D-2).

On August 6, 2025, the Forest County Potawatomi Community responded that they offer a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" and they wish to remain as a consulting party for this project. In the event an inadvertent discovery occurs at any time please re-notify them (Appendix D, pages D-75 to D-76).

No other responses were received.

## **Public Involvement:**

To meet the public involvement requirements of Section 106, a legal notice of FHWA Indiana Division's finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" was published in the La Porte County Herald-Dispatch on July 9, 2025 offering the public an opportunity to submit comment pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(d), 800.3(e), and 800.6(a)(4). The public comment period closed after 30 days on August 8, 2025. No comments were received.

e legal notice and the affid		re provided in Appendix D, page D-105.			
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No further	consultation is requir	ed This completes	the Section 106	nrocess and t	he responsibilitie	es of the FHWA	under Section 1	06
have been t		cu. Tins completes	the Section 100	process and t	ne responsionitie	25 01 the 111 W 71	under Section 1	
SECTION	E – SECTION 4(f)	RESOURCES/ SI	ECTION 6(f) RI	ESOURCES				
			<u>Presence</u>	TI	<b>5</b> Δ			
Parks and	Other Recreational	Land	Tresence	Yes U	<u>se</u> No			
	owned park							
Publicly	owned recreation are	ea						
Other (s	chool, state/national	forest, bikeway, etc	:.)					
Wildlife ar	ıd Waterfowl Refug	es						
	l Wildlife Refuge							
	l Natural Landmark							
	ildlife Area							
	ature Preserve							
Historic Pr	•	1 175775						
Site elig	ible and/or listed on	the NRHP						
			<b>Evaluations</b>					
			Prepared					
_								
_	matic Section 4(f)							
	nimis" Impact							
	al Section 4(f)	CED 774 12						
Any exc	ception included in 23	CFR //4.13						
ncluded in the various exceptor Section 4(f	rammatic Section 4(f) c e appendix and summa tions to the requiremen ) of the U.S. Departn	rized below. Discus. t for Section 4(f) appr nent of Transportat	s proposed alternational. Refer to 23 (con Act of 1966)	ntives that satis CFR § 774.13 - prohibits the u	fy the requirement Exceptions. use of certain pul	ts of Section 4(f).	FHWA has identified lands for federal	ified lly
parks, recre	asportation facilities eation areas, wildlife his law are considere	/ waterfowl refuge:	s, and NRHP elig					
one trail se a planned t	desktop review, the gment was identified rail by NIRPC that wonstructed yet, it is no	within the 0.5-mile will extend the SR	e search radius. I 2/Westville Trai	The trail segm 1 Corridor an	ent, identified as d is planned as a	s Porter County In a future project.	<i>Line to LaPorte</i> , Since the trail h	, is nas
	nce it will be public							
	n of the trail in the fo					etric Environme	ntal, no trails we	ere
observed a	nd there are no Section	on 4(f) resources lo	cated within or a	djacent to the	project area.			
Therefore,	no Section 4 (f) use i	s expected.						
		•						
Section 6(f	) Involvement				<u>Presence</u>	Vas	<u>Use</u>	
Section 6(f	) Property					Yes		
Section o(1	) 110perty						_	
	on 6(f) resources presen nversion approval.	t or not present. Disc	russ if any convers	ion would occi	ır as a result of thi	s project. If conver	rsion will occur,	
	and and Water Cons	ervation Fund Act	of 1965 establish	ed the Land	and Water Conse	ervation Fund (L	WCF), which w	as
	preserve, develop, an			creation resou	irces. Section 6(	(f) of this Act pro	ohibits conversi	on
of lands pu	rchased with LWCF	monies to a non-re	creation use.					
A review o	of Section 6(f) proper	ties on the INDOT	ESD website re	vealed a total	of twelve prope	rties in LaPorte	County (Annené	liv
	5). None of these pro							
-, p5• 1 1:	. j out of these pro	r		10 1.10 proje				(~)
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resources.		
SECTION F – Air Quality		
If Yes, then: Is the project in the most Is the project exempt from If No, then:	rent STIP/TIP?  MPO Area? y non-attainment or maintenance current MPO TIP? n conformity?  ransportation Plan (TP)?	the area?  Yes No X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X
Location in STIP:		Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2030
Name of MPO (if applicable		NIRPC
Location in TIP (if applicab	(e):	Page 50 of 146
Level of MSAT Analysis re-	quired?	
Level 1a X Le	evel 1b Level 2	Level 3 Level 4 Level 5
Indicate whether the project is expectation in the Describe if a hot spot analysis is real This project is included in the (TIP), which has been incorrectly (Appendix H, pages H-1 to STIP/TIP will be incorporate	tempt from a conformity determinate equired and the MSAT Level.  EFY 2026-2030 NIRPC Metroporated by reference into the FH-5). The ROW funds are indicated into this document once it has	
		rently a maintenance area for 8-Hour Ozone (2007) under the EPA ww3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anayo_in.html).
		ality analysis in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93.126 and this project is herefore, the project will have no significant impact on air quality.
	fying as a CE (Group 1) under such, a Mobile Source Air Tox	23 CFR 771.117(c) or exempt under the Clean Air Act conformity rule tics analysis is not required.
SECTION G - NOISE		
Date Noise Analysis was app  Describe if the project is a Type identified. If noise impacts were identified a Type III project is a	roved/technically sufficient by I I or Type III project. If it is a Ty lentified, describe if abatement is fe	ope I project, describe the studies completed to date and if noise impacts were easible and reasonable and include a statement of likelihood.  R 772 and the current Indiana Department of Transportation Traffic

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		inaiana	a Department of Transpo	rtation		
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SECTIO	N H – COMMUNITY	IMPACTS				
Regional	, Community & Neigh	borhood Facto	ors		Yes	No
Will the p	proposed action comply	with the local/r	regional development patterns for th	ie area?	X	
Will the p	proposed action result in	ı substantial imŗ	pacts to community cohesion?			X
Will the p	proposed action result in	ı substantial im <mark>r</mark>	pacts to local tax base or property va	alues?		X
Will cons	struction activities impa	ct community e	vents (festivals, fairs, etc.)?			X
Does the	community have an app	proved transition	ı plan?		X	
If No,	, are steps being made to	o advance the co	ommunity's transition plan?			
Does the	project comply with the	transition plan	? (explain in the discussion below)		X	
			al/regional development patterns; whe forms with the ADA Transition Plan.	ther the project will imp	oact comm	unity cohesion; and
	-	•	d January 29, 2025 as part of the	•	rocess re	garding possible
	-	•		•	700055 10	garding possible

regional, community or neighborhood factors associated with this project. No response was received. On May 27, 2025, Metric conducted an on-line review of the Indiana Festivals website (http://www.indianafestivals.org). The

LaPorte County Fair is located approximately 2.5 miles east of the project area. If an event is planned during construction, the detour will provide access to the fairgrounds.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires a transition plan by local and state governments. Such a plan includes how the government will remove barriers to accessibility over time for persons with disabilities, such as installing curb ramps at intersections, making a web site accessible for persons with low vision, ensuring public meetings are fully accessible to persons with disabilities and other related issues. LaPorte County has an approved ADA transition plan; however, there are no ADA applicable structures that are to be installed as a part of the preferred alternative.

This project will not change the general development patterns, population density, or residential or commercial growth rate of the community. Furthermore, there will be no permanent impacts to community cohesion, local mobility, access, pedestrian or motorist safety or emergency services as a result of the project. The project will not have any adverse impacts to the local tax base or property values.

#### **Public Facilities and Services**

Discuss what public facilities and services are present in the project area and impacts (such as MOT) that will occur to them. Include how the impacts have been minimized and what coordination has occurred. Some examples of public facilities and services include health facilities, educational facilities, public and private utilities, emergency services, religious institutions, airports, transportation or public pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Based on a desktop review, the aerial map of the project area (Appendix B, page B-3), and the RFI report (Appendix E, page E-2) one trail segment was identified within the 0.5-mile search radius. The trail segment, identified as Porter County Line to LaPorte, is a potential extension of the SR 2/Westville Trail Corridor that will cross through the project area in the future. The project will not impact the trail because the trail hasn't been constructed yet. An ECL was sent to the NIRPC on April 1, 2024 and January 29, 2025 and no response was received. One public-use airport, the LaPorte Municipal Airport, is located approximately 3.05 miles southeast of the project area.

The INDOT Office of Aviation responded on April 1, 2024, stating that no tall structure permit is required for the project if all equipment being used is under 147 ft. in height (Appendix C, C-31). The scope of this project (intersection improvement) will not require the utilization of any tall structure equipment.

There are no other public facilities within or adjacent to the project area, this was confirmed by the site visit on August 2, 2023 conducted by Metric Environmental. Therefore, no impacts are expected. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction.

It is the responsibility of the project sponsor to notify school corporations and emergency services at least two weeks prior to any construction that would block or limit access.

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Environi	mental Justice (EJ)								
Du Do If ' ndicate if E vas require	nvironmental Justice (EJ) uring the development of th pes the project require an E YES, then:     Are any EJ populations     Will the project result in EJ issues were identified du ed, describe how the EJ populations and explain your reason	e project were analysis?  located within adversely his project contains was	in the projection the projection of the projection of the projection of the project of the proje	identified? t area? roportionate imp f. If an EJ analy nclude if the pro	vsis was not reo oject has a disp	quired, discus	y high or ac		
	e issuance of recent feder O 12898 has been rescind			•	-	ding EO 14	154, EO 14	148, and	i EO
Will the p Is a BIS o	on of People, Businesses of oroposed action result in the or CSRS required?  of relocations:		of people, bu		ns? 0 Farm	s:0	Yes Other:	0	No X X
	relocations that will occur du					ults in the disc	ussion belov	v.	
SECTIO	N I – HAZARDOUS MA'	TERIALS &	REGULA	TED SUBSTA	NCES				
Red Flag Phase I En Phase II En Design/Sp	us Materials & Regulated Investigation (RFI) nvironmental Site Assessm Environmental Site Assessm pecifications for Remediation concurrence by INDOT SA	ent (Phase I) nent (Phase I on required?	ESA) I ESA)	nat apply)  March 7, 20	24	Document X	ation		
nes that co tc.) will be Based on	ammary of the potential hazarduld impact the project area. needed, include in discussion. a review of Geographic mental on March 7, 2024, a	Refer to curre Include appl Information	nt INDOT SA <u>icable commi</u> System (G	M guidance. If tments.	ble public rec	ords, an RF	cial provisio	pleted b	y Metric
2024. On identified	e Underground Storage Ta in or within 0.5-mile of the he hazmat sites identified	ank (UST) a e project area	nd one Nati a (Appendix	ional Pollutant E, pages E-4 to	Discharge Elino E-5).	mination Sys	tem (NPD)	ES) faci	lity were
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## Part IV – Permits and Commitments

PERMITS CHECKLIST	
Permits (mark all that apply)  Lik	ely Required
Army Corps of Engineers (404/Section10 Permit)	
Nationwide Permit (NWP)	
Regional General Permit (RGP)	
Individual Permit (IP)	
Other	
IN Department of Environmental Management (401/Rule 5)	
Nationwide Permit (NWP)	
Regional General Permit (RGP)	
Individual Permit (IP)	
Isolated Wetlands	
Rule 5	X
Other	
IN Department of Natural Resources	<u></u>
Construction in a Floodway	
Navigable Waterway Permit	
Other	
Mitigation Required	
US Coast Guard Section 9 Bridge Permit	
Others (Please discuss in the discussion below)	

List the permits likely required for the project and summarize why the permits are needed, including permits designated as "Other."

The project will require a CSGP due to the disturbance of more than 1.0 acre of land.

Applicable recommendations provided by resource agencies are included in the Environmental Commitments section of this document. If permits are found to be necessary, the conditions of the permit will be requirements of the project and will supersede these recommendations.

It is the responsibility of the project sponsor to identify and obtain all required permits.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS**

List all commitments and include the name of agency/organization requesting/requiring the commitment(s). Listed commitments should be numbered.

### Firm:

- 1. If the scope of work or permanent or temporary right-of-way amounts change, the INDOT Environmental Services Division (ESD) and the INDOT District Environmental Section will be contacted immediately. (INDOT ESD)
- It is the responsibility of the project sponsor to notify school corporations and emergency services at least two weeks prior to any construction that would block or limit access. (INDOT ESD)
- Any work in a wetland area within INDOT's right of way or in borrow/waste areas is prohibited unless specifically allowed in the US Army Corps of Engineers or IDEM permit. (INDOT EWPSO)
- GAMM 1: Ensure all operators, employees, and contractors working in areas of Indiana Bat, NLEB, or TCB suitable habitat are aware of all Transportation Agency environmental commitments, including all applicable AMMs. (USFWS)
- 5. LAMM 1: Direct temporary lighting away from suitable habitat during the active season. (USFWS)

		ional permanent lighting or replacing me intensity or less for replacement light		
raemg, ram ee	it off fells fights (with sur	ne mensity of less for replacement	ingining), or for the	se transportation agencie
This is page 22 of 23	Project name:	Intersection Improvement Project	Date:	October 15, 2025
1 ms 13 page 22 of 23	rroject name.	mersection improvement i roject		
		Version: December 2021		

Indiana Department of Transportation						
County	LaPorte	Route	SR 2 and CR 500 West	Des. No.	2200043	
			(BUG) system developed by gs with a priority of "uplight"			
7.	7. TRTAMM 1: Modify all phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) to the extent practicable to avoid tree removal/trimming in excess of what is required to implement the project safely. (USFWS)					
8.	3. TRTAMM 2: Ensure tree removal/trimming is limited to that specified in project plans and ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field (e.g. install bright colored flagging/fencing prior to any tree removal/trimming to ensure contractors stay within clearing limits.) (USFWS)					
9.	9. TRTAMM 3: Ensure tree removal/trimming is limited to the inactive season, occurs within 100 ft. of the road/rail surface, and is outside of documented habitat for the Indiana bat, NLEB, and TCB. (USFWS)					
10.	10. Wetland A will be labeled "Do Not Disturb" on the project plans. (INDOT ESD).					
For Fu	rther Consideration	n:				
1.		inch to 2 inches in dia ast height. (IDNR-DF	ameter-at-breast height, for ea W).	ch tree which is remove	d that is 10 inches or greater	

This is page 23 of 23 Project name: Intersection Improvement Project Date: October 15, 2025

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*	
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avrna n	
· ·	
Distribution of Historic Property Short Report	
MBCI Response to Historic Property Short Report      SHPO Response to Historic Property Short Report	
O SHPO Response to historic Property Short Report	
Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report	
<ul> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report</li> <li>Distribution of Archaeological Short Report</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>INDOT CRO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>INDOT CRO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>SHPO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> </ul>	
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<ul> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>INDOT CRO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>SHPO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> </ul>	D-6
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<ul> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>INDOT CRO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>SHPO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>FCPC Response to No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>Project Plans</li> </ul>	D-6
<ul> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>INDOT CRO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>SHPO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>FCPC Response to No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> </ul>	D-6
<ul> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to Historic Property Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>INDOT CRO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>SHPO Response to Archaeological Short Report.</li> <li>Distribution of No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>Shawnee Tribe Response to No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>FCPC Response to No Historic Properties Effect Finding.</li> <li>Project Plans</li> </ul>	D-6

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## APPENDIX A INDOT Supporting Documentation

## **Categorical Exclusion Level Thresholds**

	PCE	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4 <sup>1</sup>
Section 106	Falls within guidelines of Minor Projects PA	"No Historic Properties Affected"	"No Adverse Effect"	-	"Adverse Effect" Or Historic Bridge involvement <sup>2</sup>
Stream Impacts <sup>3</sup>	No construction in waterways or water bodies	< 300 linear feet of stream impacts	≥ 300 linear feet of stream impacts	-	USACE Individual 404 Permit <sup>4</sup>
Wetland Impacts <sup>3</sup>	No adverse impacts to wetlands	< 0.1 acre	-	< 1.0 acre	≥ 1.0 acre
Right-of-way <sup>5</sup>	Property acquisition for preservation only or none	< 0.5 acre	≥ 0.5 acre	-	-
Relocations <sup>6</sup>	None	-	-	< 5	≥ 5
Threatened/Endangered Species (Species Specific Programmatic for Indiana bat & northern long eared bat)*	"No Effect", "Not likely to Adversely Affect" (With select AMMs <sup>7</sup> )	"Not likely to Adversely Affect" (With any AMMs or commitments)	-	"Likely to Adversely Affect"	Project does not fall under Species Specific Programmatic <sup>8</sup>
Threatened/Endangered Species (Any other species)*	Falls within guidelines of USFWS 2013 Interim Policy or "No Effect"	"Not likely to Adversely Affect"	-	-	"Likely to Adversely Affect"
Environmental Justice	No disproportionately high and adverse impacts	-	-	-	Potential <sup>9</sup>
Sole Source Aquifer	No Detailed Groundwater Assessment	-	-	-	Detailed Groundwater Assessment
Floodplain	No Substantial Impacts	-	-	-	Substantial Impacts
Section 4(f) Impacts	None	-	-	-	Any <sup>10</sup>
Section 6(f) Impacts	None	-	-	-	Any
Permanent Traffic Alteration	None	-	-	-	Any
Noise Analysis Required	No	-	-	-	Yes
Air Quality Analysis Required	No	-	-	-	Yes <sup>11</sup>
<ul><li>Approval Level</li><li>District Env. (DE)</li><li>Env. Serv. Div. (ESD)</li><li>FHWA</li></ul>	Concurrence by DE or ESD	DE or ESD	DE or ESD	DE and/or ESD	DE and/or ESD; and FHWA

Coordinate with INDOT Environmental Services Division. INDOT will then coordinate with the appropriate FHWA Environmental Specialist.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Any involvement with a bridge processed under the Historic Bridge Programmatic Agreement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Total permanent impacts to streams (linear feet) and wetlands (acres).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>US Army Corps of Engineers Individual 404 Permit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Total permanent and temporary right-of-way. This does not include reacquisition of existing apparent right-of-way.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> If any relocations are within an area with a known or suspected Environmental Justice (EJ) or disadvantaged population, or has greater than 5 relocations, a conversation with FHWA, through INDOT ESD, is needed to confirm NEPA classification and outreach plan for the project.

Avoidance and Mitigation Measures (AMMs) determined by the IPAC determination key to be required that are not tree AMMs, bridge AMMs, or structure AMMs.

<sup>8</sup> Projects that do not fall under a Species Specific Programmatic and results in a "Likely to Adversely Affect". Other findings can be processed as a lower-level CE.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Potential for causing a disproportionately high and adverse impact.

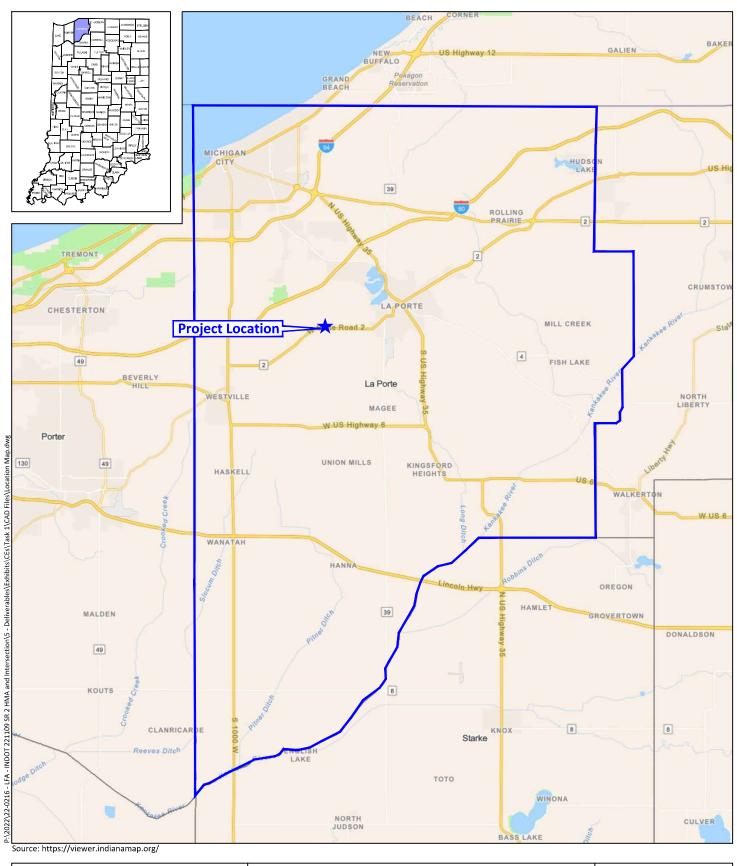
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Section 4(f) use resulting in an Individual, Programmatic, or *de minimis* evaluation. The only exception is a *de minimis* evaluation for historic properties (Effective January 2, 2020). If a historic property *de minimis* and no other use, mark the *None* column.

<sup>11</sup> Hot Spot Analysis and/or MSAT Quantitative Emission Analysis.

<sup>\*</sup> Includes the threatened/endangered species critical habitat

Note: Substantial public or agency controversy may require a higher-level NEPA document.

# APPENDIX B Graphics



Location Map
Intersection Improvement Project
SR 2 and CR 500 West
Scipio Township, LaPorte County, IN
Des. No. 2200043
Metric Project No. 22-0216-1

All locations approximate

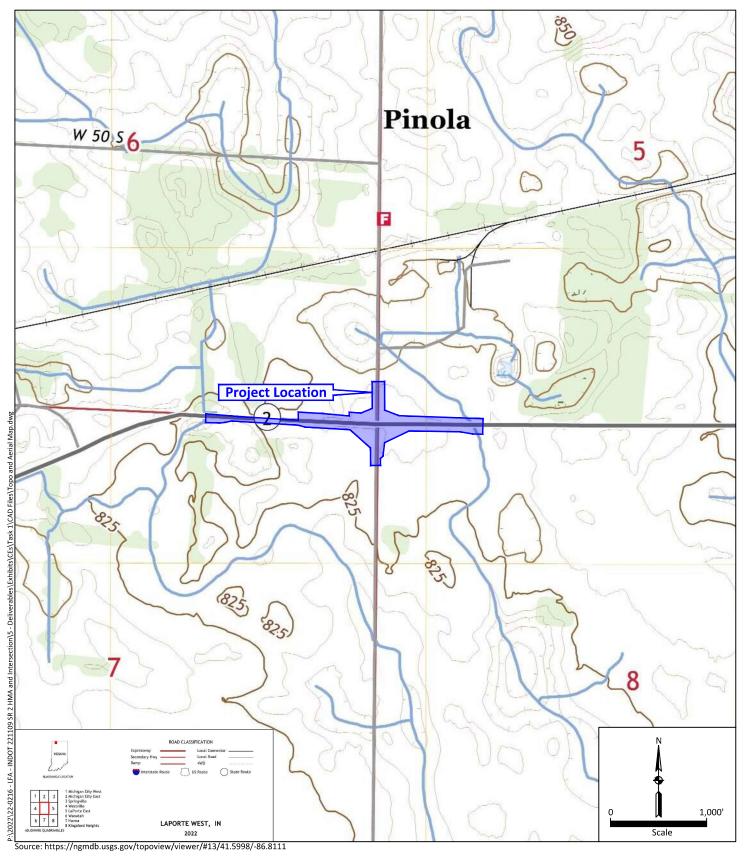
All locations approximate

Drawn by: U

Checked by: SW

Approved by: SC

Date: May, 2025



## **USGS Topographic Map**

Intersection Improvement Project SR 2 and CR 500 West Scipio Township, LaPorte County, IN Des. No. 2200043 Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 All locations approximate

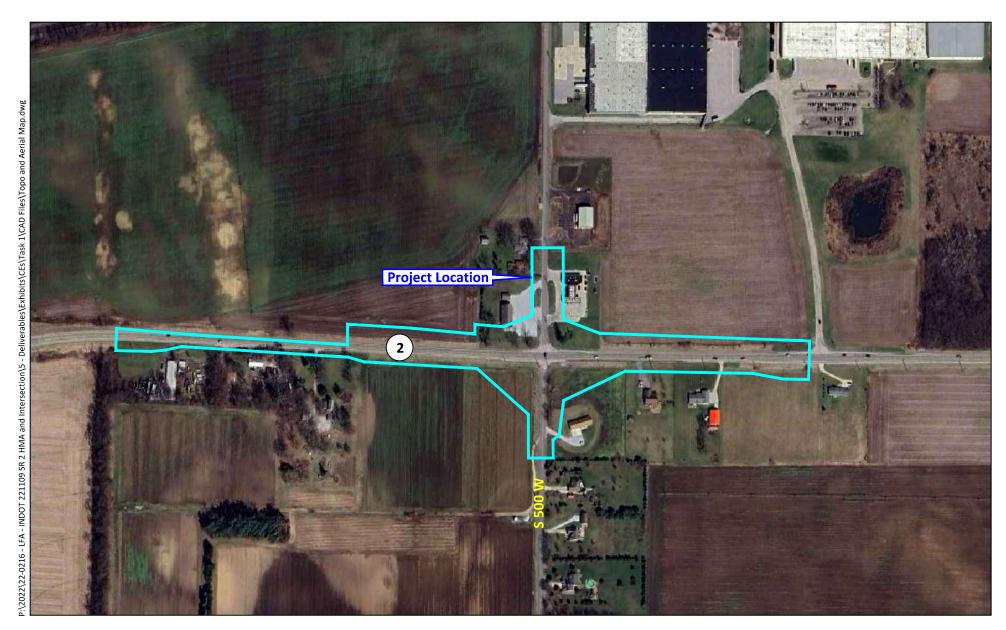


 Drawn by:
 ILI

 Checked by:
 SW

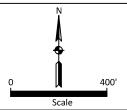
 Approved by:
 LBH

 Date:
 May, 2025



## 2024 Aerial Photograph

Intersection Improvement Project SR 2 and CR 500 West Scipio Township, LaPorte County, IN Des. No. 2200043 Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Note: All locations are approximate

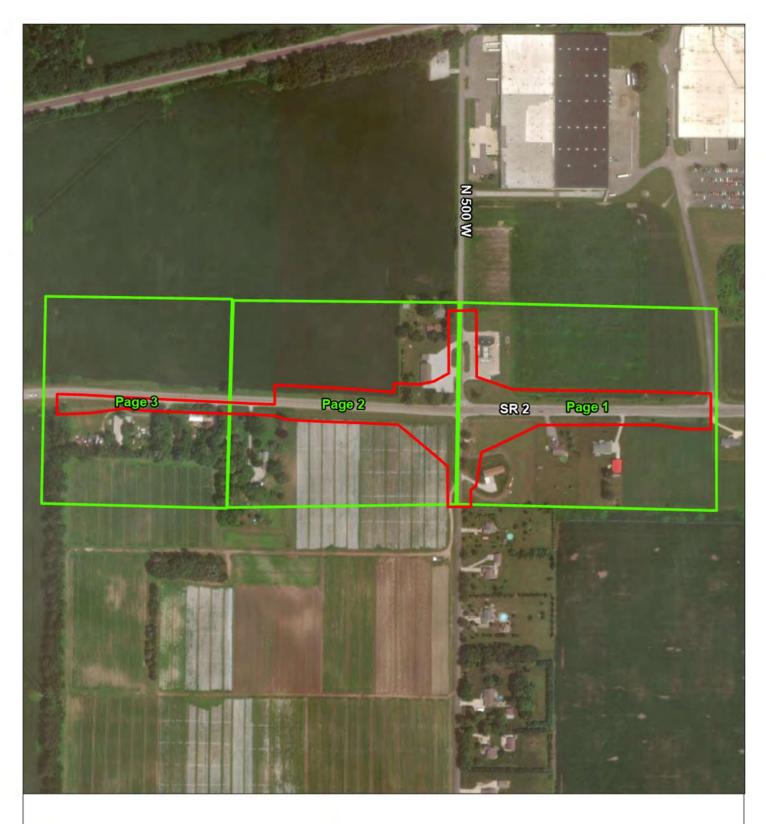




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Checked by: SW

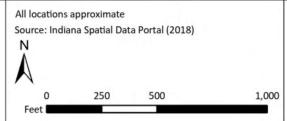
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Date: May, 2025

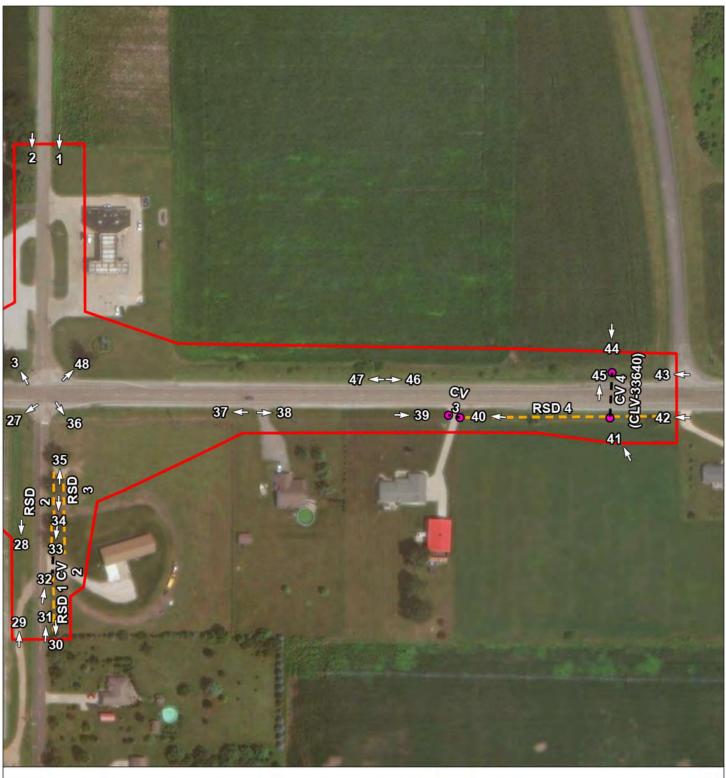


## ■ Investigated Area (IA) ■ Page Number

Exhibit 5 & Exhibit 6 - Reference Map SR 2 - Intersection Improvement Roundabout Installation LaPorte County, Indiana Des. No. 2200043 Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 7/31/2023 Map Author: Seth Snyder







- ☐ Investigated Area (IA)
- -- Culvert (CV)
- Culvert Opening (CV)
- -- Roadside Ditch (RSD)

Exhibit 6 - Photograph Location Map SR 2 - Intersection Improvement Roundabout Installation LaPorte County, Indiana Des. No. 2200043

Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 7/31/2023 Map Author: Seth Snyder All locations approximate
Source: ESRI World Imagery Clarity (2022)

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0 100 200 400
Feet





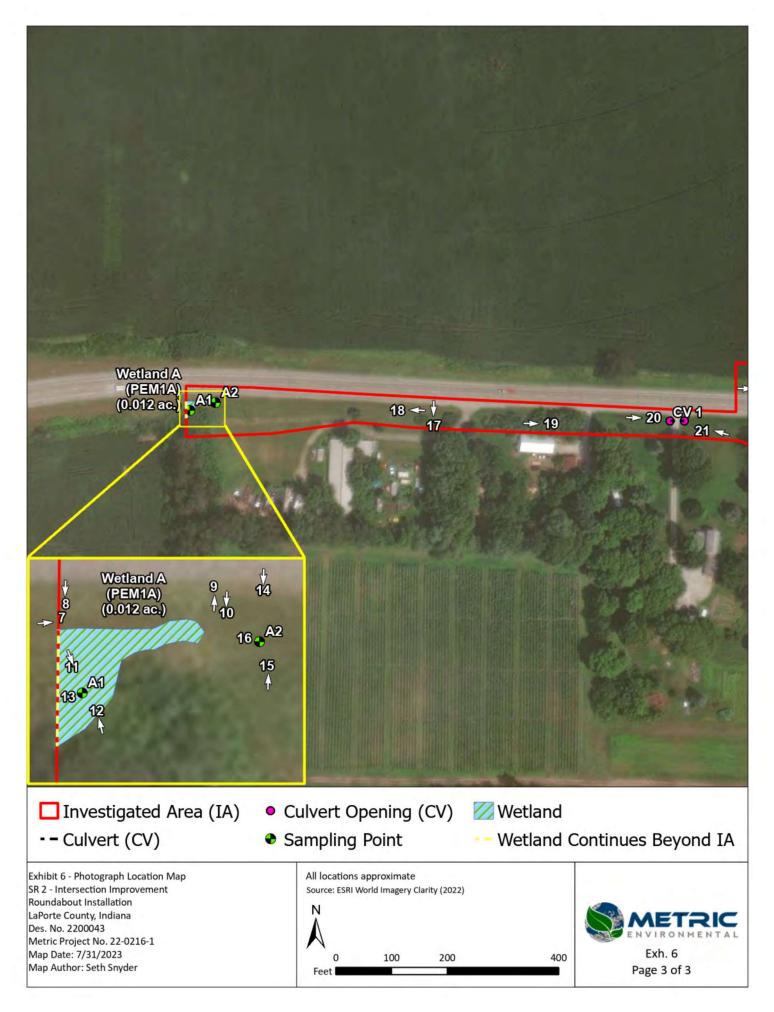
- ☐ Investigated Area (IA)
- -- Culvert (CV)
- Culvert Opening (CV)
- -- Roadside Ditch (RSD)

Exhibit 6 - Photograph Location Map SR 2 - Intersection Improvement Roundabout Installation LaPorte County, Indiana Des. No. 2200043

Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 7/31/2023 Map Author: Seth Snyder All locations approximate
Source: ESRI World Imagery Clarity (2022)

N
0 100 200 400
Feet







1. View of upland area from the northern terminus of the IA east of S 500 W, looking south.



2. View of upland area from the northern terminus of the IA west of S 500 W, looking south.



3. Panoramic view at the intersection of SR 2 and S 500 W, looking northwest.

## SITE PHOTOGRAPHS—8/2/2023

SR 2 Intersection Improvement Roundabout Installation Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana Des. No. 2200043





4. View of upland area on north side of SR 2, looking east.



6. View of upland area from north side of SR 2, looking east.



5. View of upland area from north side of SR 2, looking west



7. View of upland area and Wetland A from the western terminus of the IA on the south side of SR 2, looking east.





8. View of Wetland A from the south side of SR 2, looking south. The red dashed line represents the western terminus of the IA. Vegetation observed included curly dock (*Rumex crispus*, FAC), giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*, FAC), black elder (*Sambucus nigra*, FAC), and more.



10. View of NHD flowline (unobserved) from the south side of SR 2, looking south. Vegetation observed included red fescue (*Festuca rubra*, FACU), tall false rye grass (*Schedonorus arundinaceus*, FACU), ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*, FACU), and more.



9. View of NHD flowline (unobserved) from the south side of SR 2, looking north. No culvert was observed during the field reconnaissance.



11. View of Wetland A Sampling Point (A) 1, looking southeast.







12. View of A1, looking northwest.



14. View of A2, looking south.



13. View of A1, soil profile.



15. View of A2, looking north.







16. View of A2, soil profile.



18. View of NHD flowline (unobserved) from the south side of SR 2, looking west.



17. View of NHD flowline (unobserved), from the south side of SR 2 looking south. Vegetation observed included red fescue (*Festuca rubra*, FACU).



19. View of upland forested area on the south side of SR 2, looking east. Vegetation pictured includes sugar maple (*Acer Saccharum*, FACU) and amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*).







20. View of Culvert (CV) 1 from the south side of SR 2, looking east.



22. View of CV 1 and upland area from the south side of SR 2, looking west.



21. View of CV 1 from the south side of SR 2, looking west.



23. View of upland area from the south side of SR 2, looking east.





24. View of upland area from the south side of SR 2, looking west.



25. View of upland area from the south side of SR 2, looking east.



26. View of row crop towards SR 2 and S 500 W intersection, looking northeast.





27. Panoramic view at the intersection of SR 2 and S 500 W, looking southwest.



28. View of upland area, row crop and NHD Flowline (unobserved) from the west side of S 500 W, looking south.



29. View of upland area, row crop, and NHD Flowline (unobserved) along the west side of S 500 W, looking north.





30. View of RSD 1 and upland area from the east side of S 500 W, looking south. Vegetation observed within RSD 1 included field brome (*bromus arvensis*, FACU) and tall false rye grass (*Schedonorus arundinaceus*, FACU).



32. View of CV 2 and RSD 1 from the east side of S 500 W, looking north.



31. View of RSD 1 and upland area from the east side of S 500 W, looking north.



33. View of CV 2 and RSD 2 from the east side of S 500 W, looking south.





34. View of RSD 2, RSD 3, and upland area from the east side of S 500 W, looking south.



35. View of RSD 2, RSD 3, and upland area from the east side of S 500 W, looking north.



36. Panoramic view at the intersection of SR 2 and S CR 500 W, looking southeast.





37. View of upland area from the south side of SR 2, looking west.



39. View of CV 3 from the south side of SR 2, looking east.



38. View of upland area from the south side of SR 2, looking east.



40. View of CV 3 from the south side of SR 2, looking west.





41. View of CV 4 from the south side of SR 2, looking northwest.



43. View of upland area from the eastern terminus of the IA north of SR 2, looking west.



42. View of upland area from the eastern terminus of the IA south of SR 2, looking west. Vegetation observed included common milkweed (*Asclepias* syriaca, FACU) and amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*).



44. View of CV 5 from the north side of SR 2, looking south.





45. View of CV 5 and NHD flowline from the north side of SR 2, looking north. No OHWM was observed.



46. View of upland area from the north side of SR 2, looking east.



47. View of upland area from the north side of SR 2, looking west.





48. Panoramic view at the intersection of SR 2 and S 500 W, looking northeast.





CULVERT ASSET ID

Sta. 926+50.00 "A"

Sta. 48+75.00 "S-1-A"

Sta. 929+60.00 "A"

DES. NO.

2200043

2200043

2200043

CULVERT ASSETS

WORK TYPE

New Culvert

New Culvert

New Culvert

# **INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



# ROAD PLANS

ROUTE: S.R. 2 AT: 55+04

PROJECT NO. 2200043 P.E.

> R/W 2200043

2200043 CONST.

TRAFFIC DATA CR 500 W S.R. 2 D.H.V DIRECTIONAL DISTRIBUTION TRUCKS

DESIGN DATA

DESIGN SPEED	55 MPH	30 AND 40 MPH			
PROJECT DESIGN CRITERIA	RECONSTRUCTION (NON-FREEWAY)	RECONSTRUCTION (NON-FREEWAY)			
FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL	LOCAL AGENCY COLLECTOR			
RURAL/URBAN	RURAL	RURAL			
TERRAIN	LEVEL	LEVEL			
ACCESS CONTROL	NONE	NONE			



ı		
ı	LATITUDE: 41°35'29" N	LONGITUDE: 86°47'53" W

GROSS LENGTH:	0.284 MI.
NET LENGTH:	0.284 MI.
MAX, GRADE:	1.68 %

HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE (S): 071200010406

STAGE 2 PLANS **SEPTEMBER 16, 2024** 

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS DATED 2024 TO BE USED WITH THESE PLANS

			500 W, 3.27 Miles West of S.R. 39 hip, La Porte County, Indiana
227	0		86 30 30



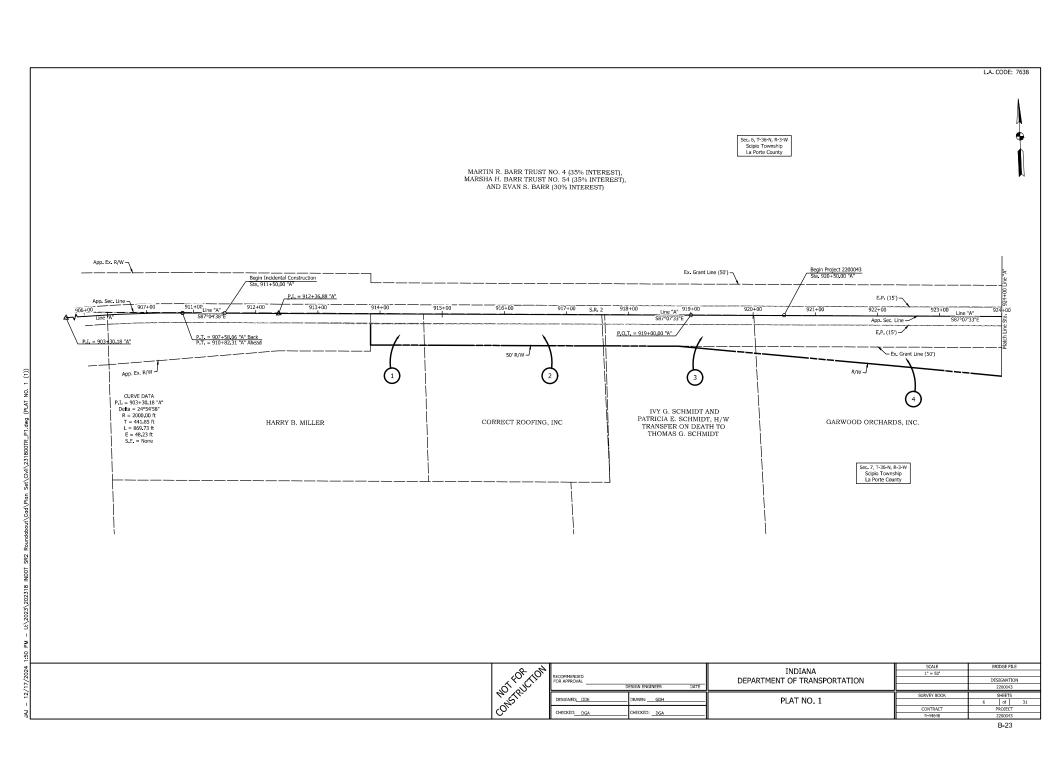
LA PORTE COUNTY

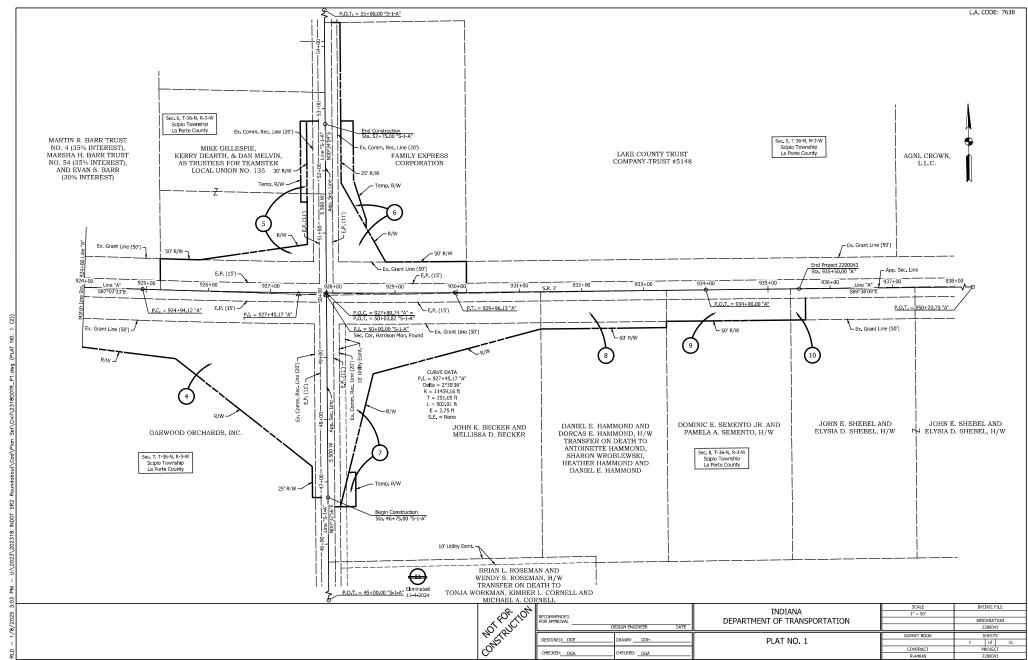


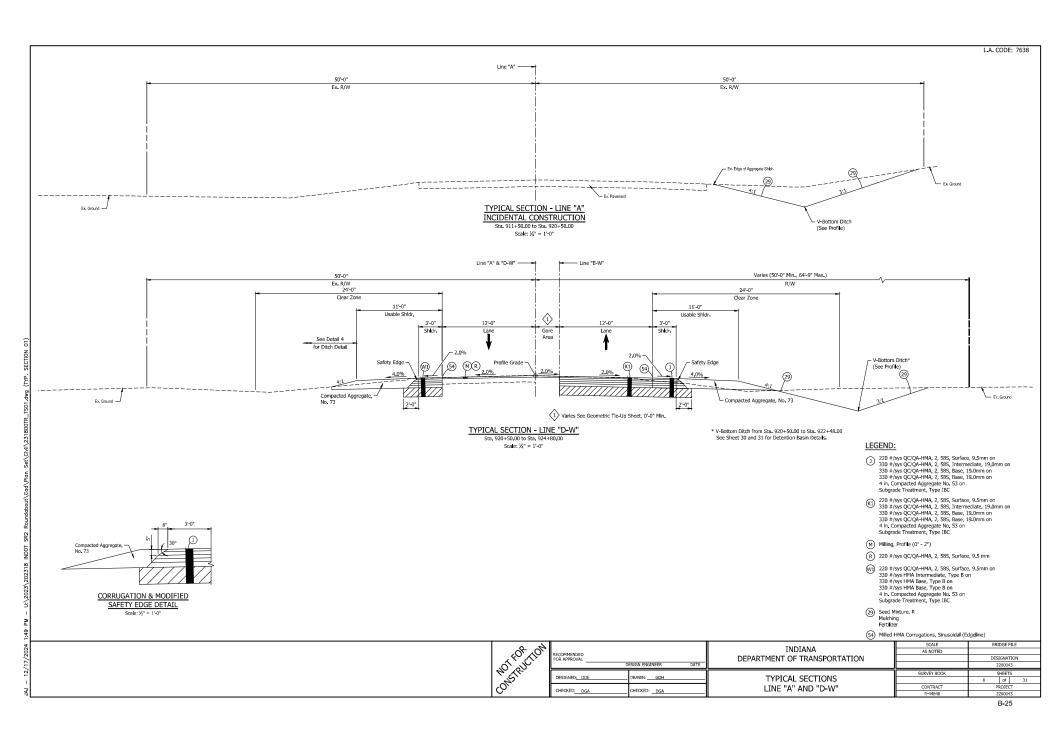


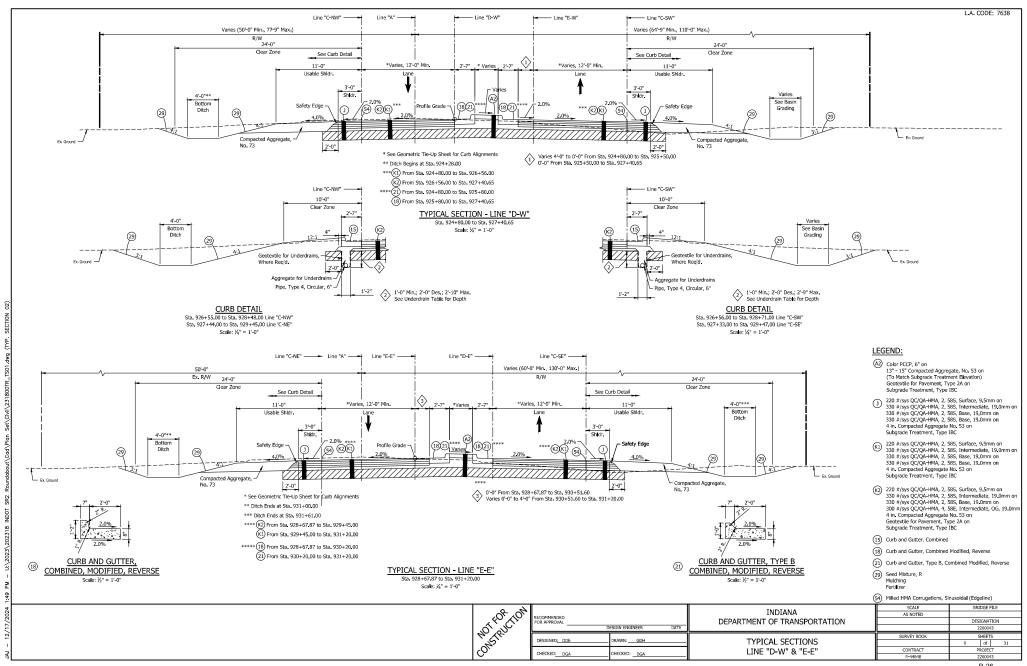
PLANG PREPARED BY:	LAWSON-FISHER ASSOC. P.C.	574-234-3167		
		PHONE NUMBER		
CERTIFIED BY:				
ADDONED		DATÉ		
APPROVED FOR LETTING:		DATE		
	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION			

DESIGNATION 2200043 SURVEY BOOK of CONTRACT 2200043

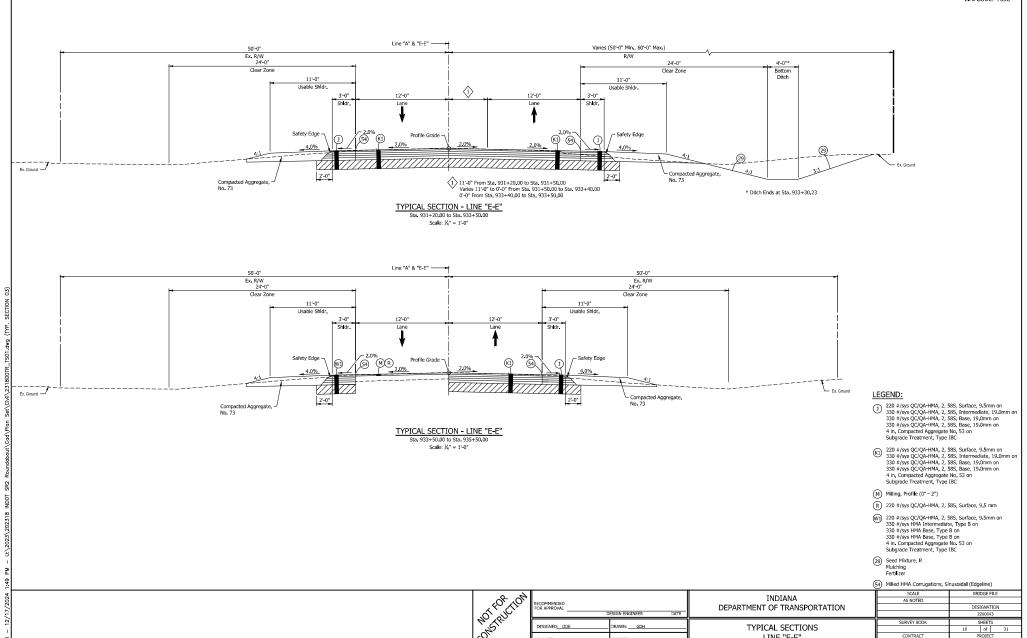








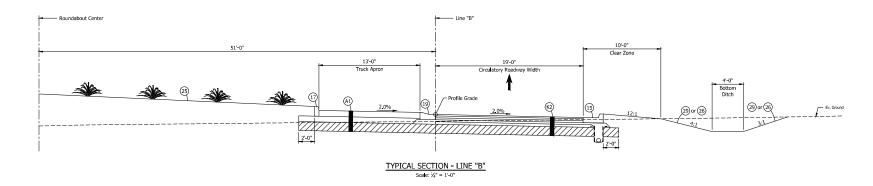




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LINE "E-E"





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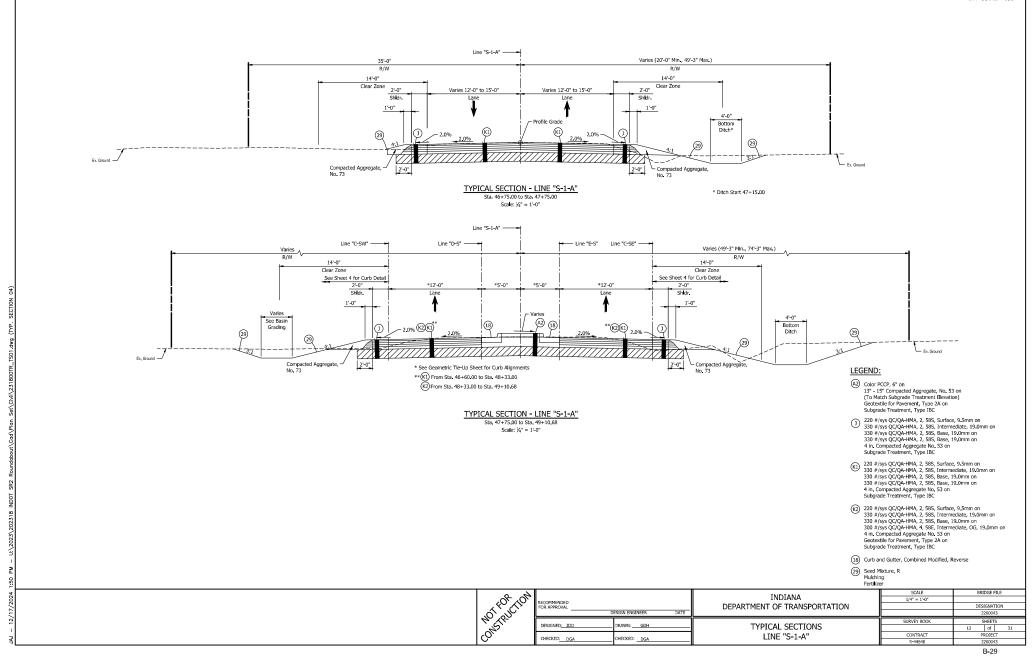
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- (15) Curb and Gutter, Combined
- 17 Integral Curb
- (19) Curb and Gutter, Type B, Modified, 3" Reveal, Reverse
- 25) Native Seed Mixture
- 26 Sodding
- 29 Seed Mixture, R Mulching Fertilizer

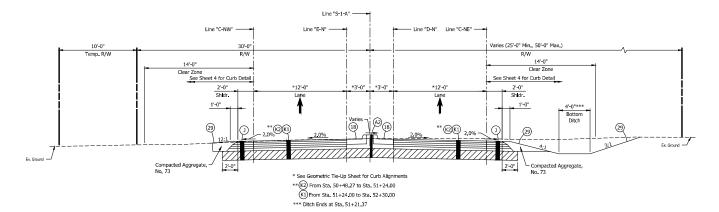
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DESIGNED: JDD	DRAWN: GDH	TYPICAL SECTION	SURVEY BOOK	SHEETS 11 of 31
CHECKED: DGA	CHECKED: DGA	LINE "B"	CONTRACT R=44648	PROJECT 2200043

B-28



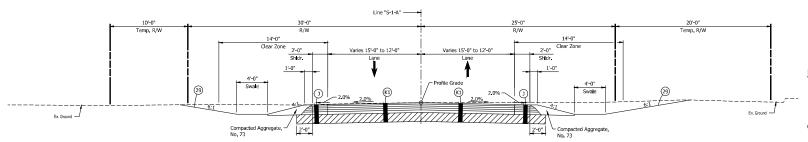






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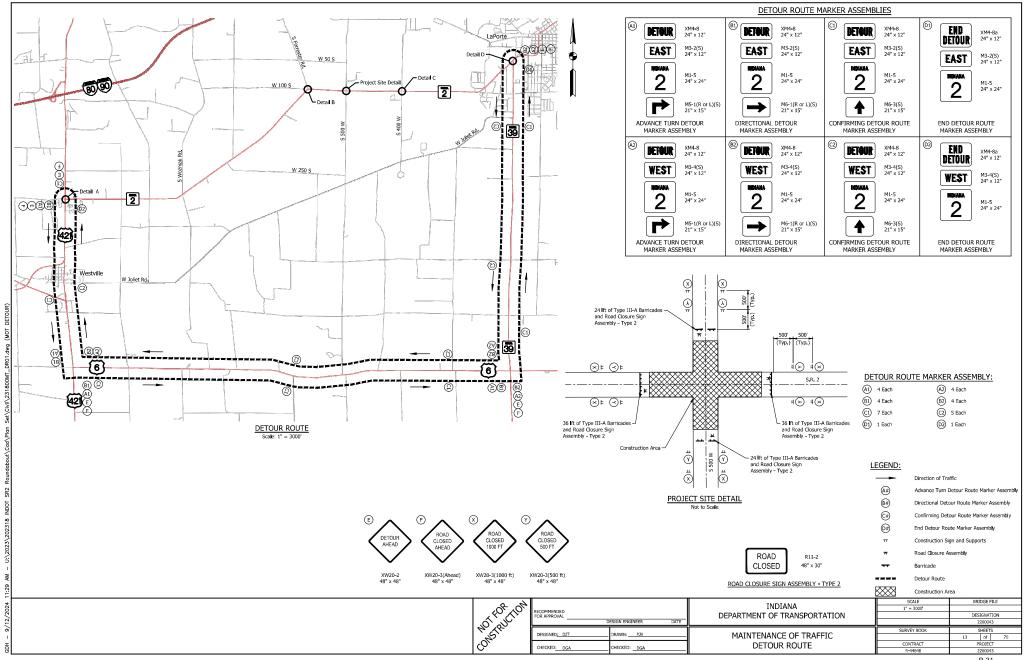
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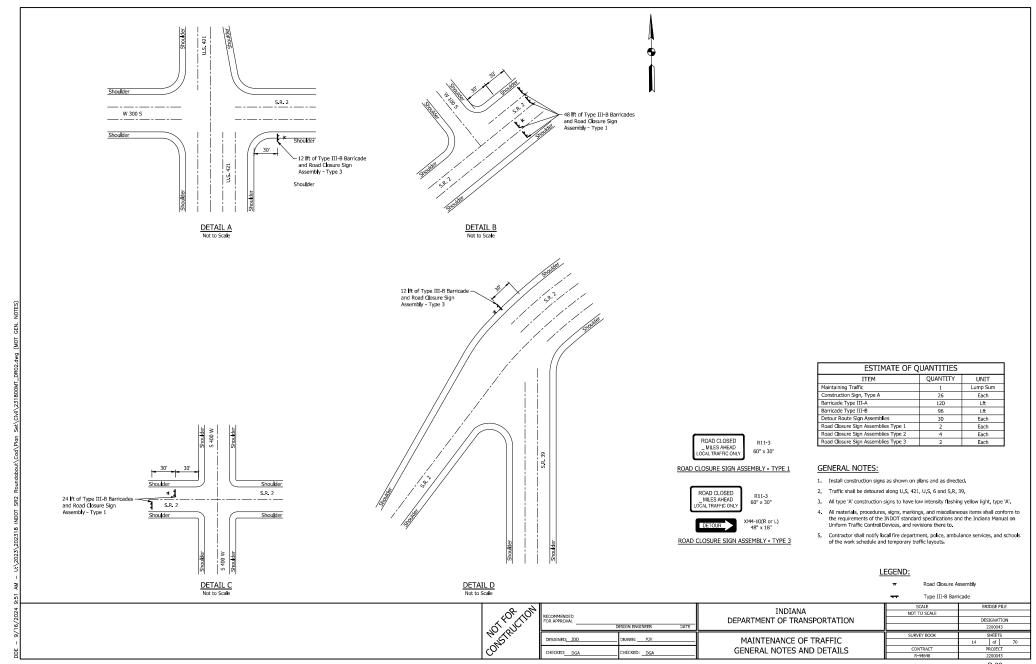
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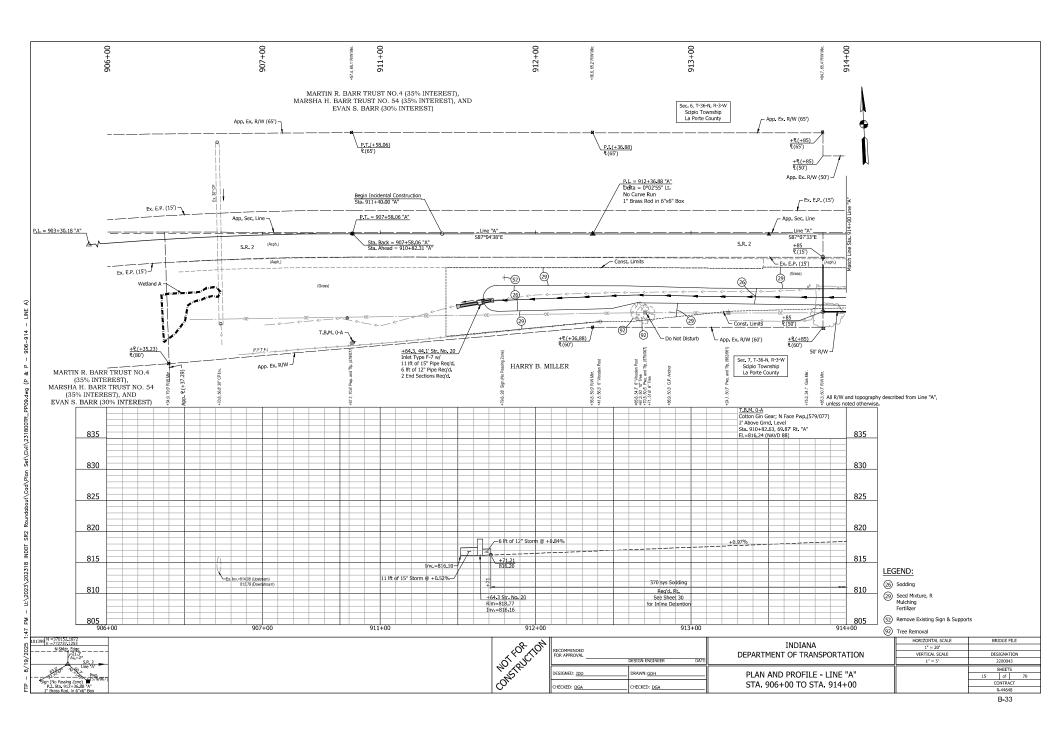
#### LEGEND:

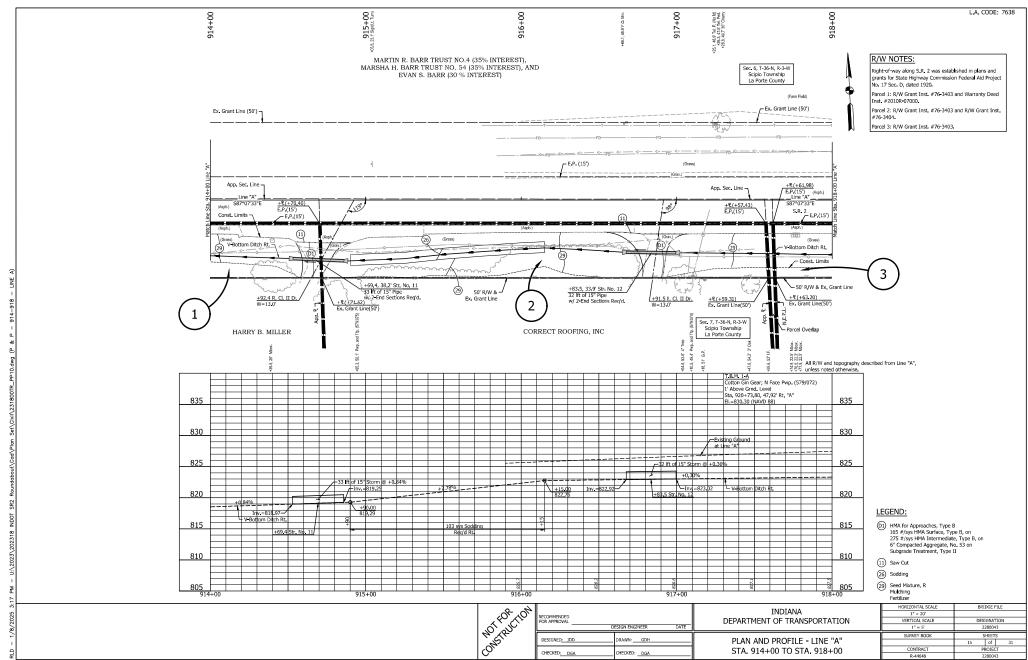
- (A2) Color PCCP, 6" on 13" - 15" Compacted Aggregate, No. 53 on (To Match Subgrade Treatment Elevation) Geotextile for Pavement, Type 2A on Subgrade Treatment, Type IBC
- 20 #/sys QC/QA-HMA, 2, 585, Surface, 9.5mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA-HMA, 2, 585, Intermediate, 19.0mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA-HMA, 2, 585, Base, 19.0mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA-HMA, 2, 585, Base, 19.0mm on 4 in. Compacted Aggregate No.3 on Subgrade Treatment, Type IBC
- (2) 2/9/sys QC/QA+HMA, 2, 58S, Surface, 9.5mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA+HMA, 2, 58S, Intermediate, 19.0mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA+HMA, 2, 58S, Base, 19.0mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA+HMA, 2, 58S, Base, 19.0mm on 4 in. Compacted Apgregate No. 33 on Subgrade Treatment, Type 1BC
- (a) 220 #/sys QC/QA+MMA, 2, 58S, Surface, 9.5mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA+MMA, 2, 58S, Intermediate, 19.0mm on 330 #/sys QC/QA+MMA, 2, 58S, Bass, 19.0mm on 300 #/sys QC/QA+MMA, 4, 58E, Intermediate, OG, 19.0mm on 4 in. Compacted Aggregate No. 53 on Gedetotile for Pavement, Type 2A on Subgrade Treatment, Type IBC
- (18) Curb and Gutter, Combined Modified, Reverse
- 29 Seed Mixture, R Mulching Fertilizer

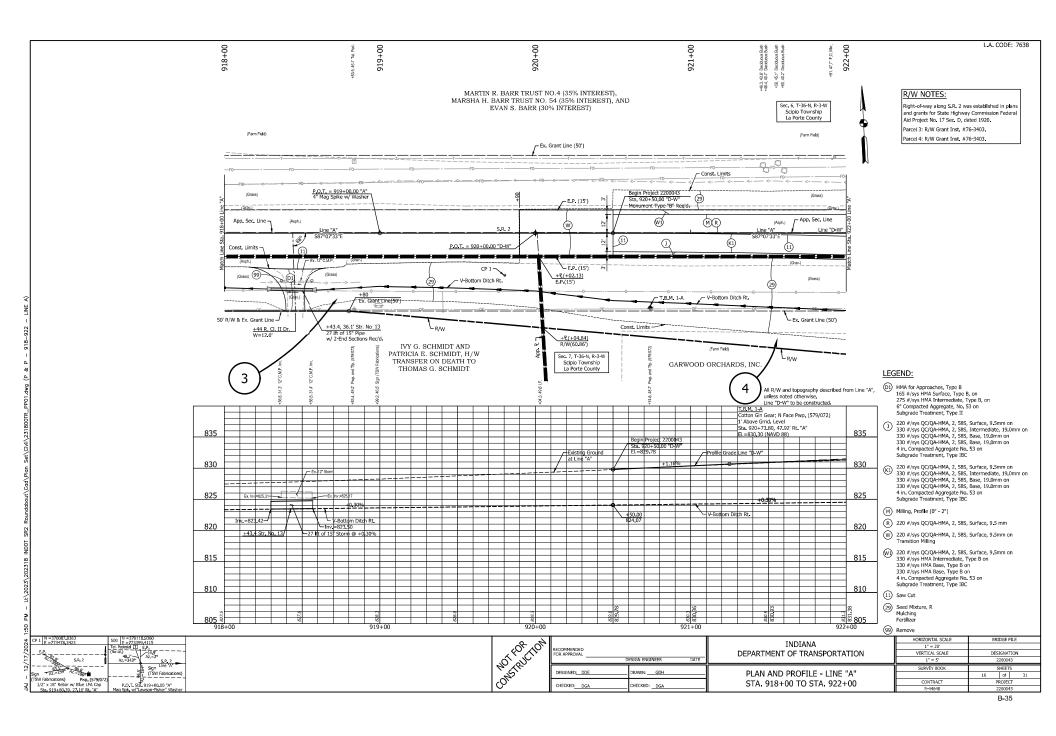
4			TNIDIANIA	SCALE	BRIDGE FILE	
- 40) I	RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL DESIGN ENGINEER DATE		INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	1/4" = 1'-0"		
ΑY					DESIGNATION	
٧I					2200043	
	DESIGNED: JDD	DRAWN: GDH		SURVEY BOOK	SHEETS	
	DESIGNED: JDD	DRAWN: GDH	TYPICAL SECTIONS		13 of 31	
	CHECKED: DGA CHECKED: DGA	LINE "S-1-A"	CONTRACT	PROJECT		
		CHECKED: DGA	EINE OTA	R-44648	2200043	

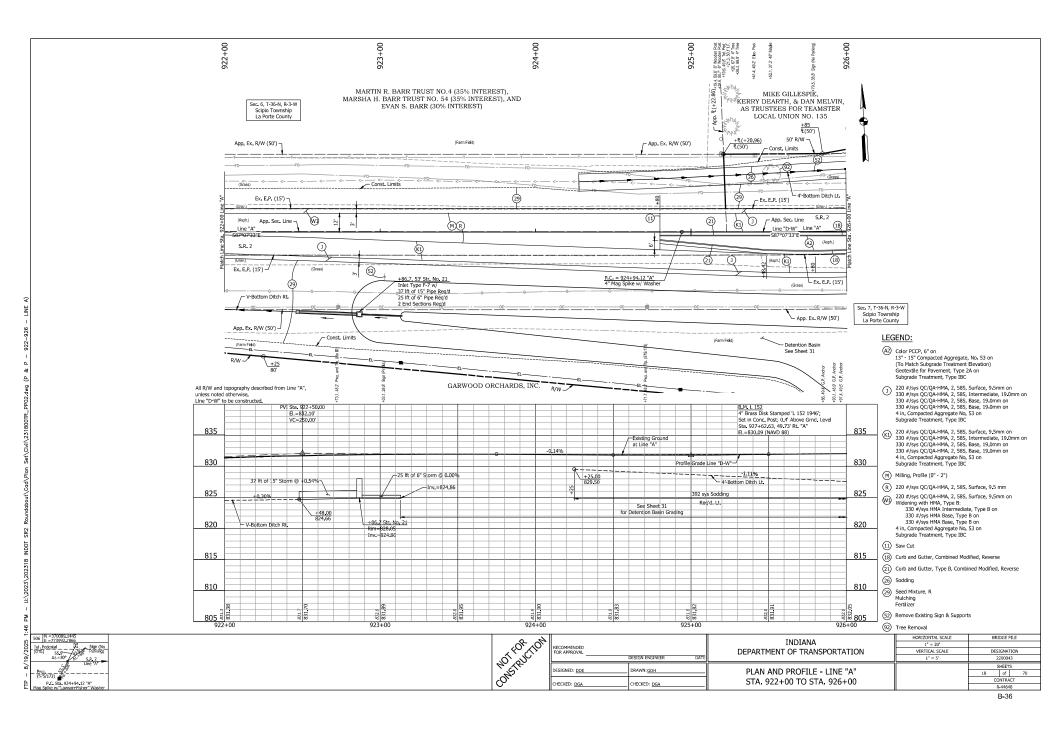


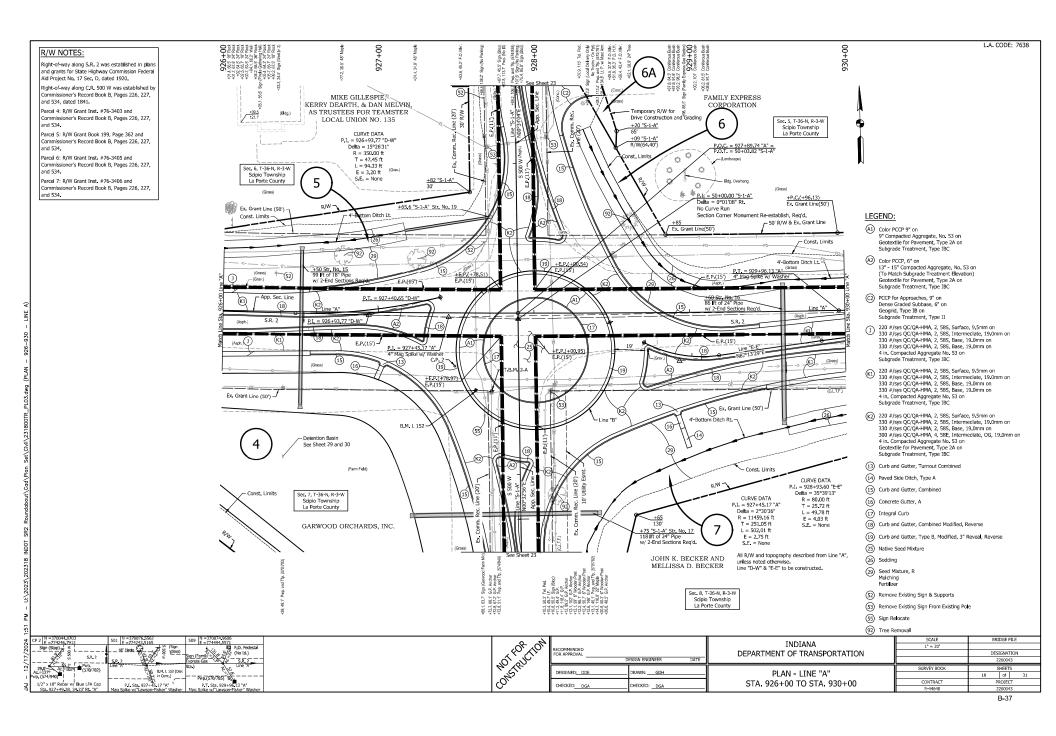


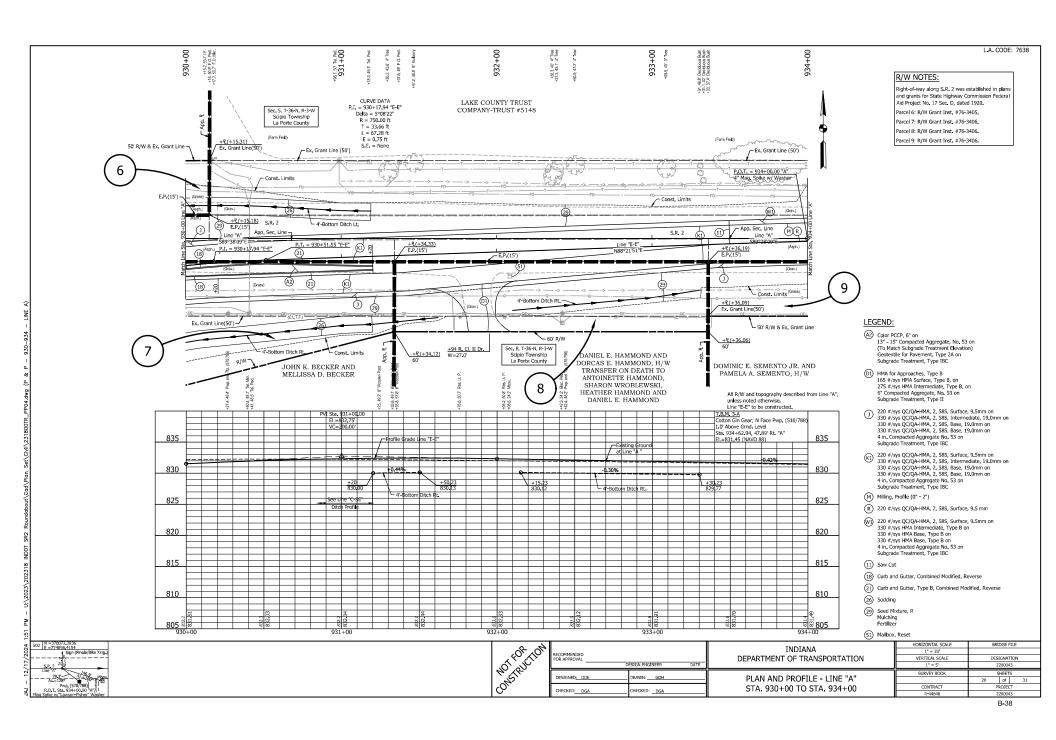


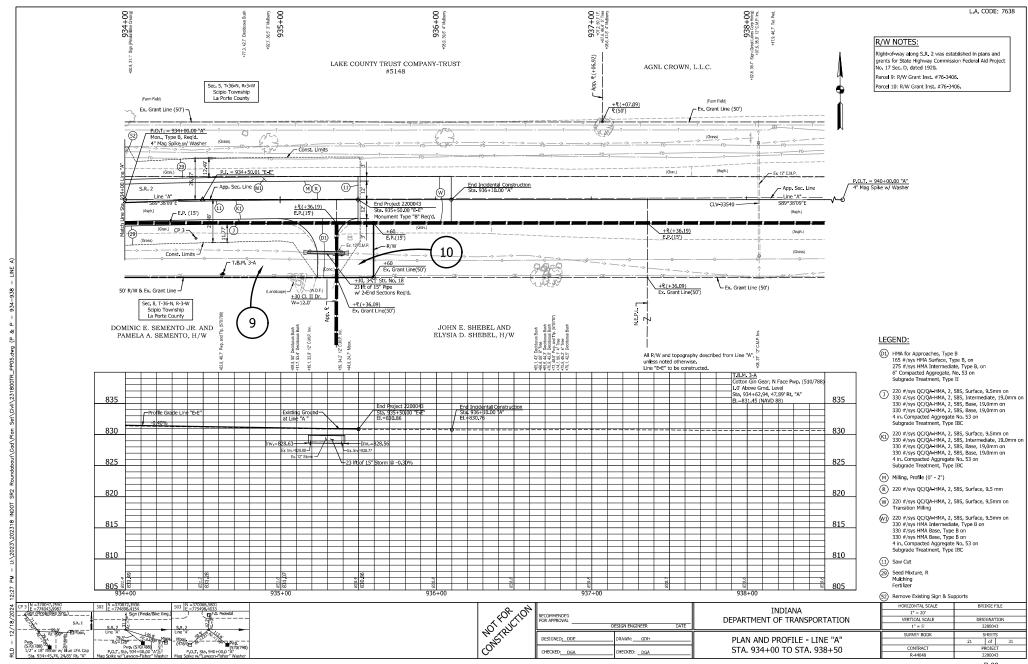


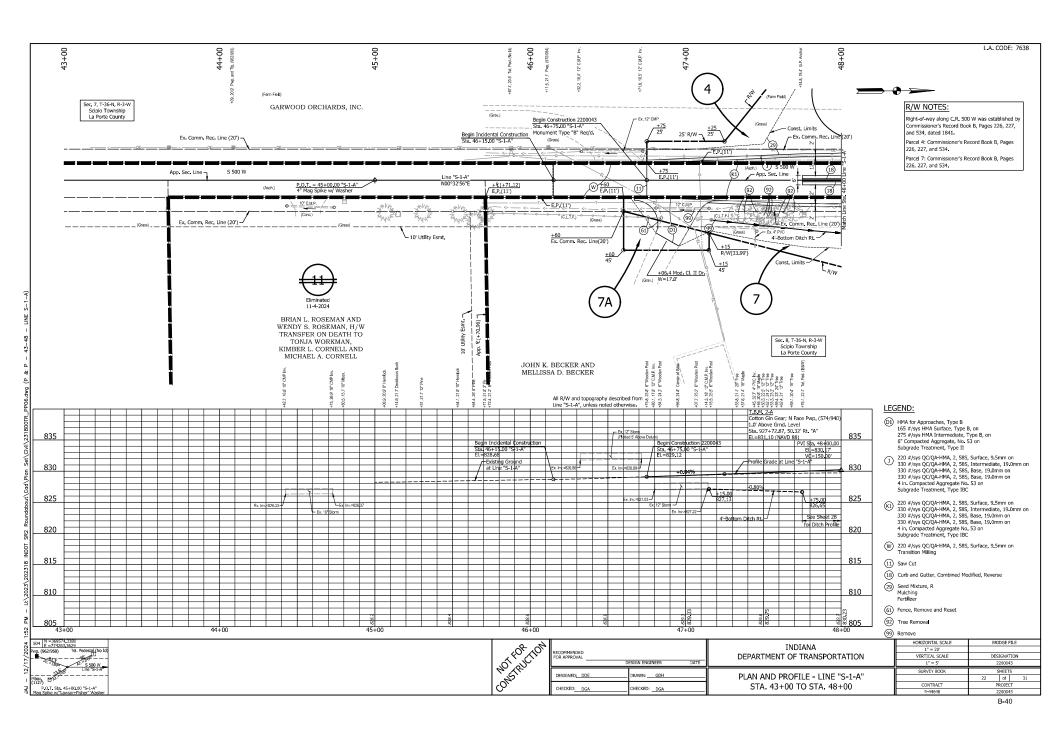


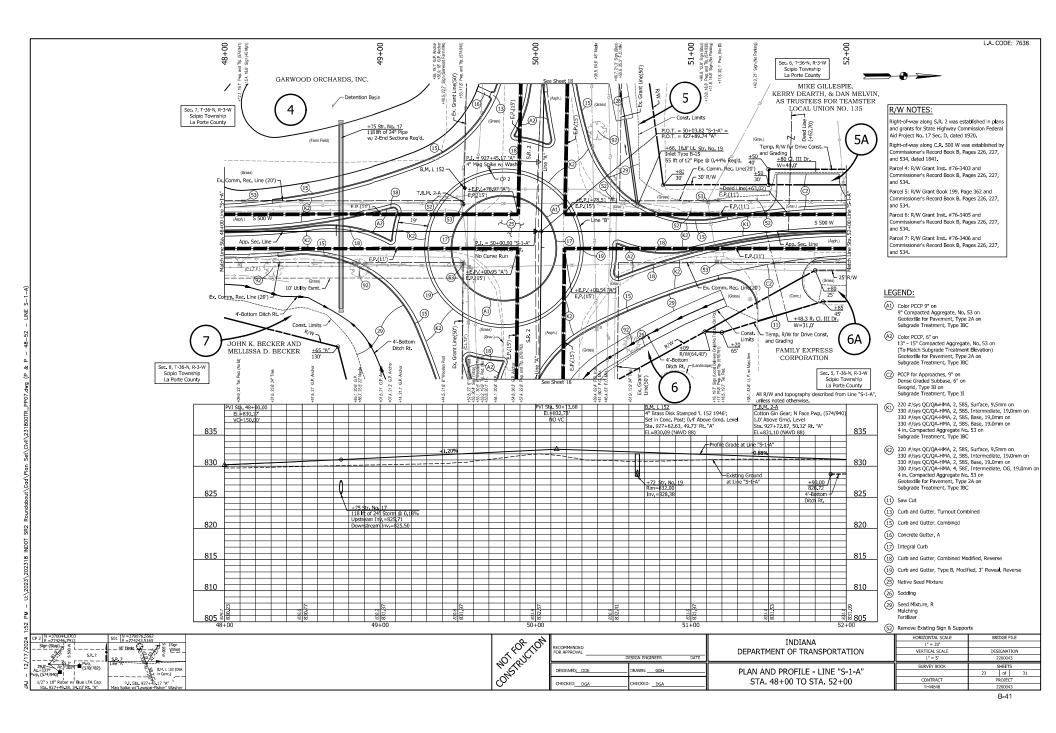


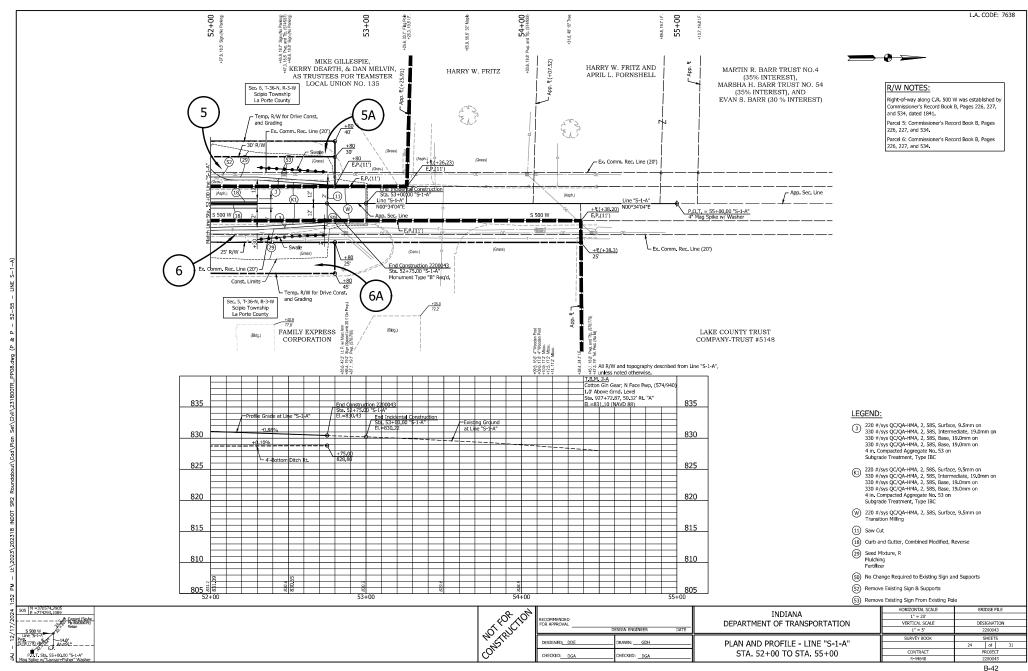




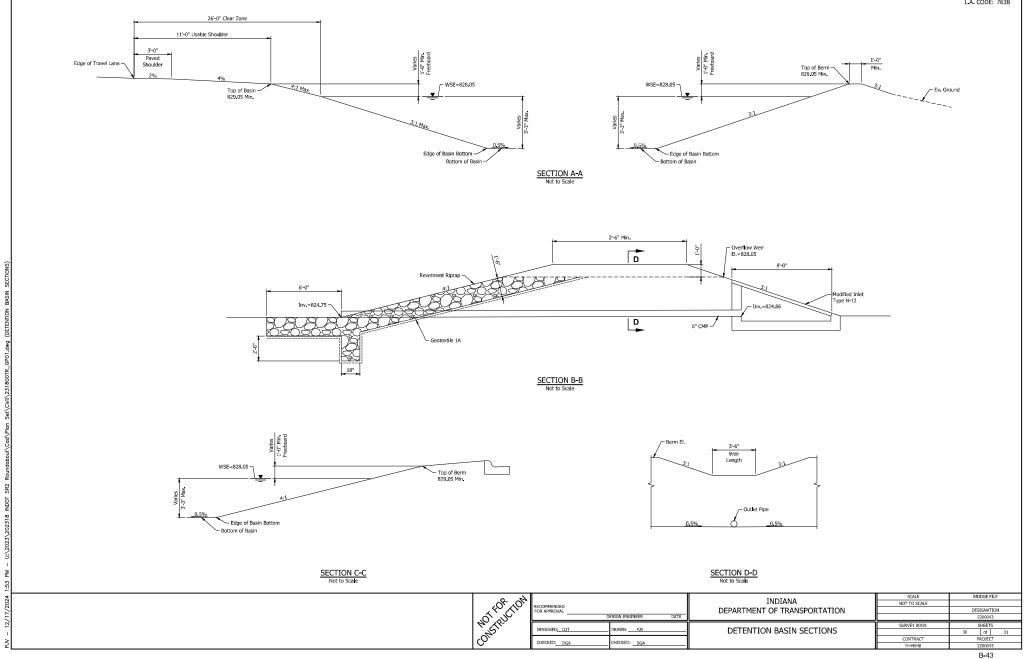












# **APPENDIX C Early Coordination**



#### INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue Room N642 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 855-INDOT4U

Mike Braun, Governor Kent Abernathy, Commissioner

#### Sample Early Coordination Letter

January 29, 2025

Re: Early Coordination
Des. No. 2200043
Intersection Improvement Project
SR 2 and CR 500 West
Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

#### Dear Agency:

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with partial funding and oversight from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), intends to proceed with an intersection improvement project in the aforementioned area. This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. Please use the above designation number (Des. No. 2200043) and description in your reply. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project's environmental impacts.

The project is located at the intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 W in LaPorte County, Indiana, southwest of the City of LaPorte, approximately 3.27 miles West of SR 39. Specifically, the project is located within Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, Township 36 North, Range 3 West of the LaPorte West, Indiana 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangles. Land use within the project area is predominantly rural, residential, and agricultural.

SR 2 and CR 500 W are both two-lane roadways. SR 2 is classified as a Rural Principal Arterial Other with two 12-footwide travel lanes, narrow shoulders, and right turn lanes onto CR 500 W at the intersection. CR 500 W is classified as a Rural Major Collector with two 11-foot-wide travel lanes and no shoulders in the project area. The intersection is controlled with stop signs on CR 500 W. There are no sidewalks present. The posted speed limit is 35 to 45 miles-per-hour (mph) in the project area.

The need for this project is due to the high frequency of crashes at this intersection. A total of 22 crashes occurred at the intersection during the study period from 2017 to 2019: the majority involving right and left turns. The purpose of this project is to address the high crash rate and operational characteristics of the intersection.

The preferred alternative will consist of constructing a single-lane roundabout at the intersection. Project limits are preliminarily estimated to extend approximately 500 feet to the east and west along SR 2 and approximately 400 feet north and south along CR 500 W. Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. New overhead lighting will be installed along each leg of the roundabout per design requirements. The project letting date is in July 2027 and construction is anticipated to begin in Fall 2027.

Approximately 2.02 acres of additional permanent right-of-way will be required to construct the project.



If we do not receive your response within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter, it will be assumed that your agency believes that there will be no adverse effects incurred as a result of the proposed project. However, if you find that an extension to the response time is necessary, a reasonable amount may be granted upon request.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Elayna Stoner, Project Manager, at Metric Environmental, by telephone at 317.315.3322, or by email at <a href="mailto:elaynas@metricenv.com">elaynas@metricenv.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Elayna Stoner

Project Manager Metric Environmental, LLC

cc: Metric File No. 22-0216-1
Dimitri Adams, Lawson-Fisher Associates (LFA) Project Manager, <u>dadams@lawson-fisher.com</u>
Dan Delgado, LFA, <u>ddelgado@lawson-fisher.com</u>

Michael Grylewicz, INDOT LaPorte District Senior Project Manager, mgrylewicz@indot.in.gov

Graphics Provided with this Letter are Located in Appendix B of this Document



#### INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue Room N758-ES Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 PHONE: (855) 463-6848

Eric Holcomb, Governor Michael Smith, Commissioner

#### The following agencies received Early Coordination Letters:

Federal Highway Administration k.carmanygeorge@dot.gov

Indiana Geological and Water Survey <a href="https://igws.indiana.edu/eAssessment">https://igws.indiana.edu/eAssessment</a>

Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife environmentalreview@dnr.in.gov

US Department of Housing & Urban Development Chicago Regional Office erik.r.sandstedt@hud.gov

Indiana Department of Transportation LaPorte District SMichels@indot.in.gov mgrylewicz@indot.in.gov

Indiana Department of Transportation Office of Aviation TLewandowski@indot.in.gov

Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist john.allen@usda.gov

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission <a href="mailto:twarner@nirpc.org">twarner@nirpc.org</a>

US Fish and Wildlife Service Northern Indiana Suboffice elizabeth mccloskey@fws.gov LaPorte County Board of Commissioners <a href="mailto:cgramarossa@laporteco.in.gov">cgramarossa@laporteco.in.gov</a>

LaPorte County Emergency Management Agency <a href="mailto:rsabie@laporteco.in.gov">rsabie@laporteco.in.gov</a>

LaPorte County Emergency Medical Services EFenstermaker@laporteco.in.gov

LaPorte County Highway Department <a href="mailto:cglaser@laporteco.in.gov">cglaser@laporteco.in.gov</a>

LaPorte County Surveyor's Office <a href="mailto:ahendricks@laporteco.in.gov">ahendricks@laporteco.in.gov</a>

LaPorte Fire Department andy.snyder@laportefire.com

LaPorte Police Department <a href="mailto:dbuell@lpcitypd.com">dbuell@lpcitypd.com</a>

#### THIS IS NOT A PERMIT

# State of Indiana DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Fish and Wildlife

#### Early Coordination/Environmental Assessment

**DNR#:** ER-26412

Request Received: April 1, 2024

#### Requestor:

Joshua Netherton Metric Environmental, LLC 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250

#### **Project:**

SR 2 & CR 500 West single-lane roundabout construction with a new detention basin in the southwest quadrant, 3.27 miles west of SR 39; Des #2200043

County/Site Info: LaPorte County

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above referenced project per your request. Our agency offers the following comments for your information and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

If our agency has regulatory jurisdiction over the project, the recommendations contained in this letter may become requirements of any permit issued. If we do not have permitting authority, all recommendations are voluntary.

#### **Regulatory Assessment:**

Formal approval by the Department of Natural Resources under the regulatory programs administered by the Division of Water is not required for this project.

#### **Natural Heritage Database:**

The Natural Heritage Program's data have been checked. To date, no plant or animal species listed as state or federally threatened, endangered, or rare have been reported to occur in the project vicinity.

#### **Fish and Wildlife Comments:**

Avoid and minimize impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources to the greatest extent possible, and compensate for impacts. The following are recommendations that address potential impacts identified in the proposed project area:

#### A) Street Trees

The Division of Fish and Wildlife recommends avoiding removing trees to the greatest extent possible and replacing trees that must be removed. Indiana's street trees provide millions of dollars of tangible benefits to Indiana communities by their presence in the urban and rural environment. Their shade and beauty contribute to the quality of life. They provide significant increases in real estate values, create attractive settings for commercial businesses, and improve community neighborhood appeal. Trees decrease energy consumption by providing shade and acting as windbreaks. They reduce water treatment costs and impede soil erosion by slowing the runoff of stormwater. Trees also cool the air temperature, cleanse pollutants from the air, and produce oxygen while absorbing carbon dioxide. Trees are an integral component of the urban environment. Proactively managing and maintaining a street tree population will ultimately maximize the benefits afforded by their aesthetic and ecological functions.

The following links give a good overview of the benefits of a street tree program and how to select the right species to avoid the negative impacts of non-native invasive species such as the common and popular Bradford pear: https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/forestry-publications-and-presentations/ (scroll down to the Community & Urban Forestry section).

#### B) Lighting

Most transportation corridor designers and municipalities are trending toward LED lighting. Certain types of LED lighting can have negative impacts on both human and wildlife health and safety. The Division of Fish and Wildlife strongly encourages visiting the International Dark-Sky Association's website to learn more about the potential negative impacts of improperly selected LED lighting systems, if required: https://www.darksky.org/our-work/lighting/lighting-for-citizens/led-guide/.

The additional measures listed below should be implemented to avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources:

- Revegetate all bare and disturbed areas that are not currently mowed and maintained with a mixture of
  grasses (excluding all varieties of tall fescue) and legumes as soon as possible upon completion; turf-type
  grasses (including low-endophyte, friendly endophyte, and endophyte free tall fescue but excluding all
  other varieties of tall fescue) may be used in currently mowed areas only.
- 2. Minimize and contain within the project limits all tree and brush clearing.
- 3. Do not cut any trees suitable for Indiana Bat or Northern Long-eared Bat roosting (3 inches or greater diameter-at-breast height, living or dead, with loose hanging bark, or with cracks, crevices, or cavities) from April 1 through September 30.
- 4. Appropriately designed measures for controlling erosion and sediment must be implemented to prevent sediment from entering the waterbody or leaving the construction site; maintain these measures until construction is complete and all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- 5. If erosion control blankets are used, they shall be heavy-duty, biodegradable, and net free or use loose-woven/Leno-woven netting to minimize the entrapment and snaring of small-bodied wildlife such as snakes and turtles (follow manufacturer's recommendations for selection and installation); seed and apply mulch on all other disturbed areas.
- 6. Plant five trees, 1 inch to 2 inches in diameter-at-breast height, for each tree which is removed that is 10 inches or greater in diameter-at-breast height.

#### **Contact Staff:**

Our agency appreciates this opportunity to be of service. Please contact me at RVanVoorhis@dnr.IN.gov or (317) 232-8163 if we can be of further assistance.

Date: April 17, 2024

Rachel Van Voorhis
Rachel Van Voorhis

Environmental Coordinator Division of Fish and Wildlife

From: McCloskey, Elizabeth
To: Joshua Netherton

Cc: <u>Elayna Stoner</u>; <u>Dmitri Adams</u>; <u>Dan Delgado</u>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Early Coordination Letter - (Des. No. 2200043) SR 2 and CR 500 West Intersection

Improvement Project, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39, LaPorte County

**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2024 12:49:55 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

**Good afternoon,** because the proposed project will have minor impacts on natural resources, and no Federally listed endangered species are known to be present, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will not be providing a comment letter.

I will be retiring at the end of April and no one will be in the Northern Indiana Suboffice and this email address will no longer exist. So it will be necessary to send all early coordination letters and other correspondence to Robin McWilliams Munson at the Indiana Field Office in Bloomington at robin\_mcwilliams@fws.gov. Please pass this information on to your coworkers so that they send inquiries to Robin.

Thank you.

Elizabeth McCloskey
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Northern Indiana Suboffice
Ecological Services
Chesterton, Indiana

From: Joshua Netherton <joshuan@metricenv.com>

**Sent:** Monday, April 1, 2024 8:29 AM

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Early Coordination Letter - (Des. No. 2200043) SR 2 and CR 500 West

Intersection Improvement Project, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39, LaPorte County

Des. No.: 2200043, State Project

Project Description: State Road (SR) 2 County Road (CR) 500 West Intersection Improvement Project,

3.27 miles West of SR 39

Project Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with partial funding from the Federal Highway Administration, intends to proceed with an intersection improvement project at the intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 West, approximately 3.27 miles west of SR 39, in LaPorte County. Please see the attached early coordination letter for a full description of the proposed project.

This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process requesting

comments associated with this project. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. Please review the attached letter and respond with your comments on any possible impacts to be incurred as a result of this project so that an environmental report can be completed. We also welcome your related opinions and other input to be considered in the preparation of the environmental document. If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request as soon as you can.

Recipients have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of this information to review and provide comments. If we do not receive a response from a recipient within the time allotted, the project will proceed consistent with the proposed design.

If any further information is needed, you may contact Josh Netherton, Metric Environmental, by replying directly to this email or by telephone at 317.981.3093, or contact Michael Grylewicz, INDOT LaPorte District Senior Project Manager, at <a href="mailto:mgrylewicz@indot.in.gov">mgrylewicz@indot.in.gov</a> or by telephone at 219.851.0169.

Thank you in advance for your input,



#### Josh Netherton

Assistant Project Manager

NEPA Compliance

317.400.1633 ext.157M 317.981.3093

6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250

www.metricenv.com

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## Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

Programmatic Biological Opinion/Conference Opinion for Transportation Projects in the Range of the Indiana Bat, Northern Long-Eared Bat, and Tricolored Bat

#### **Appendix B: Project Submittal Form**

**Updated December 2024** 

The use of the Assisted Determination Key in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) System is strongly recommended for submitting project-level information to the Service for use of the range-wide programmatic consultation covering actions that may affect the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat (NLEB), or tricolored bat (TCB). However, if not using the assisted determination key, transportation agencies must provide this submittal form (or a comparable Service approved form) with project-level information to the Service. The completed form should be submitted to the appropriate Service Field Office prior to project commencement. For more information, see the Standard Operating Procedure for Site Specific Project(s) Submission in the User's Guide (Section 3).

By submitting this form, the transportation agency ensures that each component of the proposed project(s) adheres to the criteria and conditions of the 2024 range-wide programmatic biological opinion (PBO). Upon submittal of this form, the appropriate Service Field Office may review the project-specific information provided and request additional information. For projects that may affect but are not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Indiana bat, NLEB, or TCB, if the applying transportation agency is not contacted by the Service with any questions or concerns within 14 calendar days of form submittal, it may proceed under the range-wide programmatic consultation and assume concurrence of the NLAA determination made by the Service in the PBO. For projects that may affect and are likely to adversely affect (LAA) the Indiana bat, NLEB, or TCB, the appropriate Service Field Office will respond¹ within 30 calendar days of receiving a complete project-level submission, which includes, but may not be limited to this completed form.

- 1. Date: 3/26/20
- 2. Lead agency: FHWA

  This refers to the Federal governmental lead action agency initiating consultation; select FHWA, FRA,

  FTA, or FHWA/FRA Program Assignment State or Categorical Exclusion Assignment State as
  appropriate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Service Field Offices should use the LAA verification letter template for projects that may affect, and are likely to adversely affect the Indiana bat, NLEB, or TCB.

3.	Requestin	g agency: Indiana Department of Transportation
		to the transportation agency completing the form (it may or may not be the same as the
		ame: Jason Damm
	• Ti	tle: Senior Project Manager
	• Pł	none: 317.605.2392
	• Er	mail: jasond@metricenv.com
4.	Project co	de: <sup>2</sup> 2025-0073896
5.	Project na	me(s): Des 2200043, Intersection Project, SR 2 and CR 500W, LaPorte County, Indiana
6.	Project de	scription:
	Please att	ach additional documentation or explanatory text if necessary.
7	Project lo	cation (county, state): LaPorte County, Indiana
		neated in IPaC, attach shape files.
8.	For specie	s other than Indiana bat, NLEB, and TCB (from IPaC official species list):
	$\boxtimes$	No effect – project(s) are inside the species range, but no suitable habitat (see additional information attached).
		May affect – see additional information provided for those species (see attached or forthcoming).
2 A	vailable thr	 ough IPaC System Official Species List: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/</a>
^	vanubie till	2

Please confirm and identify how each component of the proposed project(s) adheres to the criteria of the PBO by completing the following (see User Guide Section 2.0):

#### **NO EFFECT**

9. For Indiana bat/NLEB/TCB, if applicable, select your no effect determination:					
	No effect – project(s) are outside the species' range.				
	<u>No effect</u> – project(s) are inside the species range with no suitable habitat <sup>3</sup> within the project action area <sup>4</sup> ; project(s) must also be greater than 0.5 miles from any hibernaculum.				
	No effect – project(s) do not cause any stressors <sup>5</sup> to the covered bat species, such as those that do not involve ground disturbance, vibrations, noise above background levels (including general traffic), temporary or new/additional permanent lighting, tree removal/trimming, nor bridge, culvert, and structure activities.				
	<u>No effect</u> – project(s) includes percussive activities in suitable habitat (not related to tree removal and/or bridge, culvert, or structure work) that involve noise/vibration above existing background levels and are conducted greater than 0.5 miles (0.8 km) of a hibernaculum during the inactive season.				
	<u>No effect</u> – project(s) includes the removal, replacement, or alteration of bridge, culvert, or structure that does not meet the minimum culvert dimensions (see the Service's current survey guidance).				
Proceed with of the PBO.	h this form to identify how other components of the proposed project adhere to the criteria				
MAY AFFECT	T, NOT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY EFFECT – W/O AMMS				
10. For Indiana bat/NLEB/TCB, if applicable, select your may affect, NLAA determination (without implementation of AMMs):					
	NLAA – project(s) are inside the species range and within suitable bat habitat, but have <b>negative</b> bat presence/absence (P/A) surveys; must also				
<sup>3</sup> Refer to the	Service's Range-wide Bat Survey Guidelines at https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/range-wide-				

indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The "action area" is defined as "all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action." Further clarification is provided by the national consultation FAQs at: https://www.fws.gov/glossary/action-area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Examples of activities that **do not cause stressors** may include striping roadways, unlighted road signage, railroad crossing signals, signal lighting, minor road repair such as asphalt fill of potholes, among others.

		be greater than 0.5 miles from any hibernaculum.			
		NLAA – project(s) include percussive activities within suitable habitat (not related to tree removal and/or bridge, culvert, structure work) that cause noise/vibration above existing background levels; and are conducted greater than 0.5 miles (0.8 km) of a hibernaculum; no further than 100 ft (30.5 m) of the road/rail surface during the pup season; and not carried out between			
		December 15 and February 15 in Zone 1 of the NLEB and TCB YR active ranges.			
		NLAA – project(s) includes the removal, replacement, or alteration of bridges, culverts, or structures with no signs of bat use [e.g., bats, guano], and does not impact suitable habitat within the project action area.			
	eed with	this form to identify how other components of the proposed project adhere to the criteria			
MA	EFFECT,	NOT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT – WITH AMMs			
11.	11. For Indiana bat/NLEB/TCB, if applicable, document your may affect, NLAA determination (with implementation of AMMs) by completing the following section; use #13 to document AMMs):				
	a. Tree Removal/Trimming Activities				
	$\boxtimes$	NLAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees outside documented habitat <sup>6</sup> within 100 ft (30.5m) from the road/rail surface during the inactive season; and all applicable lighting minimization measures will be implemented.			
	b. Bridg	ge/Culvert/Structure Activities			
	<u>Proj</u>	ects Proposed work:			
	<u>Timi</u>	ng of work:			
		NLAA – project(s) includes the removal, replacement, or alteration of bridges, culverts, or structures with a large number of bats (>5) observed or assuming bat use when conducted during the inactive season, so long as no hibernating bats are using the bridge, culvert, or structure.			

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 6}$  See glossary in Appendix A for definition of documented habitat.

		NLAA – project(s) includes the removal, replacement, or alteration of bridges, culverts, or structures with a large number of bats (>5) observed or assuming bat use when conducted during the active season, so long as the covered bats species are <b>not likely to be disturbed/killed</b> and suitable roosting habitat is still available within the bridge, culvert, or structure.			
		NLAA – project(s) includes the removal, replacement, or alteration of bridges, culverts, or structures with a small number of bats (<5) observed when conducted during the inactive season, so long as no hibernating bats are using the bridge, culvert, or structure.			
		NLAA – project(s) includes the removal, replacement, or alteration of bridges, culverts, or structures with a small number of bats (≤5) observed when conducted during the active season, so long as the covered bats species are <b>not likely to be disturbed/killed</b> .			
C	c. Ligh	ting			
	$\boxtimes$	Verify that all applicable lighting minimization measures will be implemented.			
	ed with PBO.	this form to identify how other components of the proposed project adhere to the criteria			
MAY.	AFFECT	, LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT			
	For Indiana bat/NLEB/TCB, if applicable, document your may affect, LAA determination (with implementation of AMMs) by completing the following section (use #13 to document AMMs):				
ā	a. Tree	e Removal/Trimming Activities			
Tree F	Remova	l/Trimming Activities in the Hibernating Range of the Indiana bat, NLEB, and TCB.			
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees <u>outside documented habitat</u> for the Indiana bat or NLEB or TCB within 100 ft (30.5m) from the road/rail surface during the pup season; all cleared/trimmed trees must be <9 in DBH.			
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees <u>outside documented habitat</u> for the Indiana bat or NLEB or TCB during the active season; excluding the pup season.			
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees <u>outside documented habitat</u> for the Indiana bat or NLEB or TCB beyond 100 ft (30.5m) from the road/rail surface during the inactive season.			
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees within documented habitat for the Indiana bat or NLEB or TCB during the inactive season.			
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees within documented habitat for the Indiana bat or NLEB or TCB during the active season; excluding the pup season.			

Tree Re	emova	/Trimming Activities in the YR Active Ranges of the NLEB and TCB.		
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees <u>outside documented habitat</u> for the NLEB or TCB within 100 ft (30.5m) from the road/rail surface during the pup season; all cleared/trimmed trees must be <9 in DBH.		
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees <u>outside documented habitat</u> for the NLEB or TCB anytime, excluding the pup season and Dec 15 – Feb 15*.		
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal/trimming of trees within documented habitat for the NLEB or TCB anytime, excluding the pup season and Dec 15 – Feb 15*.		
*For the YR active ranges of the NLEB and TCB, winter tree clearing restrictions from Dec. 15 – Feb. 15 do not apply in areas where the mean minimum temperature is above 40° F throughout the winter months (depicted as Zone 2 in Figure 9 of the PBO):				
		Number of acres of trees 0-100 feet of existing road/rail surface proposed for removal/trimming: Click or tap here to enter text.		
		Number of acres of trees 100-300 feet from edge of existing road/rail surface proposed for removal/trimming. Click or tap here to enter text.		
		Number of acres of trees beyond 300 feet from edge of existing road/rail surface proposed for removal/trimming. Click or tap here to enter text.		
		Verify that all tree removal/trimming occurs greater than 0.5 mile from any hibernaculum		
		Verify trees removed/trimmed outside documented habitat for the Indiana bat or NLEB or TCB within 100 feet of the road/rail surface during the pup season are <9 in DBH,		
		Verify no tree removal/trimming outside documented habitat for the Indiana bat, NLEB, or TCB beyond 100 feet of the road/rail surface during the pup season,		
		Verify no tree removal/trimming of documented_habitat for the Indiana bat, NLEB, or TCB during the pup season,		
		Verify no tree removal/trimming of suitable habitat for the NLEB and/or TCB in Zone 1 of their YR active ranges between December 15 – February 15.		
b.	_	e/Culvert/Structure Activities cts Proposed work:		

	Timing of work:				
	Date of Bridge/Culvert/Structure Assessment (if completed):				
		Verify a small number of bats were observed (<5).			
		LAA – project(s) includes the removal, replacement, or alteration of bridges, culverts, or structures with a small number of bats (≤5) observed when conducted during the active season and the covered bats species are <b>likely to be disturbed/killed</b> .			
	c. Ligh	ting			
		Verify that all applicable lighting minimization measures will be implemented.			
13.	For India	ana bat/NLEB/TCB, if applicable to the action type, the following AMMs <sup>7</sup> will be implemented:			
	$\boxtimes$	General AMM 1 (required for all projects)			
Tree Removal AMM 1 (required for all projects)					
Tree Removal AMM 2 (required for all projects)					
Tree Removal AMM 3 (required for NLAA)					
Tree Removal AMM 4 (required for LAA)					
Tree Removal AMM 5 (required for LAA)					
		Tree Removal AMM 6 (required for LAA)			
		Tree Removal AMM 7 (required for LAA)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 1a (required for NLAA)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 1b (required for NLAA)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 2 (required for NLAA)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 3a (required for NLAA)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 3b (required for NLAA)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 4 (required for NLAA)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 5 (required for all projects)			
		Bridge/Culvert/Structure AMM 6 (required for NLAA)			
	$\boxtimes$	Lighting AMM 1 (required for all projects during the active season)			
	$\boxtimes$	Lighting AMM 2 (required for all projects)			

 $<sup>^{7}\,\</sup>mathrm{See}\,\mathrm{AMMs}$  (Appendix C) for more information on AMMs.

	Hibernacula AMM 1 (required for all projects)			
14. If applicable, compensatory mitigation measures will also be required to offset adverse effects to the Indiana bat and/or NLEB. Select what type of program will be used to mitigate for the Indiana bat and/or NLEB:				
	In-Lieu Fee Program, The Conservation Fund			
	State, Regional, Recovery Unit-Specific In-Lieu Fee Program:			
	Program Name:			
Conservation Bank:				
	Bank Name:			
	Location:			
$\boxtimes$	Local Conservation Site:			
	Site(s) Name:			
	Location:			
	Description:			



## United States Department of the Interior



#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Indiana Ecological Services Field Office 620 South Walker Street Bloomington, IN 47403-2121 Phone: (812) 334-4261 Fax: (812) 334-4273

In Reply Refer To: 06/29/2025 17:31:58 UTC

Project Code: 2025-0073896

Project Name: Des. 2200043, Intersection Project, SR 2 and CR 500W, LaPorte County

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project

location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Act.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. You can complete this verification formally or informally or request an updated list by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation.

Please use the species list provided and visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 3 Section 7 Technical Assistance website at Midwest Section 7 Technical Assistance | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. This website contains step-by-step instructions to help you determine if your project will have an adverse effect on listed species and to lead you through the Section 7 process.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Federal agencies should include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

#### Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles - Although the bald eagle has been removed from the endangered species list, this species and the golden eagle are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to survey the area for any migratory bird nests. If there is an eagle nest on-site while work is on-going, eagles may be disturbed. We recommend avoiding and minimizing disturbance to eagles whenever practicable. If you cannot avoid eagle disturbance, you may seek a <u>permit</u>. A <u>nest take permit</u> is always required for removal, relocation, or obstruction of an eagle nest. For communication and wind energy projects, please refer to additional guidelines below.

*Migratory Birds* - The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Service. The Service has the responsibility under the MBTA to proactively prevent the mortality of migratory birds whenever possible and we encourage implementation of recommendations that minimize potential impacts to migratory birds. Such measures include clearing forested habitat outside the nesting season (generally March 1 to August 31) or conducting nest surveys prior to clearing to avoid injury to eggs or nestlings.

*Communication Towers* - Construction of new communications towers (including radio, television, cellular, and microwave) creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds, especially some 350 species of night-migrating birds. However, the Service has developed <u>voluntary guidelines for minimizing impacts</u>.

Transmission Lines - Migratory birds, especially large species with long wingspans, heavy bodies, and poor maneuverability can also collide with power lines. In addition, mortality can occur when birds, particularly hawks, eagles, kites, falcons, and owls, attempt to perch on uninsulated or unguarded power poles. To minimize these risks, please refer to guidelines developed by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee and the Service. Implementation of these measures is especially important along sections of lines adjacent to wetlands or other areas that support large numbers of raptors and migratory birds.

*Wind Energy* - To minimize impacts to migratory birds and bats, wind energy projects should follow the Service's <u>Wind Energy Guidelines</u>. In addition, please refer to the Service's <u>Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance</u>, which provides guidance for conserving bald and golden eagles in the course of siting, constructing, and operating wind energy facilities.

#### Attachment(s):

Official Species List

## **OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Indiana Ecological Services Field Office 620 South Walker Street Bloomington, IN 47403-2121 (812) 334-4261

#### PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0073896

Project Name: Des. 2200043, Intersection Project, SR 2 and CR 500W, LaPorte County

Project Type: Road/Hwy - Maintenance/Modification

Project Description: The Indiana Department of Transportation, with oversight and partial

funding from the Federal Highway Administration, proposes to proceed with an intersection improvement project located at State Road (SR) 2 and

County Road (CR) 500 W in LaPorte County, Indiana (Des. No.

2200043).

The proposed preferred alternative consists of constructing a single-lane roundabout at the intersection.

The need for the project is a result of the higher-than-expected crash frequency. Currently, the intersection is stop-controlled with signage at the CR 500 W approaches with SR 2 traffic having the right-of-way. In addition, the traffic mobility observed at the CR 500 W approaches are less than desirable and are considered inadequate for current and future projected traffic growth. The purpose of the project is to address the high crash frequency and less than desirable traffic mobility.

The project design includes enclosed drainage which will outlet into a detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the intersection. Maintenance of Traffic is expected to include phased lane closures and a temporary detour. Traffic will be maintained on each roadway using alternating lane closures as allowable; however, a temporary detour will likely be necessary to construct the roundabout. Approximately 2.02 acres of new permanent right-of-way will be required to build the project. In addition, approximately 0.18 acre of temporary right-of-way will be required for construction access, roadside ditch/side slope re-grading and driveway reconstruction.

There is suitable summer habitat located within the project area. Fifteen (15) trees totaling 0.00139 acre will be removed as part of this project (see attached tree removal document for details). All tree impacts will occur during the inactive season for bats. No mitigation is anticipated. Temporary lighting may be required during construction. New overhead lighting will be installed for approximately 400 feet along each leg of the roundabout per design requirements.

Based on consultation with INDOT LaPorte District, a January 3, 2024, review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service database did not indicate the presence of endangered bat species in or within 0.5 mile of the project area.

The project letting is scheduled for summer 2027 and the project should be completed by spring 2028.

#### **Project Location:**

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/@41.5915142,-86.79795369062863,14z">https://www.google.com/maps/@41.5915142,-86.79795369062863,14z</a>



Counties: LaPorte County, Indiana

#### **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES**

There is a total of 4 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

#### **MAMMALS**

**NAME STATUS** 

#### Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis*

Endangered

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949

#### **BIRDS**

**NAME STATUS** 

#### Whooping Crane *Grus americana*

**Experimental** 

Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

Population, Non-

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758

Essential

#### **CLAMS**

NAME **STATUS** 

#### Salamander Mussel Simpsonaias ambigua

**Proposed** 

There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical

habitat.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208

**Endangered** 

#### **INSECTS**

**NAME STATUS** 

#### Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*

**Proposed** 

There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Threatened

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

#### **CRITICAL HABITATS**

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

#### **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Metric Environmental, LLC

Name: Susan Castle

Address: 6958 Hillsdale Court

City: Indianapolis

State: IN Zip: 46250

Email susanc@metricenv.com

Phone: 3176082730

#### LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Highway Administration

From: McWilliams, Robin
To: Wahl, Cassie
Cc: Michels, Stewart

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Des 2200043 NLAA Determination Review Request

**Date:** Thursday, March 27, 2025 4:02:23 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email was sent from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Thanks Cassie.

Your project may proceed under the range-wide programmatic consultation and assume concurrence of the NLAA determination(s) made by the Service in the 2024 PBO. If you have any other questions or concerns, please let me know.

Sincerely, Robin

Robin McWilliams Munson
Fish and Wildlife Biologist/Transportation Liaison
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Indiana Ecological Services Field Office
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403
Robin\_McWilliams@fws.gov
\*NEW\* 812-902-1752

..... 011 001 1/01

Mon-Thurs 8:30-4:30p

From: Wahl, Cassie < CWahl@indot.IN.gov> Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 1:39 PM

**To:** McWilliams, Robin <robin\_mcwilliams@fws.gov> **Cc:** Michels, Stewart <SMichels@indot.IN.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Des 2200043 NLAA Determination Review Request

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello Robin,

Please see the attached submittal form and species list for Des 2200043 in LaPorte County. The consultant made a determination of NLAA. Please let me know if you need anything else from me or if corrections need to be made.

Thank you,

#### **Cassie Wahl**

#### Environmental Manager

Indiana Department of Transportation LaPorte District

Cell: (219) 809-7566
Email: cwahl@indot.in.gov
Find us on social media!





## Organization and Project Information

Organization Name: Metric Environmental, LLC.

Last Name: Netherton

Email: joshuan@metricenv.com

City: Indianapolis

Zip: 46250

Destination Id: 2200043

Project Description: Roundabout Intersection Improvement on S.R. 2 at CR 500 W, 3.27 Miles

West of S.R. 39

First Name: Joshua

Phone: (765) 810-3867

Address Line 1: 6958 Hillsdale Court

State: IN

Customer Id: 22-0216-1

Project Title: Roundabout Intersection Improvement on S.R. 2 at CR 500 W, 3.27 Miles West

## **Environmental Assessment Report**

#### Geological Hazards:

1. Moderate liquefaction potential

#### Mineral Resources:

1. Sand and Gravel Resource: High Potential

#### Disclaimer:

This document was compiled by Indiana University, Indiana Geological Survey, using data believed to be accurate; however, a degree of error is inherent in all data. This product is distributed "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability to a particular purpose or use. No attempt has been made in either the design or production of these data and document to define the limits or jurisdiction of any federal, state, or local government. The data used to assemble this document are intended for use only at the published scale of the source data or smaller (see the metadata links below) and are for reference purposes only. They are not to be construed as a legal document or survey instrument. A detailed on-the-ground survey and historical analysis of a single site may differ from these data and this document.

This information was furnished by Indiana Geological Survey

Address: 1001 E. 10th St., Bloomington, IN 47405

Email: IGSEnvir@indiana.edu

Phone: (812) 855-7428







### Metadata:

 $\underline{\text{https://portal.igs.indiana.edu/arcgis/rest/services/Seismic}} \ \underline{\text{Earthquake Liquefaction Potential/MapServer/info/metadata/}} \\ \underline{\text{Earthquake Liquefaction Poten$ 

 $\underline{\text{https://portal.igs.indiana.edu/arcgis/rest/services/Industrial}} \underline{\text{Minerals}} \underline{\text{SandAndGravel}} \underline{\text{Resources/MapServer/info/metadata/}} \\$ 



Farm Production and Conservation Natural Resources Conservation Service Indiana State Office 6013 Lakeside Boulevard Indianapolis, Indiana 46278 317-295-5800

May 13, 2025

Samantha Wickizer Metric Environmental 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

Dear Samantha Wickizer:

The Intersection Improvement SR 2 CR 500 W project in LaPorte County, Indiana, (Des. No. 2200043) as referred to in your letter received on March 7, 2025, will cause a conversion of prime farmland.

[March' is incorrect the letter was sent on May 7]

The attached packet of information is for your use competing Parts VI and VII of the AD-1006. After completion, the federal funding agency needs to forward one copy to NRCS for our records.

If you need additional information, please contact John Allen at 317-295-5859 or john.allen@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

JOHN ALLEN

Digitally signed by JOHN ALLEN Date: 2025.05.13 14:15:23 -04'00'

JOHN ALLEN
State Soil Scientist

**Enclosers** 

U.S. Department of Agriculture  FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING								
PART I (To be completed by Federal Agen	cy)	Date Of L	and Evaluation	Request 5/1	2/2025			
Name of Project DES2200043 Inters	sect Improv SR 2 CR5	Federal A	Agency Involved					
Proposed Land Use	<u> </u>		nd State LaPo	rte County,	IN			
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Rec	uest Received	Ву	Person C JRA	Person Completing Form:		
Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statev (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not con	·		ES NO	Acres Irrigated Average Farm Size 410 ac			Farm Size	
Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. J	lurisdiction				Defined in FF	PPA	
Corn	Acres: 351560 % 91			Acres: 28	329% 7	3		
Name of Land Evaluation System Used LESA	Name of State or Local S	ite Assess	ment System	Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS 5/13/2025				
PART III (To be completed by Federal Age.	ncy)					Site Rating		
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly				Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly				2.22				
C. Total Acres In Site				2.22				
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Lan	d Evaluation Information			2.22				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				0.41				
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local	I Important Farmland			0.00				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Lo	ocal Govt. Unit To Be Converted			<0.001				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdi	ction With Same Or Higher Relati	ve Value		67				
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Relative Value of Farmland To Be Co		s)		70				
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria (Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-			Maximum Points	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	
1. Area In Non-urban Use		(15)	5					
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use		(10)	5					
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed			(20)	0				
4. Protection Provided By State and Local	Government		(20)	10				
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area			(15)	5				
6. Distance To Urban Support Services			(15)	5				
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To	o Average		(10)	5				
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland			(10)	0				
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services		(5)	1					
10. On-Farm Investments		(20)	0					
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services			(10)	0				
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use			(10)	5				
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS		160	41	0	0	0		
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)								
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)			100	70	0	0	0	
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above	or local site assessment)		160	41	0	0	0	
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)			260	111	0	0	0	
ite Selected: A Date Of Selection			Was A Loca		sment Used?			
Reason For Selection:						-		
Intersection Improvement								
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form: Metric Environmental IIC Date: 7/2/2025								

(See Instructions on reverse side)

Form AD-1006 (03-02)

From: Joshua Netherton Elayna Stoner To:

Subject: FW: Early Coordination Letter - (Des. No. 2200043) SR 2 and CR 500 West Intersection Improvement Project,

3.27 Miles West of SR 39, LaPorte County

Date: Monday, April 1, 2024 4:04:18 PM

Attachments: image002.png

image003.png



#### Josh Netherton

Assistant Project Manager

NEPA Compliance

O 317.400.1633 ext.157 M 317.981.3093

6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250

#### www.metricenv.com

Certified DBE/MBE/SBE Company Indiana | Kentucky | Ohio | West Virginia

From: Lewandowski, Tyler <TLewandowski@indot.IN.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 1:58 PM

To: Joshua Netherton <joshuan@metricenv.com>

Subject: RE: Early Coordination Letter - (Des. No. 2200043) SR 2 and CR 500 West Intersection

Improvement Project, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39, LaPorte County

#### Good afternoon,

After review, no tall structure permit is required for the project if all equipment being used is under 147 feet in height. Please let our office know if you have any further questions.

Thank you,

Tyler Lewandowski **Project Manager INDOT Office of Aviation** (317) 495-4875 tlewandowski@indot.in.gov

www.aviation.indot.in.gov



# APPENDIX D Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology  $\cdot$  402 W. Washington Street, W274  $\cdot$  Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739 Phone 317-232-1646  $\cdot$  Fax 317-232-0693  $\cdot$  dhpa@dnr.IN.gov

July 30. 2025

Zoe Vorndran Metric Environmental, LLC 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

Federal Agency: Indiana Department of Transportation ("INDOT"),

on behalf of Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Division ("FHWA")

Re: Indiana Department of Transportation's finding of "no historic properties affected." on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration. for the State Route 2 and County Road 500 West

Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 2200043; DHPA No. 31664)

#### Dear Ms. Vorndran:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. § 306108), 36 C.F.R. Part 800, and the "Programmatic Agreement (PA) Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Implementation of the Federal Aid Highway Program In the State of Indiana," the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has reviewed your July 3, 2025, submission which enclosed INDOT's finding and supporting documentation, and which was received by our office July 3, 2025, for the above-indicated project, which is proposed for areas located at Scipio Township, in LaPorte County, Indiana.

As we previously stated, the area of potential effects ("APE") proposed in the HPSR appears to be of adequate size to encompass the geographic area in which direct and indirect effects of a project of this nature could occur.

Additionally, our previous comment was, for the purposes of the Section 106 review of this federal undertaking, we agree with the conclusions in the HPSR that there are no previously recorded National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP") listed or eligible resources located within the APE. Furthermore, we also agree with the conclusions in the HPSR of the Contributing-rated status of the other historic-aged resources documented during survey and that there are no resources listed or eligible for the NRHP within the APE.

In terms of impacts of proposed project-related ground-disturbing activities to archaeological resources, as previously indicated, based on the submitted information and the documentation available to the staff of the Indiana DNR-DHPA, we have not identified any currently known archaeological resources listed in or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP within the proposed project area; and we concur with the opinion of the archaeologist, as expressed in the Indiana Archaeological Short Report (Peters et al., 03/12/2025), that no further archaeological investigations appear necessary at the proposed project area.

If any prehistoric or historic archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and Indiana Code 14-21-1-29) requires that the discovery be reported to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and Indiana Code 14-21-1-29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

Accordingly, we concur with INDOT's July 2, 2025, Section 106 finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" on behalf of FHWA for this federal undertaking.

Zoe Vorndran July 30, 2025 Page 2

The Indiana SHPO staff's archaeological reviewer for this project is Wade T. Tharp, and the structures reviewer is Toni Lynn Giffin. However, if you have a question about the Section 106 process, please contact initially the INDOT Cultural Resources staff members who are assigned to this project.

In all future correspondence about the State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 2200043), which is proposed for areas located at Scipio Township, in LaPorte County, Indiana, please refer to DHPA No. 31664.

Very truly yours,

Beth K. McCord

B. V. Mice

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

BKM:TLG:WTT:wtt

emc: Erica Tait, Federal Highway Administration
Matt Coon, Ph.D., Indiana Department of Transportation
Susan Branigin, Indiana Department of Transportation
Clint Kelly, Indiana Department of Transportation
Zoe Vorndran, Metric Environmental, LLC
Toni Lynn Giffin, Indiana DNR-DHPA
Wade T. Tharp, Indiana DNR-DHPA

# FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION'S SECTION 4(F) COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS (for historic properties) AND

## SECTION 106 FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

## ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS EFFECT FINDING

STATE ROAD 2 AND COUNTY ROAD 500 WEST INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DES. NO.: 2200043; DHPA NO. 31664

## AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(a)(1))

The APE for this project extends at least 500 feet beyond the project end points, and at least one property deep on each side of State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W). The APE was determined based upon the anticipated amount of ground disturbance, the sightlines to the project area, potential direct audio and visual impacts within the project's setting, and the scale of the project. The archaeological APE is the project footprint including all proposed right-of-way, which was defined as encompassing 3.9 hectares (9.64 acres). Refer to Appendix A: Figures 1 and 2 for maps of the project area and the APE.

## ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS (Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(c)(2))

The APE contains no properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

As a result of this investigation no properties were found to be eligible for listing in the NRHP.

#### **EFFECT FINDING**

INDOT, acting on FHWA's behalf, has determined a "No Historic Properties Affected" finding is appropriate for this undertaking. INDOT respectfully requests the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer provide written concurrence with the Section 106 determination of effect.

#### **SECTION 4(F) COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS (for historic properties)**

This undertaking will not convert property from any Section 4(f) historic property to a transportation use; the INDOT, acting on FHWA's behalf, has determined the appropriate Section 106 finding is "No Historic Properties Affected"; therefore no Section 4(f) evaluation is required.

Susan R. Branigin for	Digitally signed by Susan R.  Branigin for  Date: 2025.07.02 14:34:14 -04'00'
Matthew S. Coon, for FHW	/A
Manager	
INDOT Cultural Resources	
Approved Date	

# FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION DOCUMENTATION OF SECTION 106 FINDING OF

#### NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES AFFECTED

SUBMITTED TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER PURSUANT TO 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1)

STATE ROAD 2 AND COUNTY ROAD 500 WEST INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DES. NO.: 2200043; DHPA NO. 31664

#### 1. DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043. The proposed undertaking is located at the intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 W in LaPorte County, Indiana, southwest of the City of La Porte between United States Highway (US) 421 and US 35. It is within Scipio Township, on the LaPorte West, IN, USGS Topographic Quadrangle, in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, Township 36 North, Range 3 West. Refer to Appendix A for maps of the project location.

State Road 2 and CR 500 W are both two-lane roadways. State Road 2 is classified as a Rural Principal Arterial Other — a rural route intended to accommodate high volumes of traffic for greater distances — with 12-foot lanes, narrow shoulders, and right turn lanes onto CR 500 W at the intersection. County Road 500 W is classified as a Rural Minor Collector — a roadway intended to connect local and rural roadways and to provide service to smaller communities — with 11-foot lanes and no shoulders in the project area. The intersection is controlled with stop signs on S CR 500 W.

The need for this project is evidenced by the high frequency of car crashes at this intersection. A total of 22 crashes occurred at the intersection during the study period 2017 to 2019, the majority being right-and left-hand turns. A RoadHAT crash analysis (traffic engineering safety modeling software) resulted in an Index of Crash Frequency of 2.96. The Index of Crash Frequency (ICF) compares the crash frequency data of this intersection with intersections of similar volumes, roadway classification, and control type throughout Indiana. Crash data for this intersection resulted in an ICF of 2.96, putting it in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile compared with similar intersections, which indicates the existing stop signs on CR 500 W are not safely controlling traffic at this intersection. Additionally, southbound CR 500 W experiences a high volume of traffic and its Level of Service (LOS) is expected to reach F (breakdown flow) prior to the design year. The LOS is on a scale from A (free flow) to F (breakdown flow). The purpose of this project is to improve safety of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection and provide a long-term solution that ensures safe operation and reduced congestion at this intersection.

The proposed preferred alternative will modify the existing intersection by constructing a single-lane roundabout with a truck apron. The roundabout's location will be closely centered at the existing intersection to avoid property impacts and traffic volume. Along SR 2, the approach work is estimated to begin approximately 1,640 feet west of CR 500 W and terminate approximately 760 feet east of CR 500 W. Along CR 500 W, the approach work is estimated to begin approximately 300 feet north of SR 2 and

terminate approximately 435 feet south of SR 2. Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. Ancillary work involves removing existing trees along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, lighting installation, and reconstructing a driveway within the project area.

No properties will be relocated as a result of this undertaking. The project will require 2.020 acres of newly acquired permanent right-of-way and 3.619 acres of reacquired permanent right-of-way, amounting to a total acquisition of 5.639 acres of permanent right-of-way, as well as 0.119 acre of temporary right-of-way. During construction, traffic will be maintained using lane closures and a detour.

The APE is the "geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking" (36 CFR 800.16(d)). The APE includes all locations where the project may result in disturbance of the ground; all locations from which elements of the project may be visible or audible; all locations where activity may result in changes in traffic patterns, land use, or public access. For above-ground structures, the APE was defined as extending at least 500 feet beyond the project end points, and at least one property deep on each side of SR 2 and CR 500 W. The archaeological APE was the project footprint, including all proposed right-of-way, which was defined as encompassing 3.9 hectares (9.64 acres).

Please refer to Appendix A for maps of the project area and the APE, Appendix B for project site photographs, and Appendix F for project plans.

### 2. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is automatically invited to participate in the Section 106 process as a consulting party. An early coordination letter was sent to the following other potential consulting parties by letter or email dated December 8, 2023 (refer to Appendix E, 33-40).

Indiana State Historic Preservation Office
LaPorte County Historian
LaPorte County Genealogical Society
LaPorte County Historical Society
Westville Community Historical Society
Indiana Landmarks – Northern Regional Office
Indiana Lincoln Highway Association, Inc.
Preserve Historic La Porte
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission
LaPorte County Commissioners
LaPorte County Highway Superintendent
LaPorte County Highway Engineer

Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Shawnee Tribe Forest County Potawatomi County

In an email dated December 11, 2023, the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) accepted the invitation to serve as a consulting party and offered a finding of No Historic Properties affected of significance to the FCPC. They issued their "standard caveat sent with each proposed project reviewed by the FCPC THPO" which requested that work cease immediately and to be consulted if an inadvertent discovery occurred at any phase of the project (refer to Appendix E, 41).

In an email dated December 20, 2023, Shawnee Tribe accepted the invitation to serve as a consulting party and concurred "that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project." They requested immediate consultation "in the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, use, or maintenance of this location" (refer to Appendix E, 42).

In a letter dated January 4, 2024, the SHPO acknowledged receipt of the early coordination letter and noted they were not aware of any parties who should be invited to participate, "beyond those whom INDOT already has invited" (refer to Appendix E, 43-44).

No other replies were received in response to the early coordination letter.

Efforts to identify historic properties in the APE included communication with consulting parties and a literature review of the following:

- the 1989 LaPorte County Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory (IHSSI; Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana)
- the 2009 INDOT-sponsored Indiana Historic Bridge Inventory (IHBI; Mead & Hunt)
- the NRHP Database
- the Indiana State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD), which includes resources listed in the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures (State Register)
- the Indiana Historic Buildings, Bridges, and Cemeteries Map (IHBBCM)
- the Indiana Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Office's Public Web Map App<sup>1</sup>

 $for the \ NRHP \ database, \ \underline{https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm};$ 

for SHAARD, https://secure.in.gov/apps/dnr/shaard/welcome.html;

for the IHBBCM, <a href="https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=1593429c17c34942a0d1d3fac03c4a80">https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=1593429c17c34942a0d1d3fac03c4a80</a>; for the INDOT-CRO Public Web Map App,

 $\frac{https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=77a6d13b2a9f4785ab3139daf287ddac&extent=9897967.2983\%2C4665077.6793\%2C-9338448.2513\%2C4998343.1226\%2C102100.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These databases are accessible at the following:

- historical maps and aerial photographs
- archaeological site maps

The literature review determined there are no NRHP-listed properties within the APE. No previously inventoried archaeological sites are located within the project area.

The results of field surveys were reported in a Historic Property Short Report (HPSR) (Vorndran/Receveur, 9/10/2024) and an Archaeological Short Report (ASR) (Snell, 3/12/2025). The principal investigators for these reports meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards as per 36 CFR Part 61. The HPSR recommended no resources within the APE as eligible for listing in the NRHP. The ASR found no sites and recommended the project be allowed to proceed as planned.

A letter distributed on September 10, 2024, notified consulting parties that an HPSR was available for review and comment via INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at <a href="http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents">http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents</a> (refer to Appendix E, 45-51). The full HPSR document may also be downloaded from IN SCOPE (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE). A copy of the management summary and conclusion for the HPSR is included in Appendix C.

On February 12, 2024, INDOT-CRO announced, effective immediately, that the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians will be added as Tribal Consulting Parties for projects in all Indiana counties, and they were invited to serve as a consulting party as part of the distribution of the HPSR for this undertaking.

In an email dated September 11, 2024, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians stated, "MBCI THPO office defer to the nearest THPO/SHPO office to the APE" (refer to Appendix E, 52).

In a letter dated October 10, 2024, the SHPO acknowledged receipt of the HPSR. The SHPO concurred that the APE proposed in the HPSR appears to be of adequate size to encompass the effects of the undertaking. The SHPO also agreed with the conclusions in the HPSR that there are no properties that have been listed, or are eligible for listing, in the NRHP (refer to Appendix E, 53).

In an email dated November 12, 2024, the Shawnee Tribe concurred "that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project," though they noted that "there is still potential for the discovery of unknown resources" (refer to Appendix E, 54).

The ASR was distributed without a distribution letter on March 12, 2025 only to SHPO and Tribal consulting parties. The results and recommendations for the ASR are included in Appendix D.

In a letter dated April 11, 2025, the SHPO acknowledged receipt of the ASR (refer to Appendix E, 55). The SHPO concurred with the ASR that no further archaeological work is necessary for this project.

No other replies were received in response to the HPSR and ASR. Copies of consulting parties' responses are located in Appendix E.

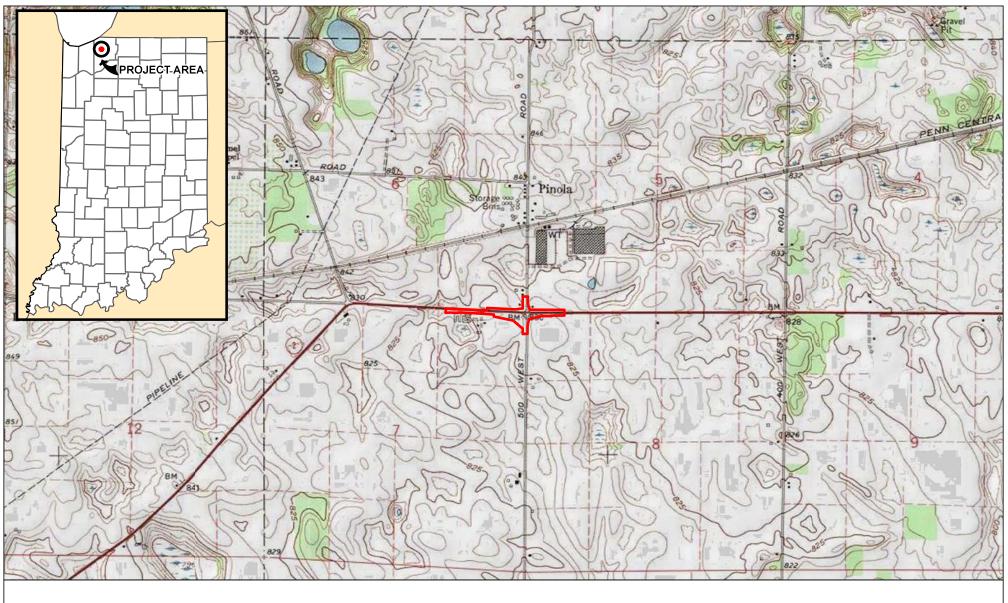
#### 3. BASIS FOR FINDING

A finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" is appropriate for this undertaking because no historic properties are present within the APE. INDOT's Finding, made on behalf of the FHWA, and supporting 800.11(d) documentation are hereby provided to the SHPO for a final 30-day comment period. A public notice will be published in the *La Porte County Herald-Dispatch* newspaper and the public will be afforded thirty (30) days to respond to INDOT's "No Historic Properties Affected" finding. If appropriate, this document will be revised after the expiration of the public comment period to include any substantive comments received.

## **APPENDIX**

- A. Project Location and APE Maps
- B. Project Site Photographs and Key Maps
- C. Historic Property Short Report Management Summary and Conclusions
- D. Archaeological Short Report Results and Recommendations
- E. Consulting Parties' List and Correspondence
- F. Project Plans
- G. Affidavit of Publication and Public Notice

# **Appendix A. Project Location and APE Maps**



## Project Area

Figure 1. Project Area on a Portion of the 1969 LaPorte West, IN, 7.5-minute USGS Topographic Quadrangle in LaPorte County, Indiana SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project Scipio Township, LaPorte County, IN

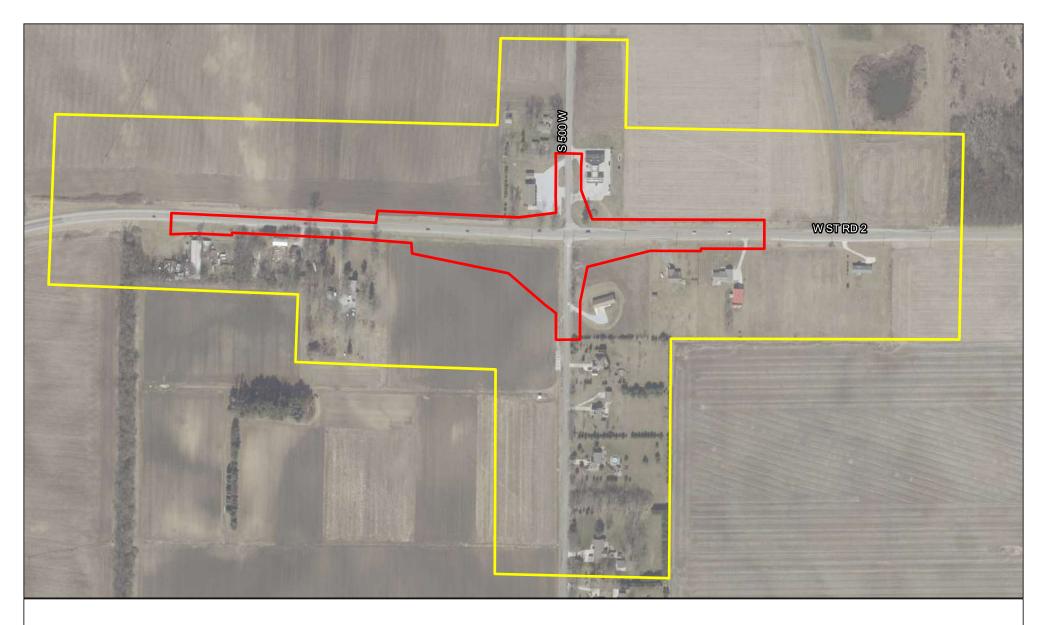
Des. No. 2200043

Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 04/09/2025 All locations approximate



1 inch = 2,000 feet
0 1,000 2,000 4,000
Feet





## Project Area

## Area of Potential Effects (APE)

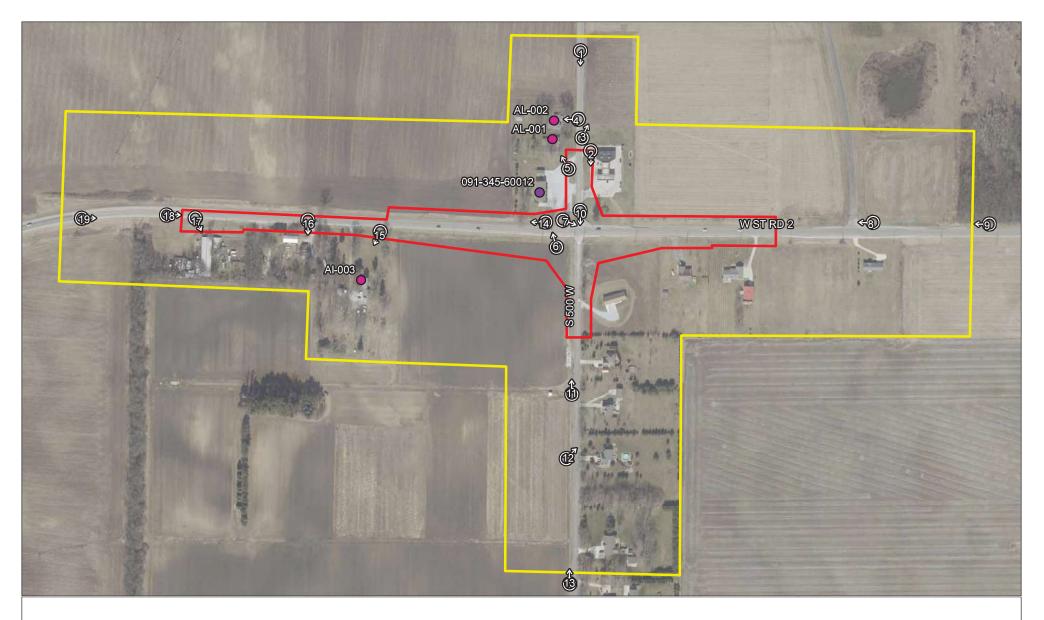
Figure 2. Project Area and APE on a 2023 Aerial Photograph SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project Scipio Township, LaPorte County, IN Des. No. 2200043

Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 04/09/2025 All locations approximate
Service Layer Credits: Indiana Current Imagery: Indiana
Geographic Information Office (IGIO)





# **Appendix B. Project Site Photographs and Key Maps**



- Area of Potential Effects (APE)
- IHSSI Contributing
- Photo Location
- Architectural Location

Figure 4. Photo Location Map SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project Scipio Township, LaPorte County, IN Des. No. 2200043

Metric Project No.

Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 07/18/2024 All locations approximate Service Layer Credits: Indiana Geographic Information Office (IGIO)



1 inch = 400 feet

0 200 400 800

11 Feet



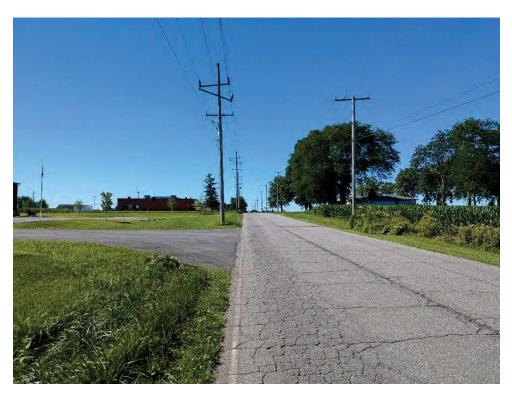


Photo 1. Streetscape view facing south showing S CR 500 W from the north end of the APE; 999 S CR 500 (ca. 2000) is visible on the left



Photo 2. Streetscape view facing south showing S CR 500 W from the north end of the project area



Photo 3. Streetscape view facing northeast showing (right to left) the building at 965 S CR 500 W (ca. 2023) and the industrial complex at 4749 SR 2 from S CR 500 W



Photo 4. View facing west of 984 S CR 500 W (AL-002, rated Contributing [C], ca. 1949) from S CR 500 W



Photo 5. View facing northwest of 988 S CR 500 W (AL-001, rated C, ca. 1949) from S CR 500 W



Photo 6. View facing northwest of the Pinola Grange Hall No. 2204 at 5005 SR 2 (IHSSI No. 091-345-60012, rated C, ca. 1890) from SR 2



Photo 7. Streetscape view facing southeast showing (right to left) the garage at 4762 SR 2 (ca. 2010), the house at 4878 SR 2 (ca. 2012), the house at 4912 SR 2 (ca. 2013), and the house at 1111 S CR 500 W (ca. 2019) from the intersection of SR 2 and S CR 500 W



Photo 8. Streetscape view facing west showing SR 2 toward the east end of the project area



Photo 9. Streetscape view facing west showing SR 2 from the east end of the APE



Photo 10. Streetscape view facing south of S CR 500 W from the intersection of SR 2 and S CR 500 W



Photo 11. Streetscape view facing north showing S CR 500 W toward the south end of the project area



Photo 12. Streetscape view facing northeast showing (left to right) the house at 1139 S CR 500 W (ca. 2004) and the house at 1171 S CR 500 W (ca. 2006) from S CR 500 W



Photo 13. Streetscape view facing north showing S CR 500 W from the south end of the APE; 1197 S CR 500 W (ca. 2004) is slightly visible on the right



Photo 14. Streetscape view facing west showing SR 2 from the intersection of S CR 500 W and SR 2



Photo 15. View facing southwest of the Wall House at 5152 SR 2 (AL-003, rated C, ca. 1859) from SR 2



Photo 16. View facing south of 5172 SR 2 (rated Non-Contributing [NC], ca. 1951) from SR 2



Photo 17. View facing southeast of 5180 SR 2 (rated NC, ca. 1951) from SR 2



Photo 18. Streetscape view facing east showing SR 2 from the west end of the project area



Photo 19. Streetscape view facing east showing SR 2 from the west end of the APE

<b>Appendix C. Historic Pro</b>	nerty Short Re	nort Management	Summary and	d Conclusions
Appendix c. Historic Fro	perty short no	por triviariagement	. Julililiai y alik	a Conclusions

# HISTORIC PROPERTY SHORT REPORT

# STATE ROAD 2 AND COUNTY ROAD 500 WEST INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DES NO. 2200043/DHPA NO. 31664 SCIPIO TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

PREPARED FOR:

LAWSON-FISHER ASSOCIATES P.C. 525 WEST WASHINGTON AVE. SOUTH BEND, IN 46601 Dmitri Adams 574-234-3167

**LEAD AGENCY:** 

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
Prepared by:



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Haley Receiver

September 10, 2024

**22-0216-1** 23

## **MANAGEMENT SUMMARY**

This report documents the identification and evaluation efforts for properties included in the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana. Above-ground resources located within the project APE were identified and evaluated in accordance with Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and the regulations implementing Section 106 (36 CFR Part 800).

As a result of the NHPA, as amended, and CFR Part 800, federal agencies are required to take into account the impact of federal undertakings upon historic properties in the area of the undertaking. Historic properties include buildings, structures, sites, objects, and/or districts that are eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). As this project is receiving funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), it is subject to a Section 106 review.

The APE contains no properties listed in the NRHP.

The APE contains no properties that are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The APE contains no properties listed in the NRHP.

As a result of identification and evaluation efforts for this project, no properties are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

# **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SHORT REPORT**

PHASE IA ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY FOR THE PROPOSED SR 2 AND CR 500 W INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, 1.99 MILES SOUTH OF I-90, SCIPIO TOWNSHIP, LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA (INDOT DES. NO. 2200043)

PREPARED FOR:

LAWSON-FISHER ASSOCIATES P.C. 525 WEST WASHINGTON AVENUE, SOUTH BEND, IN 46001 (574) 234-3167

**LEAD AGENCY:** 

## INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## **Prepared by:**

Clara Peters, Jacob Overstreet, and Virginia K. Carter



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Samuel P. Snell, MS, RPA Archaeological Principal Investigator

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March 12, 2025



## INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHAEOLOGY

402 West Washington Street, Room W274 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739 Telephone Number: (317) 232-1646 Fax Number: (317) 232-0693 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dhpa@dnr.IN.gov">dhpa@dnr.IN.gov</a>

Where applicable, the use of this form is reco	mmended but not requi	ired by the Division of Historic Pres	ervation and Archaeology (DHPA).		
Name(s) of author(s) Clara Peters, Jacob Overstreet, and Virgi	inia K. Carter		Date (month, day, year) March 12, 2025		
Title of project Phase Ia Archaeological Reconnaissance 1.99 Miles South of I-90, Scipio Township This document is being used to report on the results of: Records check only Records check a		diana (INDOT Des. No. 220004			
An addendum to a previous archaeological repo					
Name(s) of author(s) of previous report NA					
Title of previous report NA					
Date of previous report (month, day, year) NA		DHPA number NA			
	PROJECT	OVERVIEW			
Description of project					
The proposed project involves improvements at the intersection of State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana (Figure 1). The project area will extend approximately 499.87 meters (m) (1,640 feet [ft]) west and 231.65 m (760 ft) east of CR 500 W along SR 2 as well as 91.44 m (300 ft) north and 132.56 m (435 ft) south of SR 2 along CR 500 W. The distance from the edge of pavement along the existing roads will vary from 7.62 to 27.43 m (25 to 90 ft). The existing intersection has exhibited a high frequency of car crashes, falling within the 99th percentile of crash occurences with similar intersections. County Road 500 West's level of service is also expected to reach a "F", or breakdown flow, rating due to increasingly high volume traffic.					
The proposed preferred alternative will mapron. The roundabout's location will be volume. The approaches will be reconstructed from the approaches roundabout to drain excess runoff into a range of the Ancillary work involves removing existing within the project. Preliminary right-of-war 0.07 ha (0.18 ac) of temporary ROW.	closely centered at th ucted along CR 500 \ new detention basin t trees along the road	ne existing intersection to avoid W. Curb and gutter will be instal to be constructed in the southwoway, relocating overhead utilities.	property impacts and traffic lled within the limits of the est quadrant of the roundabout. es, and lighting installation		
The purpose of this project is to ensure g solution to safer operations and reduced occuring at the intersection and its predic	congestion. The need	d for this project derives from th			
The proposed project encompasses an a					
INDOT designation number(s) Project numb 2200043 22-0216-		DHPA number NA	DHPA plan number NA		
Prepared for: (Company / Institution / Agency) Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C.					
Name of contact Dan Delgado					
Address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code) 525 West Washington Ave, South Bend,	IN 46001				
Telephone number (574) 234-3167	E-mail address ddelgado@lawson-	fisher.com			
Name of principal investigator Sam P. Snell, MS, RPA					
Name of company / institution Metric Environmental, LLC					
Address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code) 6958 Hillsdale Court, Indianapolis, IN 462	250				
Telephone number (317) 912-3499	E-mail address sams@metricenv.c	om			

Additional field investigation comments

The survey area was investigated in accordance with Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology Guidebook (IDNR, DHPA 2022) and the Indiana Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Manual (INDOT, CRO 2024). The survey area was subject to visual walkover and shovel testing. Any specific changes to methodology were based upon conditions encountered in the field and are further described within the following section.

#### **RESULTS**

Summary of relevant regional culture background

Cultural manifestations near the project reflect the general sequence from Paleoindian through Historic cultural periods. Within LaPorte County, based on the Indiana State Historic Architecture and Archaeology Research Database (SHAARD) (INDR, DHPA 2024), there are four Paleoindian, one Early Paleoindian, two Late Paleoindian, Early Archaic, 15 Archaic, 19 Early Archaic, eight Middle Archaic, four Middle/Late Archaic, 17 Late Archaic, four Terminal Late Archaic, four Late Archaic/Early Woodland, 33 Woodland, seven Early Woodland, 50 Middle Woodland, one Terminal Middle Woodland, 27 Late Woodland, four Late Woodland/Mississippian, seven Mississippian, one Middle Mississippian, eight Upper Mississippian, two Contact, two Protohistoric, 253 Unidentified Precontact, and 190 Historic period sites.

The following resources were investigated: the 1961, 1969, 1983, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019, and 2022 LaPorte County, IN United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' quadrangle topographic maps (USGS 2022); Illustrated Historical Atlas of LaPorte Co., Indiana (Higgins, Belden & Company 1874); Atlas of LaPorte County, Indiana (W. Wangersheim 1907); Map of LaPorte County (Geo A Ogle & Company 1921), Map of LaPorte County Indiana Showing Rural Delivery Service (United States Post Office Department 1910); LaPorte County, Indiana Standard Atlas (W.W. Hixson & Company 1925-1940); Map of LaPorte County, Road (Indiana Highway Survey Commission 1936); aerial imagery from 1951, 1969, 1981, 1998, 2010, 2014, 2018, and 2020 (Historic Aerials 2024); and satellite imagery from 1985 to 2022 (Google Earth 2024).

The 1921 and 1925 historic atlases display illustrations of standing structures in the vicinity of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection during this time period. Structures closest to the project include a schoolhouse and LaPorte RFD (rural free delivery) on the north side of SR 2 and a residence located within the southwest quadrant of the intersection. Only the schoolhouse building is currently extant in the northwest quadrant, recorded as Indiana Historic Sites and Structures No. 091-345-50012 and ranked as Contributing (IDNR, DHPA 2022). A gas station was built after 1998 at the location of the LaPorte RFD, while the southwest quadrant of the intersection consists of an agricultural field. Additionally, beginning from 2010, residential housing has increased in the plot of land southeast of the survey area along SR 2 and CR 500 W.

Records check (Check all that a	ipply)	
	not have the potential to contain archaeological r	esources. Provide explanation / justification.
☐ There are previously re	ecorded archaeological resources within the proje	ect area, but those resources do not warrant additional archaeological
investigation. Provide	explanation / justification.	
The project area conta	ins previously recorded archaeological resources	s that warrant additional investigation and/or the project area has the potential
	cal resources. Provide explanation / justification.	
	ecords check results, a reconnaissance has beer	n conducted.
	within or adjacent to the project area.	
Explanation / justification		
		hus has the potential to contain previously unidentified
archaeological resour	ces.	
_		
Phase 1a archaeological recon	naissance (Check all that apply)	
■ No Phase 1a reconnai	ssance was conducted.	
Phase 1a reconnaissa	nce located no archaeological resources.	
_	tes were in the project area.	
_ <i>_ '</i>		project area were not discovered. List the site(s) below.
_	nce has identified landforms conducive to buried	· ·
	noe has identified fariatorms conductive to barred	aronacological acposits, become below.
List sites.		
None		
Describe landforms.		
NA		
N		
Number of shovel probes excav	ated	Number of cores / auger probes
113		0
	photographs documenting disturbances.	
Landscaping, road gra	ide slope, drainage ditches, buried utilit	ties, parking lots, crop vegetation, gravel areas, utility boxes

Records check (Check all that apply)  No archaeological investigation is recommended before the project is allowed to proceed because the records check has determined that the project area does not have the potential to contain archaeological resources.  A Phase 1a archaeological reconnaissance is recommended.  Based upon the records check results, a Phase 1a archaeological reconnaissance was recommended and has been conducted.
Based upon the records check results, a Phase 1a archaeological reconnaissance was recommended and has been conducted.  A cemetery development plan may be required under Indiana Code 14-21-1-26.5 because project ground disturbance will be within 100 feet of a cemetery.
Phase 1a archaeological reconnaissance (Check all that apply)  It is recommended that the project be allowed to proceed as planned because the Phase 1a archaeological reconnaissance has located no archaeological sites within the project area and/or previously recorded sites that were investigated warrant no additional investigation.  It is recommended that Phase 1c archaeological subsurface reconnaissance be conducted before the project is allowed to proceed. The Phase 1a archaeological reconnaissance has determined that the project area includes landforms which have the potential to contain buried archaeological deposits.
Other recommendations / commitments
Pursuant to IC-14-21-1, if any archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646.
REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS
Figure showing project location within Indiana USGS topographic map showing the project area (1:24,000 scale) Aerial photograph showing the project area, land use and survey methods Photographs of the project area, including, if applicable, photographs documenting disturbances Project plans (if available)
Other attachments
References cited (See short report instructions for required references to be consulted) Google Earth 2024 Google Earth Pro. Desktop software, https://www.google.com/earth/versions/#earth-pro, accessed August 15, 2024.
Geo. A. Ogle & Company 1921 LaPorte County, Indiana Standard Atlas, Geo. A. Ogle.
Higgins, Belden & Company 1874 Illustrated Historical Atlas of LaPorte Co., Indiana, Higgins, Belden.
Historic Aerials 2024 Historic Aerials. Netronline, <a href="https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer">https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer</a> , accessed July 26, 2023.
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (INDR, DHPA) 2022 Guidebook for Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory – Archaeological Sites. Manuscript on file, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indianapolis.
2024 Indiana State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD). Electronic database, https://secure.in.gov/apps/dnr/shaard/welcome.html, accessed June 13, 2024.
Indiana Department of Transportation, Cultural Resources Office (INDOT, CRO) 2024 Cultural Resources Manual. Electronic document, <a href="https://www.in.gov/indot/crm/INDOT">https://www.in.gov/indot/crm/INDOT</a> , accessed June 13, 2024.
Indiana Geographic Information Office (IGIO) 2024a Physiography Natural Regions. IndianaMap, https://www.indianamap.org/datasets/INMap::physiography-natural-regions/about, accessed June 13, 2024.
2024b HUC8 Boundaries. IndianaMap, https://www.indianamap.org/datasets/INMap::huc8-boundaries/about, accessed June 13, 2024.
Indiana Highway Survey Commission 1936 Map of LaPorte County, Roads. Indiana HIghway Survey Commission, Indianapolis.

# Appendix E. Consulting Parties' List and Correspondence

The Chamber of Commerce and Mayor/Town Council President fields were incorporated into the Effect Finding document by mistake. These fields are not applicable due to this being a county project.

Consulting Parties List				
Consulting Party	Contact Name	Accepted Invitation: Y/N		
IN State Historic Preservation Office	Beth McCord	Yes		
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission	Ty Warner			
LaPorte County Commissioner	Connie Gramarossa			
LaPorte County Commissioner	Richard Mrozinski			
LaPorte County Commissioner	Joe Haney			
LaPorte County Highway Superintendent				
Chamber of Commerce (if in a downtown)				
Historic Preservation Commission or Board				
Mayor/Town Council President				
LaPorte County Historical Society				
LaPorte County Historian	Bruce Johnson			
LaPorte County Genealogical Society				
Indiana Landmarks - Northern Regional Office	Todd Zieger			
Westville Community Historical Society				
Indiana Lincoln Highway Association, Inc.	Debra Parcell			
Preserve Historic La Porte				
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma				
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma				
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma				
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians				
Shawnee Tribe		Yes		
Forest County Potawatomi Community	Ben Rhodd	Yes		
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians		Yes		

From: Zoe Vorndran

To: BMCcord@dnr.IN.gov; mrjsc@csinet.net, carolflloyd@yahoo.com; info@laportecountyhistory.org;

TZeiger@indianalandmarks.org; north@indianalandmarks.org; Lincolnhighwayassoc.office@yahoo.com;

preservehistorilaporte@gmail.com; nirpc@nirpc.org; cgramarossa@laporteco.in.gov; rmrozinski@laportecounty.org; jhaney@laporteco.in.gov; jgsullivan@laportecounty.org

Cc: Kelly, Clint; Candace Hudziak; Sam Snell; Dmitri Adams

Subject: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; Early Coordination; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project,

LaPorte County, Indiana

**Date:** Friday, December 8, 2023 1:10:00 PM

Attachments: SR2andCR500WIntersectionProject Des2200043 ECL 2023-12-08,pdf

image001.png

Des. No.: 2200043

Project Description: SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Transportation, with funding from the Federal Highway Administration, proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. The following agencies/individuals are being invited to become consulting parties:

Indiana State Historic Preservation Office

LaPorte County Historian

LaPorte County Genealogical Society

LaPorte County Historical Society

Westville Community Historical Society

Indiana Landmarks, Northern Regional Office

Indiana Lincoln Highway Association, Inc.

Preserve Historic La Porte

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

LaPorte County Commissioners - Connie Gramarossa, Richard Mrozinski, Joe Haney

LaPorte County Highway Superintendent

LaPorte County Highway Engineer

Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

Shawnee Tribe

Forest County Potawatomi Community

This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process requesting comments associated with this project. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. Please use the above Des. Number and project description in your reply and your comments will be incorporated into the formal environmental study.

Please review the attached letter, which is also located in IN SCOPE at

http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/ (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE), and respond with your comments on any historic resource impacts incurred as a result of this project so that an environmental report can be completed. We also welcome your related opinions and other input to be considered in the preparation of the environmental document. If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days.

Consulting parties have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of this information to review and provide comment. If we do not receive a response from an invited consulting party within the time allotted, the project will proceed consistent with the proposed design. Therefore, if we do not receive a response within thirty (30) days, your agency or organization will not receive any further information on the project unless the scope of work changes.

## Tribal Contacts please respond to INDOT's Acting Tribal Liaison, Matt Coon, at

mcoon@indot.in.gov (317-697-9752) with any responses pertaining to this project including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Kari Carmany-George at K.Carmany-George@dot.gov (317-226-5629).

Thank you in advance for your input,



## Zoe Vorndran

Cultural Resources Staff Scientist

**o** 317.504.4296

6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250

www.metricenv.com

Certified DBE/MBE/SBE Company
Indiana | Kentucky | Ohio | West Virginia | Pennsylvania

From: Kelly, Clint

THPO@MiamiNation.com; thpo@estoo.net; bfletcher@peoriatribe.com; Matthew.Bussler@pokagonband-nsn.gov; Section106@shawnee-

tribe.com; benjamin.rhodd@fcp-nsn.gov

Cc: Coon, Matthew; Branigin, Susan; Alexander, Dawn; Candace Hudziak; Zoe Vorndran; Grylewicz, Michael 1; Carmany-George, Karstin (FHWA)

Subject: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; Early Coordination; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**Date:** Friday, December 8, 2023 1:38:19 PM

Attachments: image001.png

image003.png image003.png image004.png image006.png

image006.png SR2andCR500WIntersectionProject Des2200043 ECL 2023-12-08.pdf

External Message: This message originated outside of Metric Environmental.

Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

**Des. No.**: 2200043

Project Description: SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

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LaPorte County Historical Society

Westville Community Historical Society

Indiana Landmarks, Northern Regional Office

Indiana Lincoln Highway Association, Inc.

Preserve Historic La Porte

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LaPorte County Commissioners - Connie Gramarossa, Richard Mrozinski, Joe Haney

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LaPorte County Highway Engineer

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Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

Shawnee Tribe

Forest County Potawatomi Community

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Thank you in advance for your input,

## **Clint Kelly**

Section 106 Specialist/Historian Cultural Resources Office Environmental Services 100 N. Senate Ave., Rm. N758-ES Indianapolis, IN 46204 Office: (317) 447-8707

Email: <a href="mailto:ckelly1@indot.in.gov">ckelly1@indot.in.gov</a>
Core Office Hours: M-F 7:30-3:30







## INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue Room N758-ES Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 PHONE: (855) 463-6848

Eric Holcomb, Governor Michael Smith, Commissioner

December 8, 2023

This letter was sent to the listed parties.

RE: State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project Des. No. 2200043
Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

Dear Consulting Party (see attached list),

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration, proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043. Metric Environmental, LLC, is under contract with INDOT to advance the environmental documentation for the referenced project.

This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review process requesting comments associated with this project. We are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project. Please use the above Des. Number and project description in your reply and your comments will be incorporated into the formal environmental study.

The proposed undertaking is at the intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 W in LaPorte County, Indiana, southwest of the City of La Porte between US 421 and US 35. It is within Scipio Township, on the LaPorte West, IN, USGS Topographic Quadrangle, in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, Township 36 North, Range 3 West. The project area can be viewed online at <a href="https://arcg.is/jqueP">https://arcg.is/jqueP</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term once in the CRO - Public Web Map App).

State Road 2 and CR 500 W are both two-lane roadways. SR 2 is classified as a Rural Principal Arterial Other with 12-foot lanes, narrow shoulders, and right turn lanes onto CR 500 W at the intersection. CR 500 W is classified as a Rural Minor Collector with 11-foot lanes and no shoulders in the project area. The intersection is controlled with stop signs on CR 500 W.

The need for this project is evidenced by the high frequency of car crashes at this intersection. A total of 22 crashes occurred at the intersection during the study period 2017 to 2019, the majority being right and left hand turns. A RoadHAT crash analysis (traffic engineering safety modeling software) resulted in an Index of Crash Frequency of 2.96. The Index of Crash Frequency compares the crash frequency data of this intersection with intersections of similar volumes, roadway classification, and control type throughout Indiana. Crash data for this intersection resulted in an ICF of 2.96, putting it in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile compared with similar intersections, which indicates the existing stop signs on CR 500 W are not safely controlling traffic at this intersection. Additionally, southbound CR 500 W experiences a high volume of traffic and its Level of Service (LOS) is expected to reach F (breakdown flow) prior to the design year. The LOS is on a scale from A (free flow) to F (breakdown flow). The purpose of this project is to improve safety of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection and provide a long-term solution that ensures safe operation and reduced congestion at this intersection.

NextLevel

The proposed preferred alternative will modify the existing intersection by constructing a single-lane roundabout with a truck apron. The roundabout's location will be closely centered at the existing intersection to avoid property impacts and traffic volume. The approach work is estimated to be 420 feet east and west of SR 2 and 380 feet north and south along CR 500 W. Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. Ancillary work involves removing existing trees along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, and lighting installation within the project area.

Preliminary right-of-way amounts are 2.36 acres of permanent and 0.003 acre of temporary. No relocations of properties are anticipated for this project. During construction, traffic will be maintained using lane closures and a detour. A minimum of one lane in each direction will be maintained on SR 2, and a short closure of each leg of CR 500 W is anticipated for the reconstruction of each approach. Plans for a detour will be available at a later date.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.2 (c), you are hereby requested to be a consulting party to participate in the Section 106 process. Entities that have been invited to participate in the Section 106 consultation process for this project are identified in the attached list. Per 36 CFR 800.3(f), we hereby request that the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) notify this office if the SHPO staff is aware of any other parties that may be entitled to be consulting parties or should be contacted as potential consulting parties for the project.

The Section 106 process involves efforts to identify historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking, assess its effects and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties. For more information regarding the protection of historic resources, please see the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's guide: *Protecting Historic Properties: A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review* available online at https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2017-01/CitizenGuide.pdf.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the area in which the proposed project may cause alterations in the character or use of historic resources. At this time, no cultural resource investigations have occurred; however, the results of cultural resource identification and evaluation efforts, both above-ground and archaeological, will be forthcoming. Consulting parties will receive notification when these reports are completed.

Please review the information and comment within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt. If you indicate that you do not desire to be a consulting party, or if you do not respond, you will not be included on the list of consulting parties for this project. If we do not receive your response in the time allotted, the project will proceed consistent with the proposed design and you will not receive further information about the project unless the design changes.

For questions concerning specific project details, you may contact Candace Hudziak of Metric Environmental, LLC, at 317-443-4123 or <a href="mailto:candaceh@metricenv.com">candaceh@metricenv.com</a>. All future responses regarding the proposed project should be forwarded to Metric Environmental, LLC, at the following address:

Candace Hudziak
Architectural Historian
Metric Environmental, LLC
6958 Hillsdale Court
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46250
candaceh@metricenv.com

Tribal Contacts please respond to INDOT's Acting Tribal Liaison, Matt Coon, at mcoon@indot.in.gov (317-697-9752) with any responses pertaining to this project including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal

NextLevel

resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Kari Carmany-George at <u>K.CarmanyGeorge@dot.gov</u> (317-226-5629).

Sincerely,

Matthew S. Coon, Manager Cultural Resources Office Environmental Services

Enclosures:
Distribution List
Project Location Maps

### **Distribution List:**

Beth McCord, Deputy SHPO
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 West Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
BMCcord@dnr.IN.gov

LaPorte County Historian Bruce Johnson 2012 South Village Road La Porte, IN 46350 mrjsc@csinet.net

LaPorte County Genealogical Society PO Box 365
La Porte, IN 46352
<a href="mailto:carolflloyd@yahoo.com">carolflloyd@yahoo.com</a>

LaPorte County Historical Society 2405 Indiana Avenue, Suite 1 La Porte, IN 46350-6063 info@laportecountyhistory.org

Westville Community Historical Society PO Box 395 Westville, IN 46391-0395

Indiana Landmarks – Northern Regional Office Todd Zeiger, Director 801 West Washington Street South Bend, IN 46601 tzeiger@indianalandmarks.org north@indianalandmarks.org

Indiana Lincoln Highway Association, Inc.
Debra Parcell
402 West Washington Street
South Bend, IN 46601
Lincolnhighwayassoc.office@yahoo.com

Preserve Historic La Porte
PO Box 853
La Porte, IN 46352
Preservehistoriclaporte@gmail.com

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission Ty Warner, Executive Director 6100 Southport Road Portage, IN 46368 <a href="mailto:nirpc@nirpc.org">nirpc@nirpc.org</a>

LaPorte County Commissioners 555 Michigan Avenue, Suite 202 La Porte, IN 46350 Connie Gramarossa

cgramarossa@laporteco.in.gov

Richard Mrozinski

• <u>rmrozinski@laportecounty.org</u> Joe Haney

• jhaney@laporteco.in.gov

LaPorte County Highway Superintendent 1805 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street La Porte, IN 46350

LaPorte County Highway Engineer Jerry Sullivan 1805 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street La Porte, IN 46350-8380 jgsullivan@laportecounty.org

<u>Tribal Consulting Party Contacts:</u>
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

Shawnee Tribe

Forest County Potawatomi Community



From: Zoe Vorndran
To: Zoe Vorndran

Subject: FW: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; Early Coordination; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement

Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2023 11:49:00 AM

**From:** Benjamin Rhodd < Benjamin.Rhodd@fcp-nsn.gov >

Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 10:14 AM

To: Kelly, Clint < < CKelly1@indot.IN.gov >

Subject: RE: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; Early Coordination; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection

Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

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Mr. Kelly,

Pursuant to consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (1966 as amended) the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC), a Federally Recognized Native American Tribe, reserves the right to comment on Federal undertakings, as defined under the act inclusive of licensing, permitting or use of federal funds by a delegated agency.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) staff has reviewed the information you provided for this project. Upon review of site data and supplemental cultural history within our Office, the FCPC THPO is pleased to offer a finding of No Historic Properties affected of significance to the FCPC, however, we request to remain as a consulting party for this project.

As a standard caveat sent with each proposed project reviewed by the FCPC THPO, the following applies. In the event an Inadvertent Discovery (ID) occurs at any phase of a project or undertaking as defined, and human remains or archaeologically significant materials are exposed as a result of project activities, work should cease immediately. The Tribe(s) must be included with the SHPO in any consultation regarding treatment and disposition of an ID find.

Thank you for protecting cultural and historic properties and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the email or number listed below.

Respectfully,

Ben Rhodd, MS, RPA, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Forest County Potawatomi Historic Preservation Office 8130 Mish ko Swen Drive, P.O. Box 340, Crandon, Wisconsin 54520 P: 715-478-7354 C: 715-889-0202 Main: 715-478-7474

Email: Benjamin.Rhodd@fcp-nsn.gov

www.fcpotawatomi.com

From: Laserfiche Notification
To: Coon, Matthew

Subject: Section 106 Consultation - Des. No. 2200043

Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 1:56:53 PM

\*\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. \*\*\*\*

This email is in response to Des. No. 2200043.

The Shawnee Tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Department concurs that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project. However, there is still potential for the discovery of unknown resources. We would like to accept your invitation for consultation.

We have no issues or concerns at this time, but in the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, use, or maintenance of this location, please re-notify us at that time as we would like to resume immediate consultation under such a circumstance.

If you have any questions, you may contact me via email at <a href="mailto:Section106@shawnee-tribe.com">Section106@shawnee-tribe.com</a>





Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology · 402 W. Washington Street, W274 · Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739 Phone 317-232-1646 · Fax 317-232-0693 · dhpa@dnr.IN.gov ·



January 4, 2024

Candace Hudziak Architectural Historian Metric Environmental, LLC 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

> Federal Agency: Indiana Department of Transportation ("INDOT"), on behalf of Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Division ("FHWA")

> Re: Early coordination letter for the SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 2200043; DHPA No. 31664)

### Dear Ms. Hudziak:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. § 306108), 36 C.F.R. Part 800, and the "Programmatic Agreement (PA) Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Implementation of the Federal Aid Highway Program In the State of Indiana," the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has reviewed your December 8, 2023, submission which enclosed INDOT's early coordination letter, received by our office December 8, 2023, for this project in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana.

We are not aware of any parties who should be invited to participate in the Section 106 consultation on this federal undertaking, beyond those whom INDOT already has invited. In your next regular correspondence on this project, please advise us as to which of the invited consulting parties has accepted the invitation.

We look forward to reviewing the proposed area of potential effects and the reports on investigations of above-ground cultural resources and archaeological resources that the early coordination letter indicated will be forthcoming.

Candace Hudziak January 4, 2024 Page 2

The Indiana SHPO staff's archaeological reviewer for this project is Wade T. Tharp, and the structures reviewer is Toni Lynn Giffin. However, if you have a question about the Section 106 process, please contact initially the INDOT Cultural Resources staff members who are assigned to this project.

In all future correspondence about the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection improvement project in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana (Des. No. 2200043), please refer to DHPA No. 31664.

Very truly yours,

Beth K. McCord

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

W Shilm

BKM:TLG:WTT:wtt

emc: Matt Coon, Ph.D., Indiana Department of Transportation Susan Branigin, Indiana Department of Transportation Candace Hudziak, Metric Environmental, Ilc Toni Lynn Giffin, Indiana DNR-DHPA Wade T. Tharp, Indiana DNR-DHPA From: Zoe Vorndran

To: bmccord@dnr.in.gov

Cc: Kelly, Clint; Branigin, Susan; Coon, Matthew; Candace Hudziak; Sam Snell; Elayna Stoner; Alex Gray; Dmitri

Adams; Dan Delgado

Subject: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; HPSR; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County,

Indiana

**Date:** Tuesday, September 10, 2024 3:57:00 PM

Des. No.: 2200043

Project Description: SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Transportation, with funding from the Federal Highway Administration, proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

As part of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, a Historic Property Short Report has been prepared and is ready for review and comment by consulting parties.

Please review this documentation located in IN SCOPE at

https://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/ (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE), and respond with any comments that you may have. If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days.

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### Tribal Contacts please respond to INDOT's Acting Tribal Liaison, Matt Coon

<u>mcoon@indot.in.gov</u>; (317-697-9752) with any responses pertaining to this project including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Kari Carmany-George at K.CarmanyGeorge@dot.gov (317-226-5629).

Thank you in advance for your input,



**o** 317.504.4296

6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250 <u>www.metricenv.com</u>

Certified DBE/MBE/SBE Company Indiana | Kentucky | Ohio | West Virginia | Pennsylvania From: Kelly, Clint

To: Section106@shawnee-tribe.com; Luke.Heider@fcp-nsn.gov

Cc: Coon, Matthew; Branigin, Susan; Walton, David; Zoe Vorndran; Carmany-George, Karstin (FHWA)

Subject: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; HPSR; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**Date:** Tuesday, September 10, 2024 4:05:33 PM

Attachments: image001.png image002.png

image002.png image003.png image004.png image006.png

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Des. No.: 2200043

Project Description: SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

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Thank you in advance for your input,

#### **Clint Kelly**

Section 106 Specialist/Historian *Cultural Resources Office Environmental Services* 100 N. Senate Ave., Rm. N758-ES Indianapolis, IN 46204 **Office:** (317) 447-8707

Email: <a href="mailto:ckelly1@indot.in.gov">ckelly1@indot.in.gov</a>
Core Office Hours: M-F 7:30-3:30





From: Kelly, Clint
To: Larus Longie

Cc: Coon, Matthew; Branigin, Susan; Walton, David; Zoe Vorndran; Carmany-George, Karstin (FHWA)

Subject: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; HPSR; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**Date:** Tuesday, September 10, 2024 4:07:08 PM

Attachments: image001.png image002.png

image002.png image003.png image004.png image006.png

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Des. No.: 2200043

Project Description: SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Transportation, with funding from the Federal Highway Administration, proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

As part of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, a Historic Property Short Report has been prepared and is ready for review and comment by consulting parties.

Please review this documentation located in IN SCOPE at <a href="https://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/">https://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE), and respond with any comments that you may have. If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days.

Please review the information and comment within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt. If you indicate that you do not desire to be a consulting party or if you have not previously accepted consulting party status and you do not respond, you will not be included on the list of consulting parties for this project and will not receive further information about the project unless the design changes.

*Tribal Contacts please respond to INDOT's Acting Tribal Liaison, Matt Coon* <a href="mailto:mcoon@indot.in.gov">mcoon@indot.in.gov</a>; (317-697-9752) with any responses pertaining to this project including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Kari Carmany-George at <a href="mailto:K.CarmanyGeorge@dot.gov">K.CarmanyGeorge@dot.gov</a> (317-226-5629).

Thank you in advance for your input,

### **Clint Kelly**

Section 106 Specialist/Historian *Cultural Resources Office Environmental Services* 100 N. Senate Ave., Rm. N758-ES Indianapolis, IN 46204 **Office:** (317) 447-8707

Email: <a href="mailto:ckelly1@indot.in.gov">ckelly1@indot.in.gov</a>
Core Office Hours: M-F 7:30-3:30







# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue Room N758-ES Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 PHONE: (855) 463-6848

Eric Holcomb, Governor Michael Smith, Commissioner

September 10, 2024

This letter was sent to the listed parties.

RE: State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project

Des. No. 2200043

Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

Dear Consulting Party,

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

This letter is part of the Section 106 review process for this project. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. We are requesting comments from you regarding the possible effects of this project. Please use the above Des. Number and project description in your reply and your comments will be incorporated into the formal environmental study.

A Section 106 early coordination letter (ECL) was distributed on December 8, 2023.

The proposed undertaking is at the intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 W in LaPorte County, Indiana, southwest of the City of La Porte between US 421 and US 35. It is within Scipio Township, on the LaPorte West, IN, USGS Topographic Quadrangle, in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, Township 36 North, Range 3 West. The project area can be viewed online at <a href="https://arcg.is/jqueP">https://arcg.is/jqueP</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term once in the CRO - Public Web Map App).

State Road 2 and CR 500 W are both two-lane roadways. State Road 2 is classified as a Rural Principal Arterial Other – a rural route intended to accommodate high volumes of traffic for greater distances – with 12-foot lanes, narrow shoulders, and right turn lanes onto CR 500 W at the intersection. County Road 500 W is classified as a Rural Minor Collector – a roadway intended to connect local and rural roadways and to provide service to smaller communities – with 11-foot lanes and no shoulders in the project area. The intersection is controlled with stop signs on CR 500 W.

The need for this project is evidenced by the high frequency of car crashes at this intersection. A total of 22 crashes occurred at the intersection during the study period 2017 to 2019, the majority being right and left hand turns. A RoadHAT crash analysis (traffic engineering safety modeling software) resulted in an Index of Crash Frequency of 2.96. The Index of Crash Frequency compares the crash frequency data of this intersection with intersections of similar volumes, roadway classification, and control type throughout Indiana. Crash data for this intersection resulted in an ICF of 2.96, putting it in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile compared with similar intersections, which indicates the existing stop signs on CR 500 W are not safely controlling traffic at this intersection. Additionally, southbound CR 500 W experiences a high volume of traffic and its Level of Service (LOS) is expected to reach F (breakdown flow) prior to the design year. The LOS is on a scale from A (free flow) to F (breakdown flow). The purpose of this project is to improve safety of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection and provide a long-term solution that ensures safe operation and reduced congestion at this intersection.



The proposed preferred alternative will modify the existing intersection by constructing a single-lane roundabout with a truck apron. The roundabout's location will be closely centered at the existing intersection to avoid property impacts and traffic volume. Since the distribution of the ECL, which stated the approach work is estimated to be 420 feet east and west of SR 2 and 380 feet north and south along CR 500 W, the approach work has been refined to begin approximately 1,640 feet west and terminate approximately 760 feet east of CR 500 W along SR 2, and begin approximately 300 feet north and 435 feet south of SR 2 along CR 500 W (please refer to the attached figures for maps of the new project area). Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. Ancillary work involves removing existing trees along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, and lighting installation within the project area.

During the distribution of the ECL, the preliminary right-of-way amounts were 2.36 acres of permanent and 0.003 acre of temporary; however, the preliminary right-of-way amounts have changed to 1.88 acres of permanent and 0.18 acre of temporary. No relocations of properties are anticipated for this project. During construction, traffic will be maintained using lane closures and a detour. A minimum of one lane in each direction will be maintained on SR 2, and a short closure of each leg of CR 500 W is anticipated for the reconstruction of each approach. Plans for a detour will be available at a later date.

Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C. is under contract with INDOT to advance the environmental documentation for the referenced project. Metric Environmental, LLC, has been subcontracted to complete the Section 106 documentation for the project.

In accordance with 36 CFR 800.2 (c), you were invited to become a consulting party as part of the Section 106 process, or you are hereby invited to become a consulting party as part of the Section 106 process. Entities that have previously accepted consulting party status--as well as additional entities that are currently being invited to become consulting parties--are identified in the attached list.

The Section 106 process involves efforts to identify historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking, to assess the undertaking's effects and to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties. For more information regarding the protection of historic resources, please see the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's guide: *Protecting Historic Properties: A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review* available online at <a href="https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2017-01/CitizenGuide.pdf">https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2017-01/CitizenGuide.pdf</a>.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the area in which the proposed project may cause alterations in the character or use of historic resources. The APE contains no resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

A historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards identified and evaluated above-ground resources within the APE for potential eligibility for the NRHP. As a result of the historic property identification and evaluation efforts, no above-ground resources are recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP.

An archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards is conducting a survey of archaeological resources within the APE for potential eligibility for listing in the NRHP. A report of that investigation is forthcoming and will be distributed to the appropriate consulting parties for review at a later date.

In an email dated December 11, 2023, the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) accepted the invitation to become a consulting party, stated that there are No Historic Properties affected of significance to the FCPC, and asked to be contacted in the event of an Inadvertent Discovery.

NextLevel

In an email dated December 20, 2023, the Shawnee Tribe accepted the invitation to become a consulting party and concurred that "no known historic properties will be impacted by this project."

In a letter dated January 4, 2024, the Indiana Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer stated that they are not aware of any additional parties who should be invited to participate in Section 106 consultation on this undertaking.

On February 12, 2024, INDOT-CRO announced, effective immediately, that the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians will be added as Tribal Consulting Parties for projects in all Indiana counties, and they are hereby invited to serve as a consulting party to this undertaking.

The available for IN SCOPE Historic Property Short Report is review in at https://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/ (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE). You are invited to review these documents and to respond with comments on any historic resource impacts incurred as a result of this project so that an environmental report can be completed. We also welcome your related opinions and other input to be considered in the preparation of the environmental document. If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days

Please review the information and comment within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt. If you indicate that you do not desire to be a consulting party or if you have not previously accepted consulting party status and you do not respond to this letter, you will not be included on the list of consulting parties for this project and will not receive further information about the project unless the design changes.

For questions concerning specific project details, you may contact Dan Delgado of Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C., at 574-234-3167 or <a href="mailto:ddelgado@lawson-fisher.com">ddelgado@lawson-fisher.com</a>. All future responses regarding the proposed project should be forwarded to Metric Environmental, LLC, at the following address:

Candace Hudziak
Architectural Historian
Metric Environmental, LLC
6958 Hillsdale Court
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46250
candaceh@metricenv.com

Tribal Contacts please respond to INDOT's Acting Tribal Liaison, Matt Coon, at <a href="mailto:mcoon@indot.in.gov">mcoon@indot.in.gov</a> (317-697-9752) with any responses pertaining to this project including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Kari Carmany-George at <a href="mailto:k.CarmanyGeorge@dot.gov">k.CarmanyGeorge@dot.gov</a> (317-226-5629).

Sincerely,

Matthew S. Coon, Manager Cultural Resources Office Environmental Services

Enclosures:
Distribution List
Updated Topographic Map and Aerial Map of the Project Area

NextLevel

### **Distribution List**

# **New Invitees**

Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians

# **Previous Invitees (accepted CP status)**

Beth McCord
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 West Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
BMCcord@dnr.IN.gov

# **Tribal Contacts (accepted CP status):**

Forest County Potawatomi Community

Shawnee Tribe



**From:** Larus Longie <a href="mailto:longie@tmbci.org"> **Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2024 10:52 AM

To: Kelly, Clint < CKelly1@indot.IN.gov>

Subject: RE: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; HPSR; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte

County, Indiana

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email was sent from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

MBCI THPO office defer to the nearest THPO/SHPO office to the APE.



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology  $\cdot$  402 W. Washington Street, W274  $\cdot$  Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739 Phone 317-232-1646  $\cdot$  Fax 317-232-0693  $\cdot$  dhpa@dnr.IN.gov  $\cdot$ 

October 10, 2024

Candace Hudziak Architectural Historian Metric Environmental, LLC 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

Federal Agency: Indiana Department of Transportation ("INDOT"),

on behalf of Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Division ("FHWA")

Re: Historic property short report (Vorndran/Receveur, 9/10/24) for the State Road 2 and County Road 500 West

Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 2200043; DHPA No. 31664)

#### Dear Ms. Hudziak:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. § 306108), 36 C.F.R. Part 800, and the "Programmatic Agreement (PA) Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Implementation of the Federal Aid Highway Program In the State of Indiana," the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has reviewed your September 10, 2024, submission which enclosed the Historic property short report ("HPSR", Vorndran/Receveur, 9/10/24), a;; of which was received by our office September 10, 2024, for the above-referenced project, which has been proposed for areas located in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana.

The area of potential effects ("APE") proposed in the HPSR appears to be of adequate size to encompass the geographic area in which direct and indirect effects of a project of this nature could occur.

For the purposes of the Section 106 review of this federal undertaking, we agree with the conclusions in the HPSR that there are no previously recorded National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP") listed or eligible resources located within the APE. Furthermore, we also agree with the conclusions in the HPSR of the Contributing-rated status of the other historic-aged resources documented during survey and that there are no resources listed or eligible for the NRHP within the APE.

As INDOT's September 10, 2024, letter indicates, the report on investigations of archaeological resources is forthcoming. We look forward to reviewing and commenting on that report.

The Indiana SHPO staff's archaeological reviewer for this project is Wade T. Tharp, and the structures reviewer is Toni Lynn Giffin. However, if you have a question about the Section 106 process, please contact initially the INDOT Cultural Resources staff members who are assigned to this project.

In all future correspondence about the State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 2200043), which is proposed for areas located in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana, please refer to DHPA No. 31664.

Very truly yours,

Be h K. Mc o d

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

BKM:TLG:WTT:wtt

emc: Matt Coon, Ph.D., Indiana Department of Transportation Susan Branigin, Indiana Department of Transportation Candace Hudziak, Metric Environmental, LLC Toni Lynn Giffin, Indiana DNR-DHPA Wade T. Tharp, Indiana DNR-DHPA From: Laserfiche Notification
To: Coon, Matthew

Subject: Section 106 Consultation - Des. No. 2200043; HPSR; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project

**Date:** Tuesday, November 12, 2024 4:13:02 PM

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email was sent from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

This email is in response to Des. No. 2200043; HPSR; SR 2 and CR 500 W Intersection Improvement Project.

The Shawnee Tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Department concurs that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project. However, there is still potential for the discovery of unknown resources.

We have no issues or concerns at this time. <u>Please continue with the project as planned</u>, but in the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, use, or maintenance of this location, please re-notify us at that time as we would like to resume immediate consultation under such a circumstance.

If you have any questions, you may contact me via email at <a href="mailto:Section106@shawnee-tribe.com">Section106@shawnee-tribe.com</a>

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on this project





# **REVIEW REQUEST SUBMITTAL**

State Form 55031 (R2 / 3-23)
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)



Please complete this form and attach it to the front of all submittals, along with any reports or supplemental materials you are providing to the Indiana DHPA for review. Please note that archaeological forms and reports shall be submitted in SHAARD, separate from structural information since archaeological site locations are confidential and not for public disclosure.

Date (month, day, year): March 12, 2025	-			
<ul> <li>☑ This is a new submittal.</li> <li>☑ This is revised/additional information relating to DHP/</li> <li>☑ This project is being undertaken pursuant to the term Title of Agreement:</li> <li>☑ This project will also be applying for Federal Rehabilion</li> <li>☑ This project includes work on a property that is under</li> </ul>	s and conditions of a progra tation Investment Tax Cred	ammatic or other interagency agreement. it.		
THIS REVIEW REQUEST SUBMITTED BY:				
Name: Samuel P Snell MS, RPA				
Company/Organization: Metric Environmental,	LLC			
Address (number and street): 6958 Hillsdale Cou				
City: Indianapolis	State: IN	ZIP: 46250		
Telephone number: 317-912-3499				
PROJECT NAME & LOCATION [Please attach a map with location(s) marked]				
Project Name/Reference: SR 2 and CR 500 Inters	ection Improvement	Project/Des Number: 2200043		
Project Address/Location: 1.99 mi South of I-90	)			
City:	P	rairie		
County/Counties: LaPorte				
Section/Township/Range: Sections 5,6,7,8 Township 36N Range 3W				
Latitude/Longitude:				
STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY INVOLVEMENT				
Agency:	Program:			
Type of funds, license, or permit to be obtained (if applic	able):			
Name of Agency Contact:				
Address (number and street):				
City:	State:	ZIP:		
Telephone number:	E-mail addres	s:		

# APPLICANT (if different than Federal Agency) If available, please attach copy of authorization letter from federal agency. Applicant: Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C. Name of Contact: Dan Delgado Address (number and street): 525 West Washington Avenue, \_\_\_\_\_ 46601 City: South Bend \_\_\_\_ State: IN E-mail address: ddelgado@lawson-fisher.com Telephone number: (574) 234-3167 ADDITIONAL CONTACT (IF APPLICABLE) Name of Contact: Organization/Agency: Address (number and street): \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_ City: Telephone number: E-mail address: Project Description - This should include a detailed scope of work, including any actions to be taken in relation to the project, such as all aspects of new construction, replacement/repair, demolition, ground disturbance, and all ancillary work (temporary roads, etc.), as applicable. Attach report or additional pages if necessary. If a detailed scope of work is not available yet, please explain and include all preliminary information. The proposed project involves improvements at the intersection of State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana. The project area will extend approximately 499.87 meters (m) (1,640 feet [ft]) west and 231.65 m (760 ft) east of CR 500 W along SR 2 as well as 91.44 m (300 ft) north and 132.56 m (435 ft) south of SR 2 along CR 500 W. The distance from the edge of pavement along the existing roads will vary from 7.62 to 27.43 m (25 to 90 ft). The existing intersection has exhibited a high frequency of car crashes, falling within the 99th percentile of crash occurences with similar intersections. County Road 500 West's level of service is also expected to reach a "F", or breakdown flow, rating due to increasingly high volume traffic. The proposed preferred alternative will modify the existing intersection by constructing a single-lane roundabout with a truck apron. The roundabout's location will be closely centered at the existing intersection to avoid property impacts and traffic volume. The approaches will be reconstructed along CR 500 W. Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. Ancillary work involves removing existing trees along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, and lighting installation within the project. Preliminary right-of-way (ROW) amounts are 0.76 hectares (ha) (1.88 acres [ac])

The purpose of this project is to ensure greater safety of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection and provide a long-term solution to safer operations and reduced congestion. The need for this project derives from the high frequency of

The proposed project encompasses an area of 3.9 ha (9.64 ac), which corresponds to the Phase la survey area.

of permanent ROW and 0.07 ha (0.18 ac) of temporary ROW.

crashes occuring at the intersection and its predicted Level of Service F grading.

Page 2 of 4

Ground Disturbing Activity – This should include a detailed description of all proposed horizontal and vertical ground disturbance in relation to the project as well as any known previous and current land use, condition, and disturbances. Attach additional pages if necessary. Indicate if the project does not include any ground disturbing activities. Please note that agricultural tilling generally does not have a serious enough impact on archaeological sites to constitute a disturbance of the ground for this purpose.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
If an archaeological investigation has been conducted for this project, the resulting report and site forms (if applicable) must be submitted in the State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD) by the qualified archaeologist. DO NOT attach the archaeology report here.
For an archaeological report submitted in SHAARD, please indicate the SHAARD report number (i.e. AR-xx-xxxxxx).
SHAARD report number AR-46-00443
FINDINGS – Please note that a finding should only be submitted when the agency/delegatee believes it is appropriate or one has been requested by our office. Only those who represent the Federal Agency or an official delegatee of the federal agency are authorized to make findings of effect for an undertaking.
□ No Historic Properties Affected – (i.e., none are present or there are historic properties present but the project will have no effect upon them). Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11.
□ No Adverse Effect – The proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect on one or more historic properties located within the project APE under 36 CFR 800.5. Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11.
Adverse Effect – The proposed undertaking will result in an adverse effect to one or more historic properties and the applicant, or other federally authorized representative, will consult with the SHPO and other consulting parties to resolve the adverse effect per 36 CFR 800.6. Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11, with a proposed plan to resolve adverse effect(s).
Please explain the basis for your determination.

Authorized Signature:	Samuel P. Snell	Date (month, day, year): 3/12/2025
Type or print name. S	amuel P. Snell, MS, RPA	
Organization/Agency:	Metric Environmental, LLC	
Organization/Agency		
Please note that inco the following has bee	emplete submissions may result in delays. To ensu en provided:	ure an expeditious review, please be sure that
☐ Completed Review	Request Submittal Form	
☐ Letter of authorizat	tion from Federal agency/agencies (if applicable)	
Typical consulting pa	<ul> <li>List of all consulting parties that have been invited to arties would include the county historian, local historica cal, state or national preservation organizations, tribes,</li> </ul>	al society, the appropriate regional office of Indiana
arrow, aerial maps ar	ation with project area(s) and Area of Potential Effects re preferable and areas of previous and proposed grou ate if any of the project area is located on state or feder	und disturbance within the project area should be
the APE. (PDF forma	or photographs of project area and APE, including any lat, no more than two (2) photographs per page). For later and photo log provided to DHPA approved file sharing	arge project areas/APEs, photo size may be
existing buildings and	neering Drawings (if applicable) – Must be labeled with d locations of any ground disturbance on site plans. In arge projects, plans may be provided by a DHPA appro7" with legible font.	clude both existing and proposed drawings/plans
DHPA home page) to submission should in from SHAARD, the ra	by known historic resources – All projects should consult to locate known historic resources in the project area and locate known historic resources in the project area and locate (in summary form) a list of the properties identificating (IHSSI, Bridge Inventory) or status (National Regist print outs of the individual SHAARD records.	and APE. For any identified resources, the field, including address, the site/reference number
☐Archaeological repo	ort and site forms (if applicable) submitted in SHAARD	for DHPA review. Do not attach to this form.
Projects using Star Certificate of Approv	ite of Indiana funds to alter, demolish or remove a historal (SF 52889).	oric site or structure, include Application for a
The thirty (30) day	review period, as specified in 36 CFR part 800.3(c)	(4), begins from the date that we receive the

Return this Form and Attachments to:

complete submission.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic

From: Blum, Kaylee
To: Sam Snell

Cc: Coon, Matthew; Branigin, Susan; Kelly, Clint; Susan Castle; Elayna Stoner; Dmitri Adams; Grylewicz, Michael J;

Blum, Kaylee

**Subject:** RE: Des 2200043 SR 2 and CR 500 Intersection Project Archaeology submission

**Date:** Wednesday, March 12, 2025 1:45:29 PM

Attachments: image004.png image007.png

# Good afternoon,

Thank you for submitting the revised archaeological report which has been reviewed by INDOT Cultural Resources personnel who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards as per 36 CFR Part 61. It is our opinion that the report is acceptable, and we concur with the evaluations and recommendations made by the author (Peters et al. 2025).

I have very minor comments; please address those and update the date of the report prior to uploading to IN SCOPE.

Please upload the revised report to SHAARD and also upload to IN SCOPE for a 30-day review period, making sure that the project information is consistent with the other documents already in IN SCOPE. (Please let us know if any information in IN SCOPE needs to be corrected.) Once released in IN SCOPE, please email one PDF copy of the current Review Request Submittal Form to <a href="mailto:dhpareview@dnr.IN.gov">dhpareview@dnr.IN.gov</a> and forward one hard copy of the form to SHPO, copying the assigned CRO reviewer on the email submission. When we receive that email, CRO will notify the Tribes. If there are any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact KayLee Blum by <a href="mailto:kblum@indot.in.gov">kblum@indot.in.gov</a> or at 317-439-3337.

SR2andCR500WIntersectionProject Des2200043 Phasela INDOTcomments.pdf

Best,

### KayLee A. Blum, M.S.

### **Archaeologist**

Indiana Department of Transportation, Cultural Resources Office 100 North Senate Ave., N758 — Environmental Services

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Office: (317) 439-3337

Email: kblum@indot.in.gov



From: Sam Snell < <u>sams@metricenv.com</u>>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:45 PM

To: esdcro@indot.in.gov

**Cc:** Susan Castle < <u>susanc@metricenv.com</u>>; Elayna Stoner < <u>elaynas@metricenv.com</u>>; Dmitri Adams

<<u>dadams@lawson-fisher.com</u>>

Subject: Des 2200043 SR 2 and CR 500 Intersection Project Archaeology submission

Hello,

Please find the linked below for your review.

LPA Project: No

Historic Bridge Project: No Level of Section 106: Full

Reason why MPPA does not apply to a roundabout Potential for Section 106 adverse effects: unknown

Potential for Section 4(f) use of historic property: unknown

Items to review: Phase Ia and shapefile

SR2andCR500WIntersectionProject Des2200043 PhaseIAGISFile 2024-10-04.zip SR2andCR500WIntersectionProject Des2200043 PhaseIA 2024-10-04.pdf

### Sam



# Samuel P. Snell, MS, RPA

Senior Project Manager/Archaeological Principal Investigator

**O** 317.912.3499 **M** 317.450.9175

6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250 www.metricenv.com

Certified DBE/MBE/SBE Company Indiana | Kentucky | Ohio | West Virginia| Pennsylvania



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology · 402 W. Washington Street, W274 · Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739 Phone 317-232-1646 · Fax 317-232-0693 · dhpa@dnr.IN.gov ·

April 11, 2025

Samuel P. Snell, MS, RPA Metric Environmental, LLC 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

> Federal Agency: Indiana Department of Transportation ("INDOT"), on behalf of Federal Highway Administration, Indiana Division ("FHWA")

> Re: Indiana Archaeological Short Report (Peters et al., 03/12/2025) for the State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 2200043; DHPA No. 31664)

Dear Mr. Snell:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. § 306108), 36 C.F.R. Part 800, and the "Programmatic Agreement (PA) Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Implementation of the Federal Aid Highway Program In the State of Indiana," the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has reviewed your March 12, 2025, submission, which enclosed the Indiana Archaeological Short Report (Peters et al., 03/12/2025), and which was received by our office March 12, 2025, for the above-referenced project, which has been proposed for areas located at Scipio Township, in LaPorte County, Indiana.

In terms of archaeological resources, based on the submitted information and the documentation available to the staff of the Indiana DNR-DHPA, we have not identified any currently known archaeological resources listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP") within the proposed project area; and we concur with the opinion of the archaeologist, as expressed in the Indiana Archaeological Short Report (Peters et al., 03/12/2025), that no further archaeological investigations appear necessary at the proposed project area.

Thank you for uploading the Indiana Archaeological Short Report (Peters et al., 03/12/2025) to the Indiana DNR-DHPA SHAARD system database. It has been assigned the identifier *AR-46-00443*, and it has been reviewed and approved.

If any prehistoric or historic archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and Indiana Code 14-21-1-29) requires that the discovery be reported to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and Indiana Code 14-21-1-29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

Samuel P. Snell April 11, 2025 Page 2

The Indiana SHPO staff's archaeological reviewer for this project is Wade T. Tharp, and the structures reviewer is Toni Lynn Giffin. However, if you have a question about the Section 106 process, please contact initially the INDOT Cultural Resources staff members who are assigned to this project.

In all future correspondence about the State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 2200043), which is proposed for areas located in Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana, please refer to DHPA No. 31664.

Very truly yours,

Beth K. McCord

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

BKM:WTT:wtt

emc: Matt Coon, Ph.D., Indiana Department of Transportation Susan Branigin, Indiana Department of Transportation Samuel P. Snell, Metric Environmental, LLC Candace Hudziak, Metric Environmental, LLC Toni Lynn Giffin, Indiana DNR-DHPA Wade T. Tharp, Indiana DNR-DHPA From: Haley Receveur
To: McCord, Beth K

Cc: Branigin, Susan; Blum, Kaylee; Coon, Matthew; Candace Hudziak; Kyle Wertz; Sam Snell; Zoe Vorndran; Michels,

Stewart; Grylewicz, Michael J; Susan Castle; Dmitri Adams; Lisa Harris

**Subject:** FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; No Historic Properties Affected Finding, State Road 2 and County Road 500

West Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**Date:** Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:21:00 PM

Des. No.: 2200043

Project Description: State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

INDOT, on behalf of FHWA, has signed a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" for this Section 106 undertaking. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(d), you and the other Section 106 consulting parties are being provided the documentation for this finding. You can view the determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" electronically by accessing INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at <a href="http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/">http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE). If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days.

Consulting parties have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of this information to review and provide comment.

Tribal Nation representatives please respond to INDOT's Tribal Liaison, Taylor Payne, at <a href="mailto:tapayne@indot.in.gov">tapayne@indot.in.gov</a> (317-779-5775) with any responses pertaining to this project, including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Erica Tait at <a href="mailto:erica.tait@dot.gov">erica.tait@dot.gov</a> (317-226-7481).

Thank you in advance for your input,



Staff Scientist - Architectural Historian

O 317.214.8258 M 812.786.1597

6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250 From: Kelly, Clint

To: <a href="mailto:luke.heider@fcp-nsn.gov">luke.heider@fcp-nsn.gov</a>; <a href="mailto:section106">section106</a>; <a href="mailto:Larus Longie">Larus Longie</a>

Cc: Branigin, Susan; Payne, Taylor; Grylewicz, Michael J; Haley Receveur; Tait, Erica (FHWA)

Subject: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; No Historic Properties Affected Finding, State Road 2 and County Road 500

West Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**Date:** Thursday, July 3, 2025 3:02:53 PM

Attachments: image001,png image002,png

Des. No.: 2200043

Project Description: State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement

**Project** 

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

INDOT, on behalf of FHWA, has signed a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" for this Section 106 undertaking. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(d), you and the other Section 106 consulting parties are being provided the documentation for this finding. You can view the determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" electronically by accessing INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at <a href="http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/">http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE). If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days.

Consulting parties have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of this information to review and provide comment.

Tribal Nation representatives please respond to INDOT's Tribal Liaison, Taylor Payne, at tapayne@indot.in.gov (317-779-5775) with any responses pertaining to this project, including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Erica Tait at <a href="mailto:erica.tait@dot.gov">erica.tait@dot.gov</a> (317-226-7481). Tribal Nation representatives who do not utilize IN SCOPE can find a copy of the documentation <a href="mailto:hERE">hERE</a>.

Thank you in advance for your input,

# Clint Kelly

Section 106 Specialist/Historian Cultural Resources Office Environmental Services 100 N. Senate Ave., Rm. N758-ES Indianapolis, IN 46204

Office: (317) 447-8707 Email: ckelly1@indot.in.gov Core Office Hours: M-F 7:30-3:30

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# **INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



100 North Senate Avenue Room N758-ES Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 PHONE: (855) 463-6848

Mike Braun, Governor Lindsay Quist, Commissioner

July 3, 2025

This letter was sent to the listed parties.

RE: State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project

Des. No. 2200043

Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

Dear Consulting Party,

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

This letter is part of the Section 106 review process for this project. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. We are requesting comments from you regarding the possible effects of this project. Please use the above Des. Number and project description in your reply and your comments will be incorporated into the formal environmental study.

A Section 106 early coordination letter for this project was distributed on December 8, 2023. In addition, a letter distributed on September 10, 2024 notified consulting parties that a historic property short report (HPSR) was available for review and comment. The Archaeology Report (Tribes only) (ASR) was distributed without a distribution letter on March 12, 2025 to consulting parties.

The proposed undertaking is at the intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 W in LaPorte County, Indiana, southwest of the City of La Porte between United States Highway (US) 421 and US 35. It is within Scipio Township, on the LaPorte West, IN, USGS Topographic Quadrangle, in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, Township 36 North, Range 3 West. The project area can be viewed online at <a href="https://arcg.is/jqueP">https://arcg.is/jqueP</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term once in the CRO - Public Web Map App).

State Road 2 and CR 500 W are both two-lane roadways. State Road 2 is classified as a Rural Principal Arterial Other – a rural route intended to accommodate high volumes of traffic for greater distances – with 12-foot lanes, narrow shoulders, and right turn lanes onto CR 500 W at the intersection. County Road 500 W is classified as a Rural Minor Collector – a roadway intended to connect local and rural roadways and to provide service to smaller communities – with 11-foot lanes and no shoulders in the project area. The intersection is controlled with stop signs on S CR 500 W.

The need for this project is evidenced by the high frequency of car crashes at this intersection. A total of 22 crashes occurred at the intersection during the study period 2017 to 2019, the majority being right and left hand turns. A RoadHAT crash analysis (traffic engineering safety modeling software) resulted in an Index of Crash Frequency of 2.96. The Index of Crash Frequency (ICF) compares the crash frequency data of this intersection with intersections of similar volumes, roadway classification, and control type throughout Indiana. Crash data for this intersection resulted in an ICF of 2.96, putting it in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile compared with similar intersections, which indicates the existing stop signs on CR 500 W are not safely controlling traffic at this intersection. Additionally, southbound CR 500 W experiences a high volume of traffic and its Level of Service (LOS) is expected to reach F (breakdown flow) prior to the design year. The LOS is on a scale from A (free flow) to F (breakdown flow). The purpose of this project is to improve safety of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection and provide a long-term solution that ensures safe operation and reduced congestion at this intersection.

The proposed preferred alternative will modify the existing intersection by constructing a single-lane roundabout with a truck apron at the existing intersection of SR 2 and CR 500 W. The roundabout's location will be closely centered at the existing intersection to avoid property impacts and traffic volume. The approach work is estimated to begin approximately 1,640 feet west and terminate approximately 760 feet east of CR 500 W along SR 2, and begin approximately 300 feet north and 435 feet south of SR 2 along CR 500 W. Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. *Please note, since the distribution of the HPSR and Archaeology Report (Tribes only), the project limits in the southwest quadrant of the intersection have expanded to accommodate the new detention basin (refer to the figures attached to the RDL)*. Ancillary work involves removing existing trees along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, lighting installation, and reconstructing a driveway within the project area.

The distribution letter to the HPSR stated the project would acquire 1.88 acres of permanent right-of-way and 0.18 acre of temporary right-of-way; however, the right-of-way amounts have been refined to 2.020 acres of permanent right-of-way and 3.619 acres of reacquired permanent right-of-way (totaling 5.639 acres), and 0.119 acre of temporary right-of-way. No relocations of properties are anticipated for this project. During construction, traffic will be maintained using lane closures and a detour. A minimum of one lane in each direction will be maintained on SR 2, and a short closure of each leg of CR 500 W is anticipated for the reconstruction of each approach.

Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C. is under contract with INDOT to advance the environmental documentation for the referenced project. Metric Environmental, LLC, has been subcontracted to complete the Section 106 documentation for the project.

In accordance with 36 CFR 800.2(c), you were invited to become a consulting party as part of the Section 106 process, or you are hereby invited to become a consulting party as part of the Section 106 process. Entities that have previously accepted consulting party status--as well as additional entities that are currently being invited to become consulting parties--are identified in the attached list.

The Section 106 process involves efforts to identify historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking, to assess the undertaking's effects and to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties. For more information regarding the protection of historic resources, please see the Advisory

Council on Historic Preservation's guide: *Protecting Historic Properties: A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review* available online at https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2017-01/CitizenGuide.pdf.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the area in which the proposed project may cause alterations in the character or use of historic resources. The APE contains no resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

A historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards identified and evaluated above-ground resources within the APE for potential eligibility for the NRHP. As a result of the historic property identification and evaluation efforts, no above-ground resources are recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP.

With regard to archaeological resources, an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards identified no sites within the project area. As a result of these efforts, no sites were recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP and no further work is recommended.

In an email dated September 11, 2024, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians stated, "MBCI THPO office defer to the nearest THPO/SHPO office to the APE."

In a letter dated October 10, 2024, the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) stated the APE "proposed in the HPSR appears to be of adequate size to encompass the geographic area in which direct and indirect effects of a project of this nature could occur." Further, SHPO agreed "with the conclusions in the HPSR that there are no previously recorded [NRHP] listed or eligible resources located within the APE."

In an email dated November 12, 2024, the Shawnee Tribe concurred "that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project," though they noted that "there is still potential for the discovery of unknown resources."

In a letter dated April 11, 2025, the SHPO acknowledged receipt of the ASR. The SHPO concurred with the ASR that no further archaeological work is necessary for this project. Copies of all consulting party correspondence can be found in Appendix E in the attached documentation.

The "No Historic Properties Affected" finding and 800.11 documentation is available for review in IN SCOPE at <a href="http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/">http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE). You are invited to review these documents and to respond with comments on any cultural resource impacts incurred as a result of this project. We also welcome your related opinions and other input to be considered in the preparation of the environmental document. If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days.

Please review the information and comment within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt. If you indicate that you do not desire to be a consulting party or if you have not previously accepted consulting party status and you do not respond to this letter, you will not be included on the list of consulting parties for this project and will not receive further information about the project unless the design changes.

All future responses regarding the proposed project, including questions concerning specific project details, should be forwarded to:

Zoe Vorndran
Qualified Professional Historian
Metric Environmental, LLC
6958 Hillsdale Court
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46250
zoev@metricenv.com
317-504-4296

Tribal Nation representatives please respond to INDOT's Tribal Liaison, Taylor Payne <a href="mailto:tapayne@indot.in.gov">tapayne@indot.in.gov</a>; (317-779-5775) with any responses pertaining to this project including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Erica Tait at <a href="mailto:erica.tait@dot.gov">erica.tait@dot.gov</a> (317-226-7481).

Sincerely,

Matthew S. Coon, Manager Cultural Resources Office

**Environmental Services** 

Enclosures:
Distribution List
Maps Depicting Updated Project Area

# **Distribution List**

# **Previous Invitees (accepted CP status)**

Beth McCord
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 West Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
BMCcord@dnr.IN.gov

# **Tribal Consulting Party Contacts**

Forest County Potawatomi Community

Shawnee Tribe

Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians

# **Haley Receveur**

**From:** Payne, Taylor <TaPayne@indot.IN.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, July 11, 2025 2:40 PM

**To:** Haley Receveur

**Cc:** Kelly, Clint; Blum, Kaylee

**Subject:** FW: Section 106 Consultation - Des. No. 2200043

Hi Haley,

Please see attached response from The Shawnee Tribe.

Best,

# Taylor Payne (she/her)

Tribal Liaison
Architectural Historian
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 North Senate Ave., N758 — ES
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Cell: : (317) 779-5775

Email: tapayne@indot.in.gov Find us on social media!



\*\*For the latest updates from INDOT's Cultural Resources Office, subscribe to the Environmental Services listserv: <a href="https://www.in.gov/indot/3217.htm">https://www.in.gov/indot/3217.htm</a>

\*\*Link to the CRO-Public Web Map App can be found here.

From: Laserfiche Notification <donotreply@laserfiche.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 2:41 PM **To:** Payne, Taylor <TaPayne@indot.IN.gov>

Subject: Section 106 Consultation - Des. No. 2200043

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email was sent from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

This email is in response to Des. No. 2200043.

The Shawnee Tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Department concurs that no known historic properties will be negatively impacted by this project. However, there is still potential for the discovery of unknown resources.

We have no issues or concerns at this time. <u>Please continue with the project as planned</u>, but in the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, use, or maintenance of this location, please re-notify us at that time as we would like to resume immediate consultation under such a circumstance.

If you have any questions, you may contact me via email at <a href="Section106@shawnee-tribe.com">Section106@shawnee-tribe.com</a>

# Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on this project



# **Erin Paden**

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST

Office: (918) 542-2441, x140 Email: <a href="mailto:epaden@shawnee-tribe.com">epaden@shawnee-tribe.com</a> 29 S Hwy 69A

29 S Hwy 69A Miami, OK 74354 shawnee-tribe.com

# **Haley Receveur**

From: Kelly, Clint < CKelly1@indot.IN.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 7, 2025 11:44 AM
To: Payne, Taylor; Haley Receveur

**Cc:** Branigin, Susan

**Subject:** FW: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; No Historic Properties Affected Finding, State

Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County,

Indiana

Please find a response from the FCPC below.

### **Clint Kelly**

Section 106 Specialist/Historian Cultural Resources Office Environmental Services 100 N. Senate Ave., Rm. N758-ES Indianapolis, IN 46204

Office: (317) 447-8707 Email: <a href="mailto:ckelly1@indot.in.gov">ckelly1@indot.in.gov</a> Core Office Hours: M-F 7:30-3:30

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**From:** Luke Heider <Luke.Heider@fcp-nsn.gov> **Sent:** Wednesday, August 6, 2025 1:04 PM **To:** Kelly, Clint <CKelly1@indot.IN.gov>

Subject: RE: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; No Historic Properties Affected Finding, State Road 2 and County Road

500 West Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email was sent from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Pursuant to consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (1966 as amended) the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC), a Federally Recognized Native American Tribe, reserves the right to comment on Federal undertakings, as defined under the act.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) staff has reviewed the information you provided for the project. Upon review of site data and supplemental cultural history within our Office, the FCPC THPO is pleased to offer a finding of No Historic Properties affected of significance to the FCPC, however, **we do wish to remain as a consulting party for this project.** 

As a standard caveat sent with each proposed project reviewed by the FCPC THPO, the following applies. In the event an Inadvertent Discovery (ID) occurs at any phase of a project or undertaking as defined, and human remains or archaeological materials are exposed as a result of project activities, work should cease immediately, and the Tribe(s) must be included with the SHPO in any consultation regarding treatment and disposition of the find.

Thank you for protecting cultural and historic properties and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the email or number listed below.

Best,

# Luke Heider | Tribal Historic Preservation Officer | Land & Natural Resources

Forest County Potawatomi | 5320 Wensaut Lane | PO Box 340, Crandon, WI 54520

P: 715-478-7354 | C: 715-889-0202 | Main: 715-478-7222

www.fcpotawatomi.com | luke.heider@fcp-nsn.gov

Please note the office hours are Monday – Thursday: 7:00 am – 5:00 pm. Our office is closed on Fridays

From: Kelly, Clint < CKelly1@indot.IN.gov > Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 2:03 PM

**To:** Luke Heider < <u>Luke.Heider@fcp-nsn.gov</u>>; section106 < <u>section106@shawnee-tribe.com</u>>; Larus Longie < larus.longie@tmbci.org>

**Cc:** Branigin, Susan <<u>SBranigin@indot.IN.gov</u>>; Payne, Taylor <<u>TaPayne@indot.IN.gov</u>>; Grylewicz, Michael J <MGrylewicz@indot.IN.gov>; haleyr@metricenv.com; Tait, Erica (FHWA) <erica.tait@dot.gov>

Subject: FHWA Project: Des. No. 2200043; No Historic Properties Affected Finding, State Road 2 and County Road 500

West Intersection Improvement Project, LaPorte County, Indiana

**Des. No.: 2200043** 

Project Description: State Road 2 and County Road 500 West Intersection Improvement Project

Location: Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to proceed with the State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W) Intersection Improvement Project, Des. No. 2200043.

INDOT, on behalf of FHWA, has signed a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" for this Section 106 undertaking. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(d), you and the other Section 106 consulting parties are being provided the documentation for this finding. You can view the determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" electronically by accessing INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at <a href="http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/">http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/</a> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE). If a hard copy of the materials is needed, please respond to this email with your request within seven (7) days.

Consulting parties have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of this information to review and provide comment.

# Tribal Nation representatives please respond to INDOT's Tribal Liaison, Taylor Payne,

at <u>tapayne@indot.in.gov</u> (317-779-5775) with any responses pertaining to this project, including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Erica Tait at <u>erica.tait@dot.gov</u> (317-226-7481). Tribal Nation representatives who do not utilize IN SCOPE can find a copy of the documentation <u>HERE</u>.

Thank you in advance for your input,

Clint Kelly Section 106 Specialist/Historian Cultural Resources Office **Environmental Services** 

100 N. Senate Ave., Rm. N758-ES

Indianapolis, IN 46204 **Office:** (317) 447-8707

Email: ckelly1@indot.in.gov Core Office Hours: M-F 7:30-3:30

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## **Appendix F. Project Plans**

Sta. 926+50.00 "A"

Sta. 48+75.00 "S-1-A"

Sta. 929+60.00 "A"

DES. NO.

2200043

2200043

CULVERT ASSETS
CULVERT ASSET ID

WORK TYPE

New Culvert

New Culvert

New Culvert

## INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



## **RIGHT-OF-WAY PLANS**

ROUTE: S.R. 2 AT: 55+04

PROJECT NO. 2200043 R/W

L.A. CODE: 7638 DES. NO.: 2200043



LATITUDE: 41°35'29" N	LONGITUDE: 86°47'53" W
GROSS LENGTH:	0.284 MI.
NET LENGTH:	0.284 MI
MAX. GRADE:	1.68 %

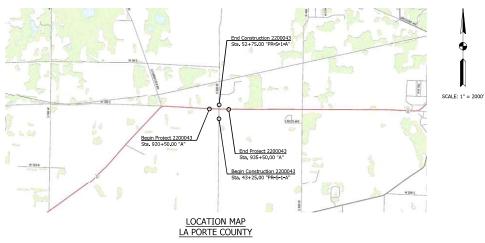
HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE (S): 071200010406

FINAL R/W PLANS JANUARY 9, 2025

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS DATED 2024 TO BE USED WITH THESE PLANS

		DE	SIGNATI	ON	
			2200043		
[	SURVEY BOOK	SHEETS			
		1	of	31	Т
	CONTRACT	PROJECT			
- 1	R-44648		2200043		

Roundabout Intersection Improvement on S.R. 2 at CR 500 W, 3.27 Miles West of S.R. 39 Sections 5, 6, 7, & 8, T-36-N, R-3-W, Scipio Township, La Porte County, Indiana



LAWSON-FISHER ASSOCIATES P.C.
525 W. WASHINGTON AVENUE
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA 46601

NOTERICAL CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE

PLANS PREPARED BY:	LAWSON-FISHER ASSOC. P.C.	574-234-3167
		PHONE NUMBER
CERTIFIED BY:		
		DATE
APPROVED FOR LETTING:		
	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	DATE

INDEX				
SHEET NO.	DRAWING INDEX			
1	Title Sheet			
2	Index and General Notes			
3 - 5	Location Control Route Survey Plat			
6 - 7	Plat No. 1			
8 - 13	Typical Sections			
14 - 24	Plan and Profiles			
25 - 28	Roundabout Profiles			
29 - 30	Detention Basin Plan and Sections			
31	Pavement Quantities and Approach Table			

UTILITIES			
UTILITY	OWNER	ADDRESS	
CABLE -	Comcast	688 Industrial Dr.	
U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U	Contact: Larry Smith	Elmhurst, IL 60126	
	Phone: (224)229-5849		
	Email: Larry_Smith3@comcast.com		
COMMUNICATIONS -	ACME Communications	618 Franklin St.	
CONTROLLOND	Contact: Bradley Hutchinson	Michigan City, IN 46360	
	Phone: (219)809-0305		
	Email: bradley@mse.adsnet.com		
ELECTRIC -	NIPSCO Electric (LaPorte)	1155 Troutvine Rd.	
	Contact: Zac Topoll (DVG Engineering)	Crown Point, IN 46307	
	Phone: (219)921 <del>-144</del> 1		
	Email: ztopoll@dvgteam.com		
FIBER OPTIC -	ACME Communications	618 Franklin St.	
	Contact: Bradley Hutchinson	Michigan City, IN 46360	
	Phone: (219)809-0305		
	Email: bradley@mse.adsnet.com		
	US Signal	201 Iona Ave. S.W.	
	Contact: Jim Engels	Grand Rapids, MI 46701	
	Phone: (630)454-8070		
	Email: jengles@tkns.net		
GAS -	NIPSCO Gas (LaPorte)	1502 W S.R. 2	
	Contact: Lisa Taylor	La Porte, IN 46350	
	Phone: (219)379-7168		
	Email: letaylor@nisource.com		
TELEPHONE -	Frontier	1502 Magnavox Way, Ste. 100	
	Contact: Richard Ferris (Troyer Group)	Fort Wayne, IN 46804	
	Phone: (260)387-0799		
	Email: rferris@troyergroup.com		

GENERAL NOTES			
All earth shoulders, median area, cut and fill slopes shall be plain or mulched seeded except where sodding is specified.  The final cross sections of the grading contract will be the original cross sections of the paving contract. However, partial or complete cross sections shall be taken if necessary to determine the actual excavation quantities.			
This set of plans shall not be construed to be a property retracement survey. Where apparent property lines, corners, subdivision or section corner information is shown, it is based on physical evidence or testimony.			

#### LEGEND

R/W	Right-of-Way	App. Ex. R/W	Apparent Existing Right-of-Way
Ex. R/W	Existing R/W	В	Begin L.A. R/W
E.P.	Edge of Pavement	Е	End L.A. R/W
C.L.T.F.	Chain-Link Type Fence	N.E.P.L.	No Evidence of Property Line
F.F.T.F.	Farm-Field Type Fence	Comm. Rec. Line	Commissioner's Record Line
ዊ	Property Line		

INDIANA 811



Per Indiana State Law IC-8-1-26-16: It is against the law to excavate without notifying the underground location service two (2) working days before commencing work.

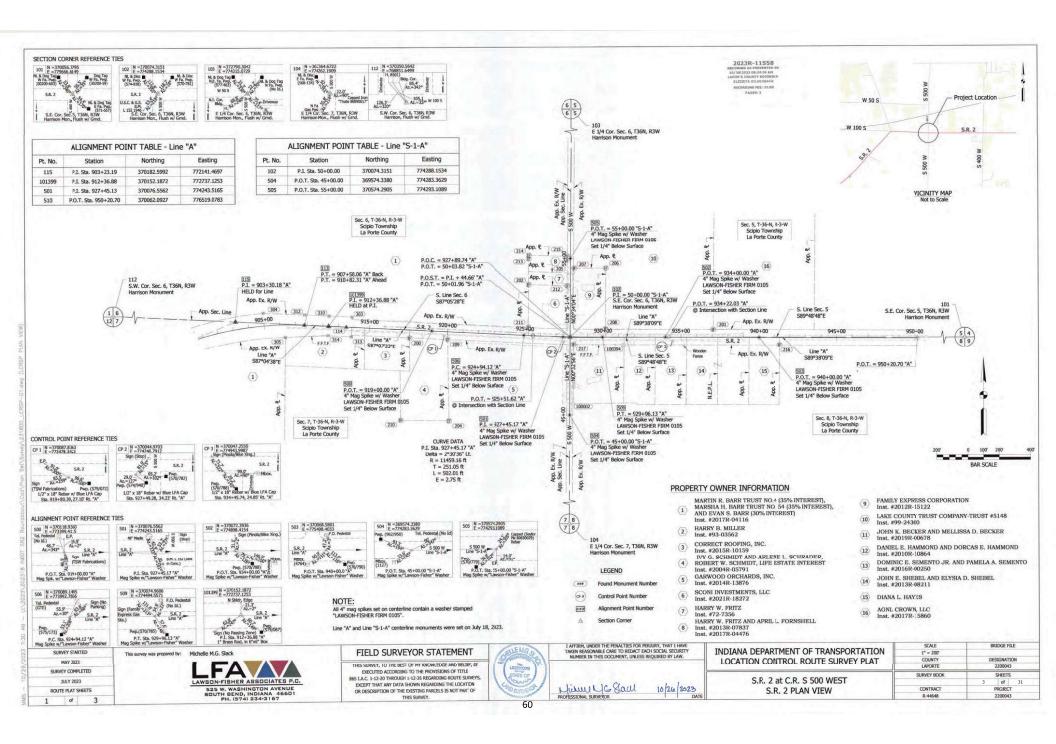
INDIANA 811 1-800-382-5544 OR CALL 811 24 HOURS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK

Note: Utility locations are shown based upon information (maps and paint marks) supplied by others, and there is not guarantee of the accuracy or completeness of said locations.

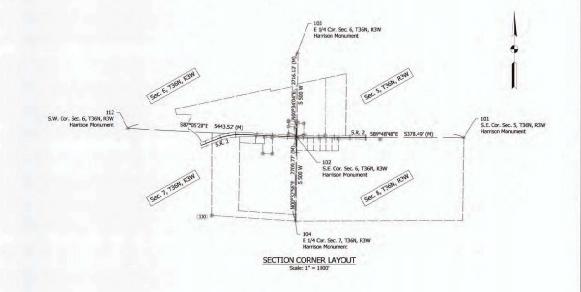
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1	RECOMMENDED	INDIANA		
	FOR APPROVAL	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		DESIGNATION
١	DESIGN ENGINEER DATE			2200043
١			SURVEY BOOK	SHEETS
١	DESIGNED: JDD DRAWN: GDH	INDEX AND GENERAL NOTES		2 of 31
١	CHECKED: DGA CHECKED: DGA	1	CONTRACT	PROJECT
1	CHECKED: DGA CHECKED: DGA		R-44648	2200043



Pt. No.	Northing	Easting	Station, Offset	Description
202	370409.4912	774024.7484	53+32.55, 266.71' Lt.	1/2" Pipe // Flush // Good Cond.
204	369539.8362	773505.5854	N/A	5/8" Rebar - // 6" Below // Good Cond.
205	370564.2847	774273.3068	54+89.80, 19.70' Lt.	5/8" Rebar - // Fush // Good Cond.
206	370511.6385	774518.2648	54+39.58, 225.77 Rt.	5/8" Rebar // 2" Below // Good Cond.
207	370512.5029	774317.1805	54+38.45, 24.68' Rt.	Capped Rebar - Illegible // 1" Below // Good Cond.
210	369545.2517	773197.1628	N/A	Capped Rebar - Kell S0125 // 1" Below // Good Cond.
212	370400.7782	774271.6161	53+26.28, 19.77' Lt.	Capped Rebar - Saylor 80830029 // Flush // Good Cond.
213	370573.7387	774026.4020	54+96.80, 266.69 Lt.	Capped Rebar - Saylor 8088)29 // L" Below // Good Cond
214	370595.7578	774026.7021	55+18.83, 266.61' Lt.	Capped Reber - Saylor 8088029 // Flush // Good Cond.
215	370588.2234	774273.4692	55+13.74, 19.78' Lt.	Capped Rebar - Saylor 8088029 // Flush // Good Cond.
217	370027.96:1	774307.7648	49+53.84, 20.05' Rt.	Capped Rebar - Thate 80890017 // 6" Above // Good Cond
100002	369646.4888	774305.2523	45+72.36, 21.20' Rt.	Post 6" Wooden



	LEGEND	INDOT	Indiana Department of Transportation	P.O.C.	Point on Curve
	Centerline Monument	Inst.	Instrument	P.O.S.T.	Point on Semi-Tangent
D	Post	LFA	Lawson-Fisher Associates	P.O.T.	Point on Tangent
Œ	Property Corner Found	Lt.	Left	Pt. No.	Point Number
App.	Apparent	м	Measured	Pwp.	Power Pole
Az.	Azimuth	Moox.	Mailbox	R/W	Right-of-Way
Bldg.	Building	Nkr.	Marker	R	Range
B.M.	Benchmark	NI.	Nal	Rt	Right
Cor.	Corner	N	North	Sec.	Section
CR	County Road	N.E.	Northeast	S.E.	Southeast
E	East		No Evicence of Property	S	South
EP.	Edge of Pavement	N.E.P.L.	Line	S.R.	State Route
Ex.	Existing	N.W.	Northwest	Sta.	Station
Fa.	Face	R	Property Line	S.W.	Southwest
F.F.T.F.	Farm Field Type Fence	P.C.	Pont of Curvature	т	Township
F.O.	Fiber Optic	P.I.	Point of Intersection	Tel.	Telephone
Gmd.	Ground	P.T.	Point of Tangency	w	West

SU	RVEY START	ED	T
	MAY 2023		
SUR	VEY COMPLE	TED	
	JULY 2023		
ROU	TE PLAT SHI	ES	
2	1	2	

This survey was prepared by: Michelle M.G. Slack



FIELD SURVEYOR STATEMENT

THIS SURVEY, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELLEF, IS BECUTTED ACCIDENTS TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 865 EAC 11-22 OF TRISCUE 11-22 REGARDING ROUTE SURVEYS, EXCEPT THAT ANY DATA SHOWN REGARDING THE LIDCATION OR DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING PRACE IS NOT PART OF THIS SURVEY.



	UNDER THE PENALTIES FOR PERJURY, THAT I HAVE
	ASONABLE CARE TO REDACT EACH SOCIAL SECURIT
NUMBE	R IN THIS DOCUMENT, UNLESS REQUIRED BY LAW.

Michael 46 Stall to 26 2023
PROCESSIONAL SIMPTOR
DATE

TAIDTANA DEDARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	SCALE	
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	1' = 1(0C	
LOCATION CONTROL ROUTE SURVEY PLAT	COUNTY	
	LAPORTE	
S.R. 2 at C.R. S 500 WEST	SURVEY BOOK	
SECTION CORNER LAYOUT & POINT TABLES	CONTRACT	
	9.44619	

61

BRIDGE FILE

DESIGNATION

SHEETS
4 of PROJECT

2200043

#### SURVEYOR'S REPORT for S.R. 2 and C.R. S. 500 W Intersection Survey started: May 2023 Survey completed: July 2023

This project is located at the intersection of S.R. 2 with C.R. S. 500 W, 5.8 miles east of junction with U.S. 421 and 4.6 miles west of junction with U.S. 35. The survey limits fall within Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8, all in Township 36 North, Range 3 West, Scpio Township, La Porte County, Indiana.

The purpose of this survey is to collect data pertinent for the design of a roundabout and to provide a basis for describing any right-of-way needed for this project. This survey was completed for Indiana Department of Transportation. It is not a property retracement survey. Where title lines or survey/title corners are shown, their location is based on physical evidence, testimony, or minimal deed analysis. Section corners shown are based on found monumentation and records provided by the La Porte County Recorder's Office and the La Porte County Surveyor's Office, unless otherwise noted.

Documents used in the creation of this route survey plat:

- State of Indiana State Highway Commission Plan and Profile of Proposed State Highway, Federal Aid Project No. 17 Section "D", dated 1920.
- 2. Location Control Route Survey, recorded in Instrument 2008R-16007, La Porte County Records.
- 3. Indiana Department of Transportation Right-of-Way Plans, SR 2 Realignm Forrester Road and CR 100S, Project Nc. STP-206-3 (004) R/W, R/W Code 4418, Des. No. 0014450 dated 2009.
- 4. Inciana Department of Transportation Road Plans, SR 2 Realignment at Forrester Road and CR 100S, Project No. STP-206-3 (004) CONST., dated 03/05/2010.
- 5. Survey by Keil & Associates, Inc., dated 03/28/1995 and recorded in Instrument
- Survey by Keil & Associates, Inc., clated 09/22/1999 and recorded in Instrument 99-21288.
- 7. Un-recorded survey by R. Edward Carnes, dated 12/10/1993, provided by La Forte County Surveyor's Office.
- Survey by McMahon Engineers/Architects, dated 10/11/2012 and recorded in Instrument 2013R-02346.
- 9. Survey by Saylor Land Surveying, Inc., dated 03/13/2017 and recorded in ument 2017R-04042.
- 10. Un-recorded survey by Earl L. Alexander, dated 06/10/1949, provided by La Porte County Surveyor's Office
- 11. Survey by John A. Doyle & Associates, Inc., dated 10/17/2014 and recorded in Instrument 2014R-39517.
- 12. Survey by Keil & Associates, Inc., dated 04/20/2011 and recorded in Instrument
- Un-recorded survey by Thate Land Surveying Services, dated 12/23/2003 provided by La Forte County Surveyor's Office.

#### HORIZONTAL CONTROL

Unless noted otherwise, all bearings, distances, areas, and coordinates shown hereon are Unies noted duriewise, an Deanings, distincts, directly, and solve the Indiana Geospatial Coordinate System's (InGCS) "LaPorte" zone per NAD 83 (2011) exoch 2010.00 and are reported in U.S. Survey Feet and decimal parts thereof. The "LaPorte," "Pulaski," and "Starke" zones have identical parameters. These zones were developed to minimize the differences between ground-measured horizontal distances and the corresponding grid coordinate (map) distances within the counties bearing these zones'

#### InGCS "LaPorte" Zone Parameters

NAD 83(2011) epoch 2010.00 Geometric Datum: Projection Type: Transverse Mercator Central Meridan: 86°45'00" was: longitude 1.000027 Central Meridian scale factor: 40°54'00" north lattude Latitude of Grid Origin: 36,000.000 m (118,110.00 U.S.F:) False Northing: 240,000.000 m (787,400.00 U.S.Ft) False Easting:

The horizontal datum was established by Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) Real Time Kirrematic (RTK) observations utilizing the Trimble Virtual Reference Station Now Network (TVN) as the correction source. Vertical site calibration of +0.249 feet was applied to match National Geodetic Survey (NGS) Bench Mark L 152.

Coordinates are shown to four decimal places, not to indicate the accuracy of the survey, Coordinates are shown to bour decimal piaces, incut in studies to execute or use array, but to provide repetability of calculation. English units (U.S. Survey Fee) are used for this survey. Bearings are derived from InGCS Coordinate System. Control point numbers are actual field survey point numbers used for control and topographr. The relative positional accuracy of this survey meets the requirements for an urban survey (0.07, plus 50 parts per million) and does not exceed five-tenths (0.5) feet.

#### ALIGNMENTS

#### Line "A"

Line "A" has been roughly established based on the above referenced 1920 plans. There is ambiguity between the 1920-dated plan set and what is built on the ground today. Not only is there a discrepancy between documents of record, but there is also a visible discrepancy between what was planned in 1920 and the improvements that exist today.

- On the 1920 plans, right-of-way is graphically depicted and labeled 30' each sided of the centerline. 1920 right-of-way grants were not provided by INDOT and a quick search of county records did not reveal any either. There are Right-of-Way Grants dated 1939 that acquired right-of-way 50° each side of the centerline. This indicates that there should be an additional plan set beyond 1920, or the 1920 plans were updated further and used to acquire additional r/w in 1939. Any updates to plans could possibly call for a revision of the centerline alignment.
- The curve located and described at PI 926+00.00 in the 1920 plans does not fit the current improvements that are located at the intersection of CR 500. The radiu shown at this curve is half the length of what it should be based on the degree of
- The curve located and described at PI 890+87.75 in the 1920 plans calls for an 18° degree of curve. There is a 1932 right-of-way grant that notes "Additional right of way needed to change an eighteen (18) degree curve to a ten (10) degree curve". This right-of-way was acquired at 40' from centerline in 1932. From that same property owner, there is a 1939 grant that acquires 50' from centerine. The 1920 plans show and label t at 30' from centerline.

Based on the above discrepancies, it can be presumed that the centerline alignment has been revised from the 1920 plans, particularly at the intersection of C.R. 500. In lieu of revised plan/purve data information, the tancent lines and curve data will be placed based on a best fit of the improvements.

The back targent extends into the 2010 project area where centerline monuments were found and located from that project. The 2010 plan set shows Line "PR-A" tring into Line Yalforn 1920. The bearing of the best fit of this tangent is within 10" of a line run between found morument #101399 (at P1 of 2010 plans) and section corner #102. The line between found monuments was held as the back targent. The fore tangent is a

These two tangents were intersected to establish the PI of the curve at #501. 1920 plan delta = 2°40', Measured delta = 2°30'36". The measured delta and an even degree curve of 0°30'00" was held to establish the curve. It appears from improvements that the curve is flatter than what was originally designed in 1920.

A 2010 plan station of 912+36.88 was held at found monument #101399 (Pf); all other stations were derived by linear measuremen

Theoretically, Line "A" is an original alignment and has no uncertainty. However Incorporation, Line: A is an original angument and has no uncertainty. However, uncertainty has been established with respect to the 1920 plans, but should be used for information only. Eased on the ciscrepancy information provided above, these comparisons do nothing to aid the reader in the accuracy of this survey. The uncertainty of Line 'A" with respect to the 1920 plans is as follows:

- · 11' in a north-south cirection, based on fore tangent not fitting centerline when holding plan curve delta.
- . 50' by stationing, in an east-west cirection, based on the location of section line compared to where it fell in 1920.

for this survey, we found several points from the 2010 project for the curve to the west of our project. The points have been shown and labeled in plan view

Line 'S-1-A" was established along the east lines of Sections 6 and 7 using section corner monuments found in the field. A station of 50+00 was held at the Southeast Corner of Section 6 (#102), which is the corner common to Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8. All other stations were derived by lirear measurements. This is an original alignment and therefore has no

#### SECTION CORNERS

#101 A Harrison Nonument was found flush at the Southeast Corner of Section 5, Township 36 North, Range 3 West. Monument was found based on corner record information provided by the La Porte County Surveyor's Office. Monument was found as described. Three of the four references were found to be in good condition and distances measure as called for. The uncertainty of this point with respect to the county corner record is estimated to be negligible.

#102 A Harrison Nonument was found in good condition flush with the surface at the Southeast Corner of Section 6, Township 36 North, Range 3 West. Monument was found based on corner record information provided by the La Porte County Surveyor's Office. More ment was found as described. Four of the six references were found to be in good condition and distances measure as called for. The uncertainty of this point with respect to the county corner record is estimated to be negligible.

≠103 A Harrison Monument was found in good condition flush with the surface at the East Quarter Corner of Section 6, Township 36 North, Range 3 West. Monument was found based on corner record information provided by the La Porte County Surveyor's Office.

Monument was found as described. All four references were found to be in good condition and distances measure as called for. The uncertainty of this point with respect to the county corner record is estimated to be negligible.

#104 A Harrison Monument was found in good condition flush with the surface at the East Quarter Corner of Section 7. Township 36 North, Range 3 West. Morument was found based on corner record information provided by the La Porte County Surveyor's Office. Monument was found as described. One of the four references was found to be in good condition and distances measure as called for. Two additional ties were set. The uncertainty of this point with respect to the county corner record is estimated to be

#112 A Harrison Monument was found flush at the Southwest Corner of Section 6, Township 36 North, Sange 3 West, Monument, was found based on corner record information provided by the La Porte County Surveyor's Office. Monument was found as described. Three of the of the four references were found to be in good condition and distances measure as called for. The uncertainty of this point with respect to the county corner record is estimated to be negligible.

#### EXISTING RIGHT-DF-WAY

The apparent existing right-of-way for S.R. 2 was established based on right-of-way grants provided by INDOT. As noted above, there appears to be a plan set missing beyond the 1920's plans. The grants are dated from the early 1930's and recorded in 1976. They consistently convey right-of-way 50' on each side of the centerline, which does not match what is shown in the 1920 plans. These right-of-way lines coincide with property irons found, fence lines and private improvements in the field.

#### LEGAL DRAIN

There are no legal drains in the survey area per LaPorte County records.

SURVEY STARTED This survey was prepared by: Michelle M.G. Slack NAY 2023

SURVEY COMPLETED THY 2023 ROUTE PLAT SHEETS of



#### FIELD SURVEYOR STATEMENT

THIS SURVEY, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, IS EXECUTED ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE

865 [A.C. 1-12-20 THROUGH 1-12-26 REGARDING ROUTE SURVEYS, EXCEPT THAT MAY DATA SHOWN REGARDING THE LOCATION OR DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING PARCELS IS NOT PART OF THIS SURVEY.



I AFFIRM, UNDER THE PENALTIES FOR PERJURY, THAT I HAVE TAKEN REASONABLE CARE TO REDACT EACH SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER IN THIS DOCUMENT, UNLESS REQUIRED BY LAW.

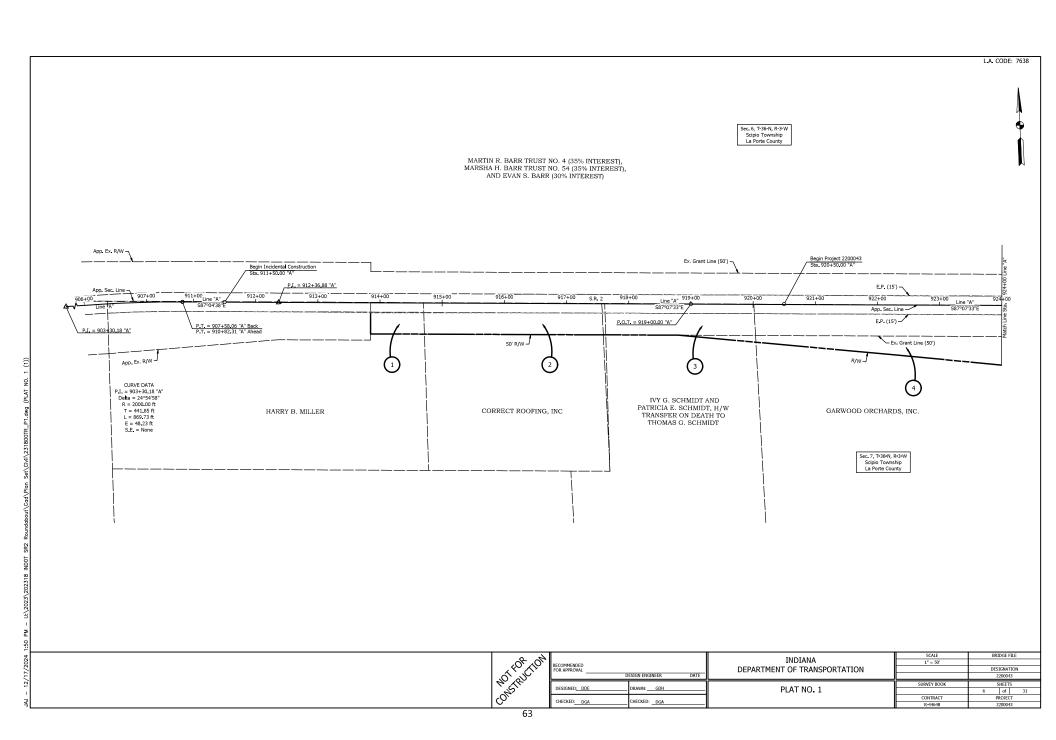
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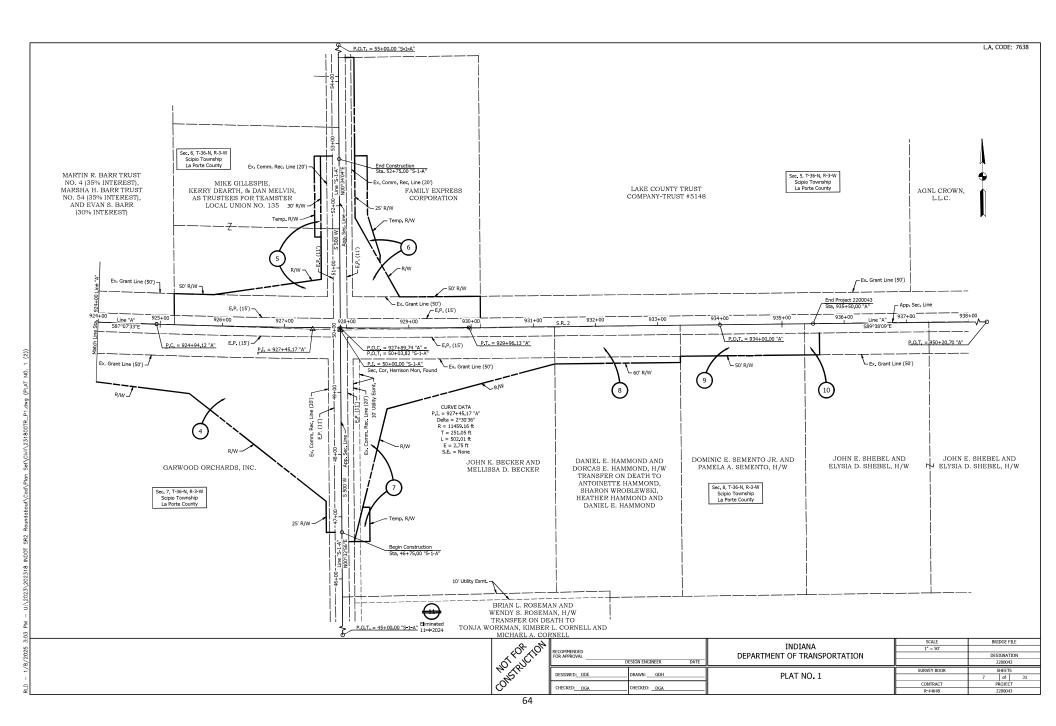
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S.R. 2 at C.R. S 500 WEST	

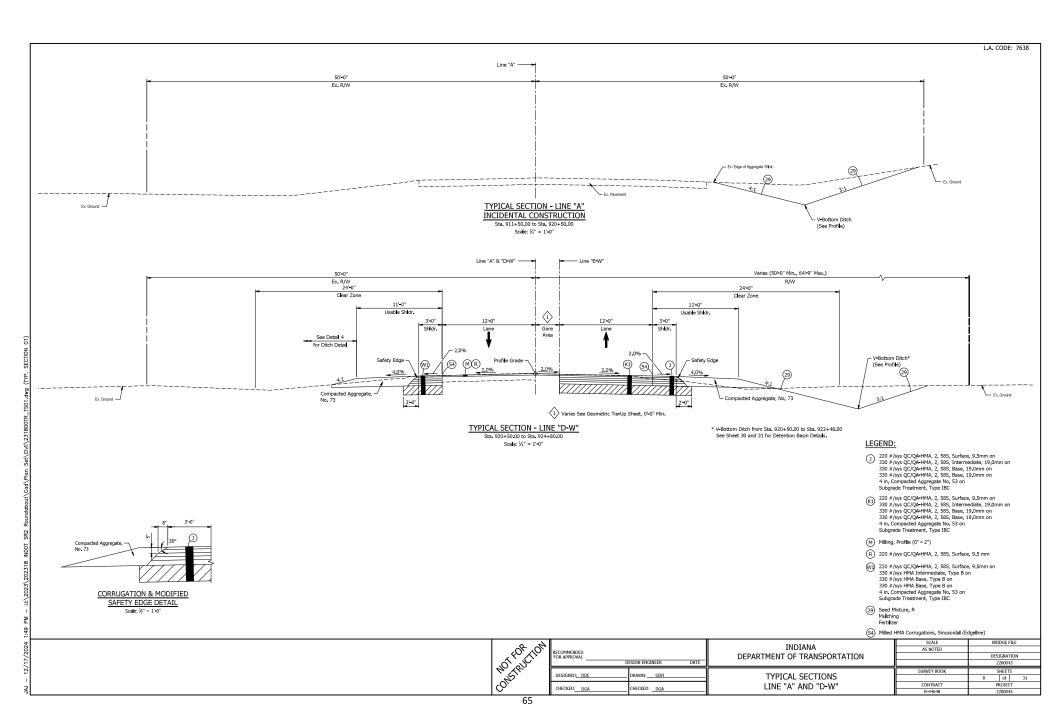
SURVEYOR'S REPORT

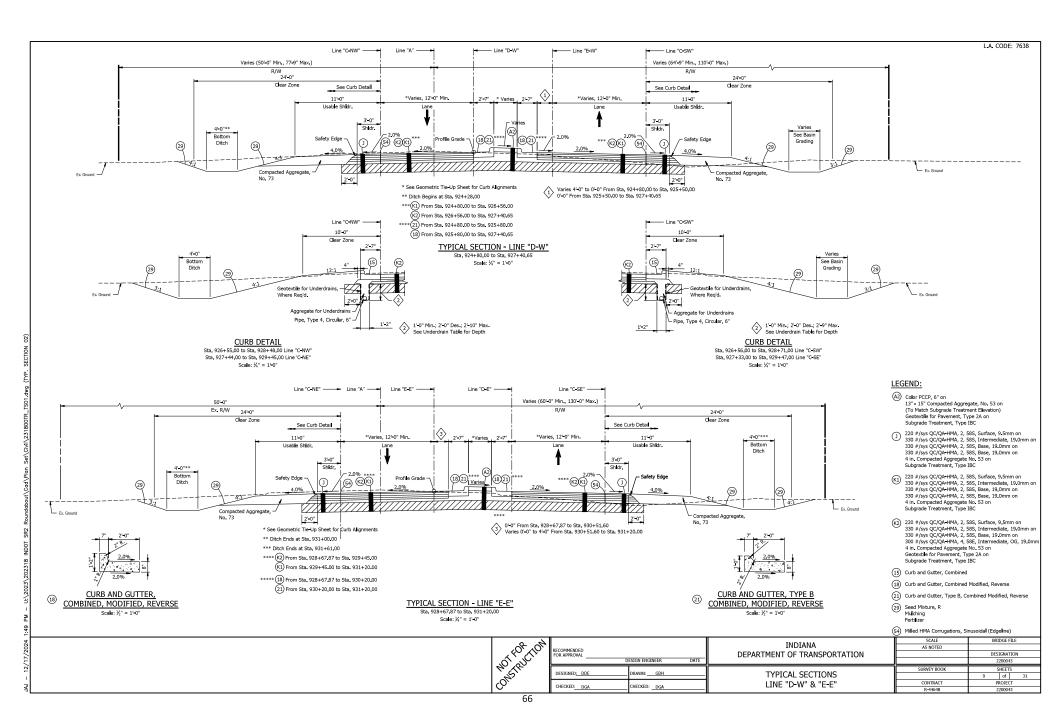
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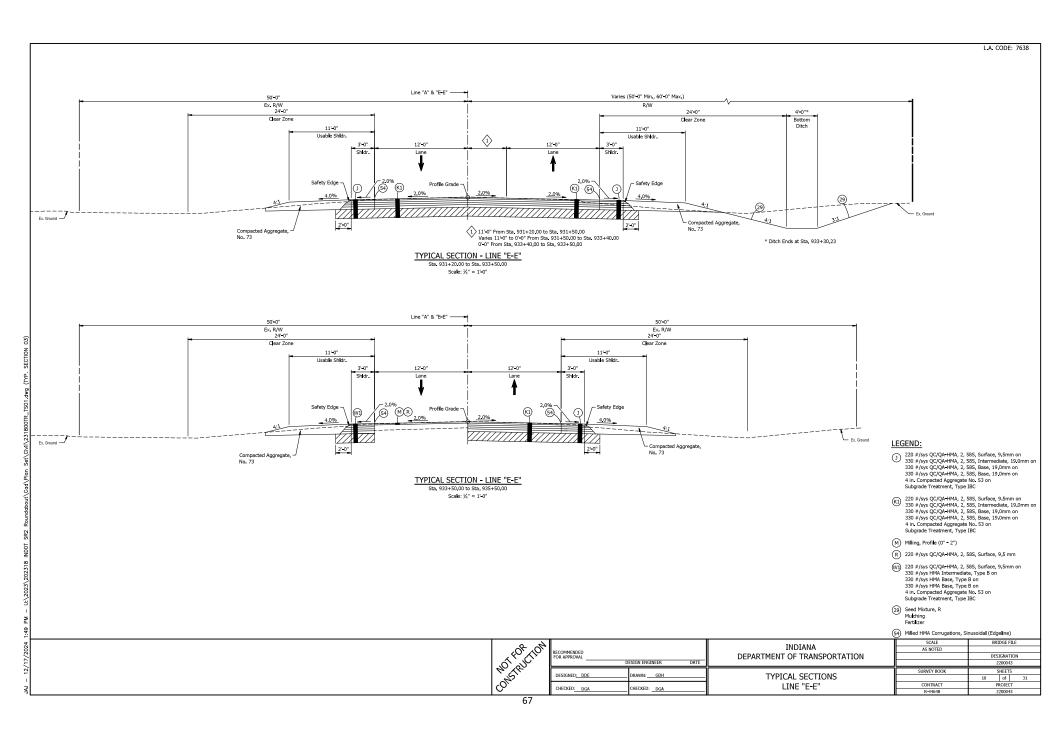
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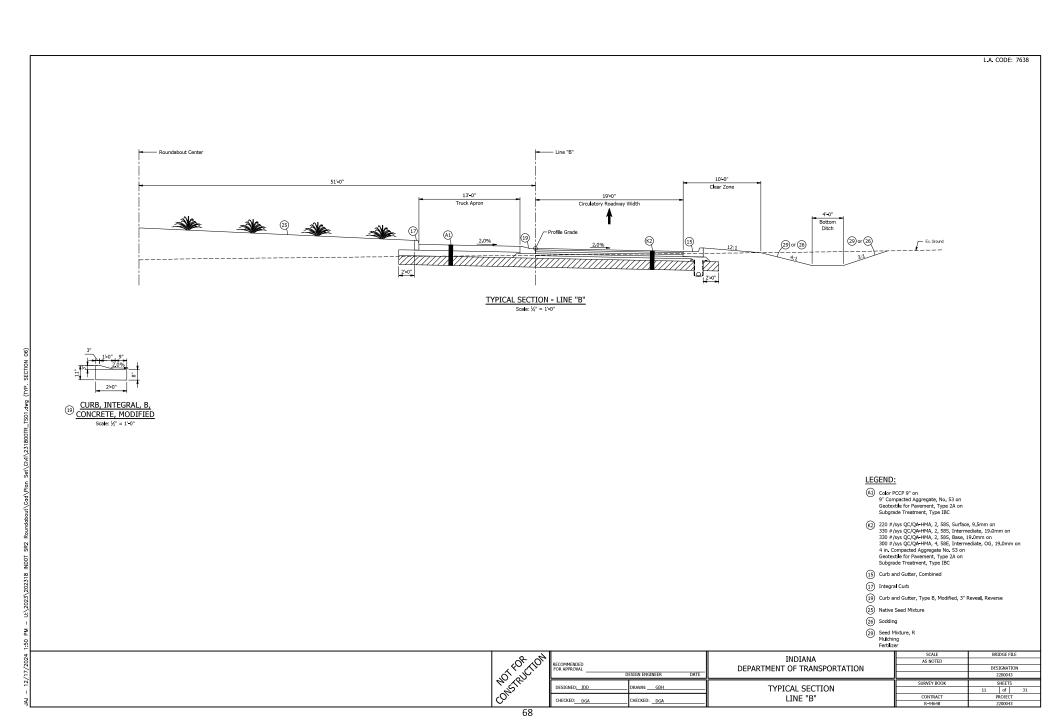


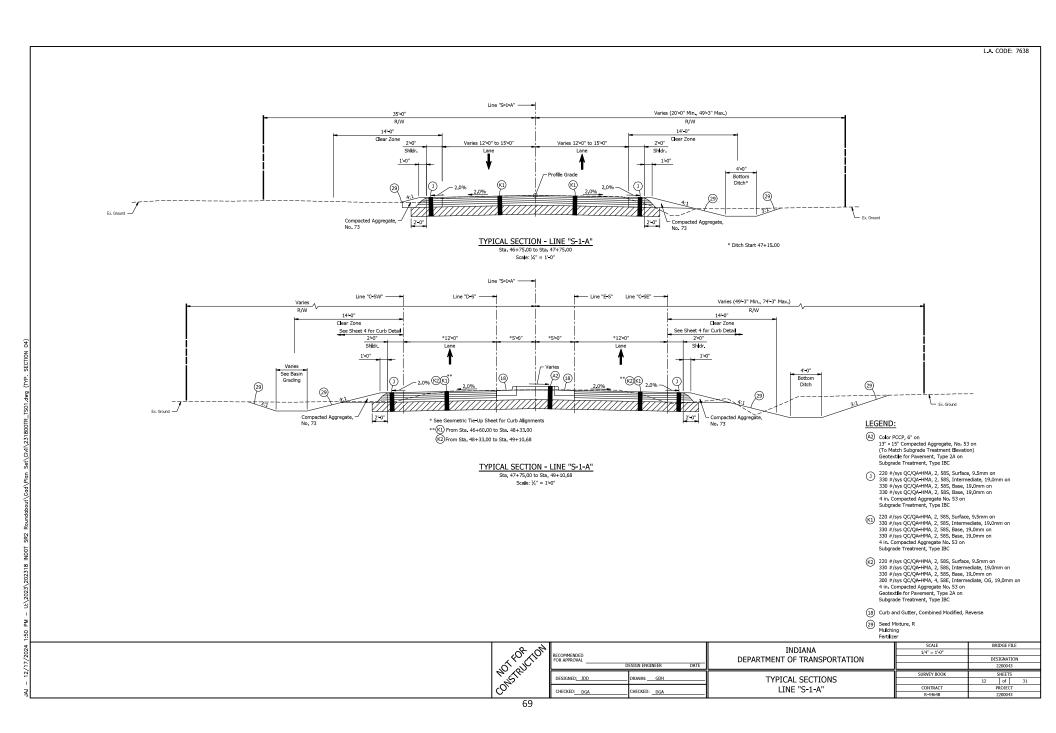


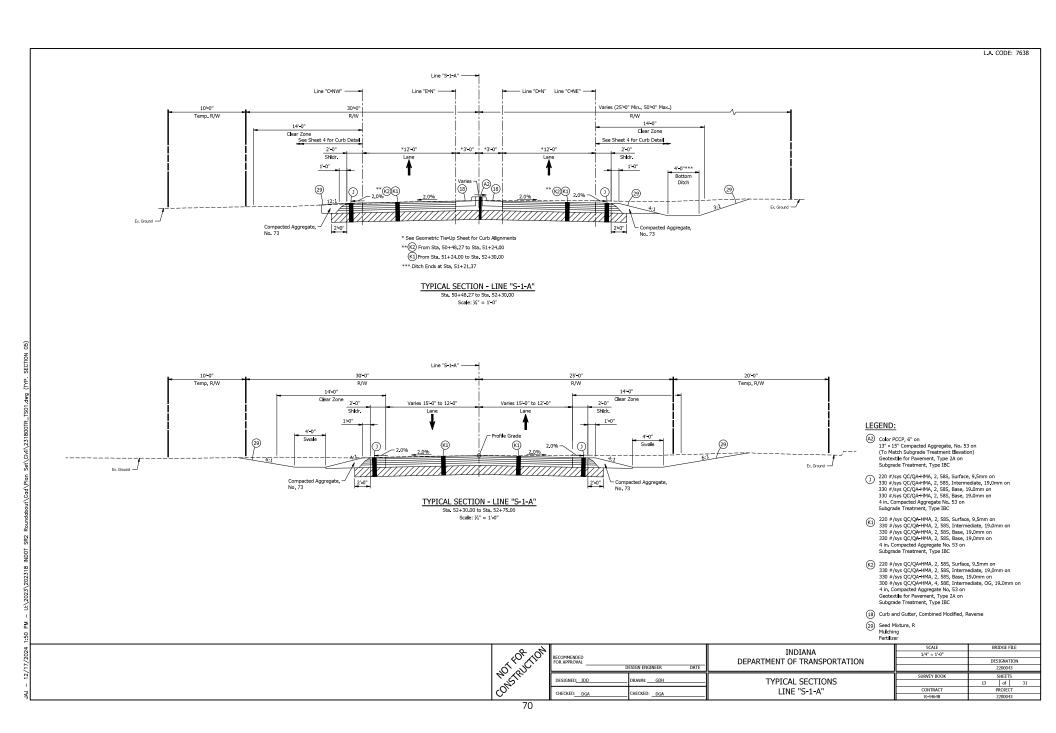


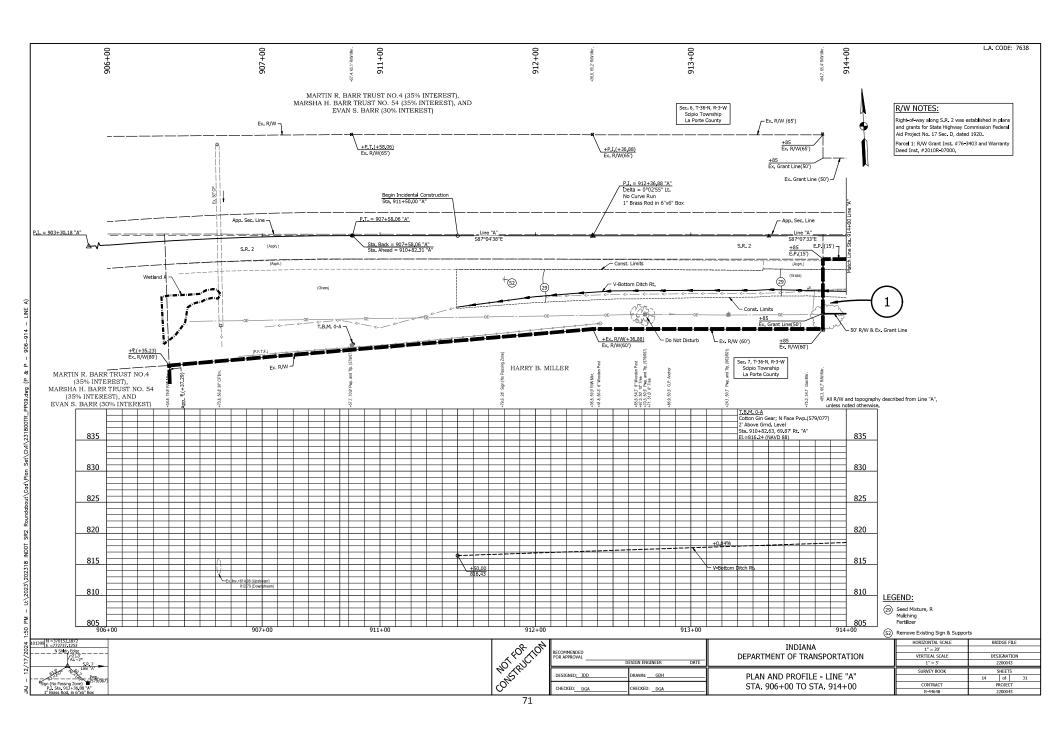


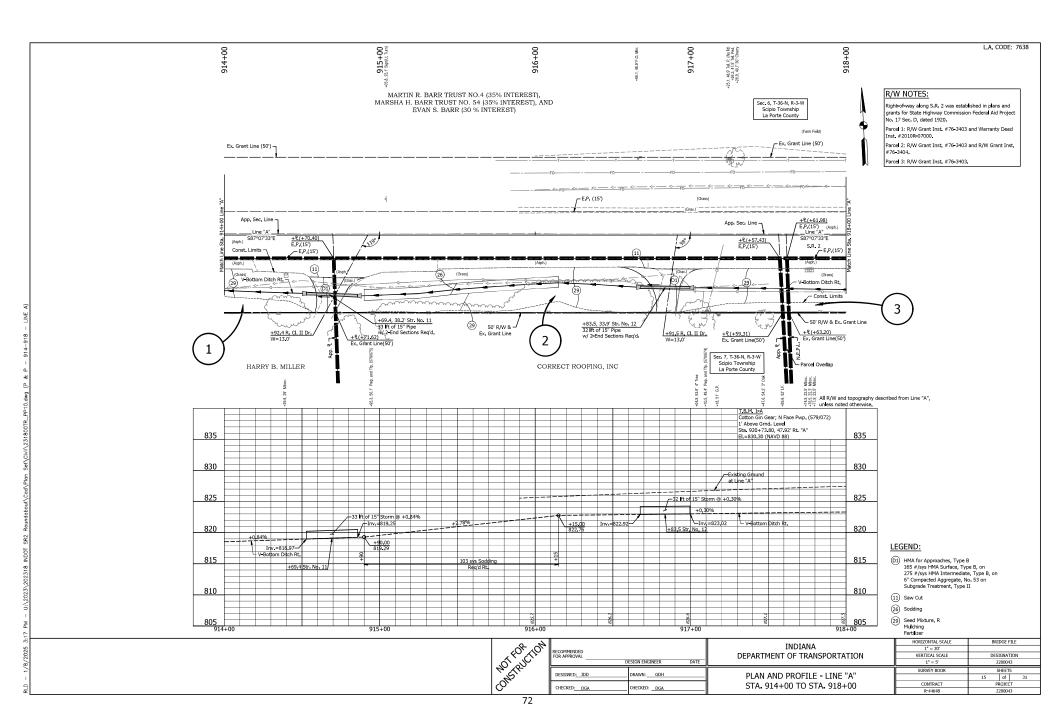


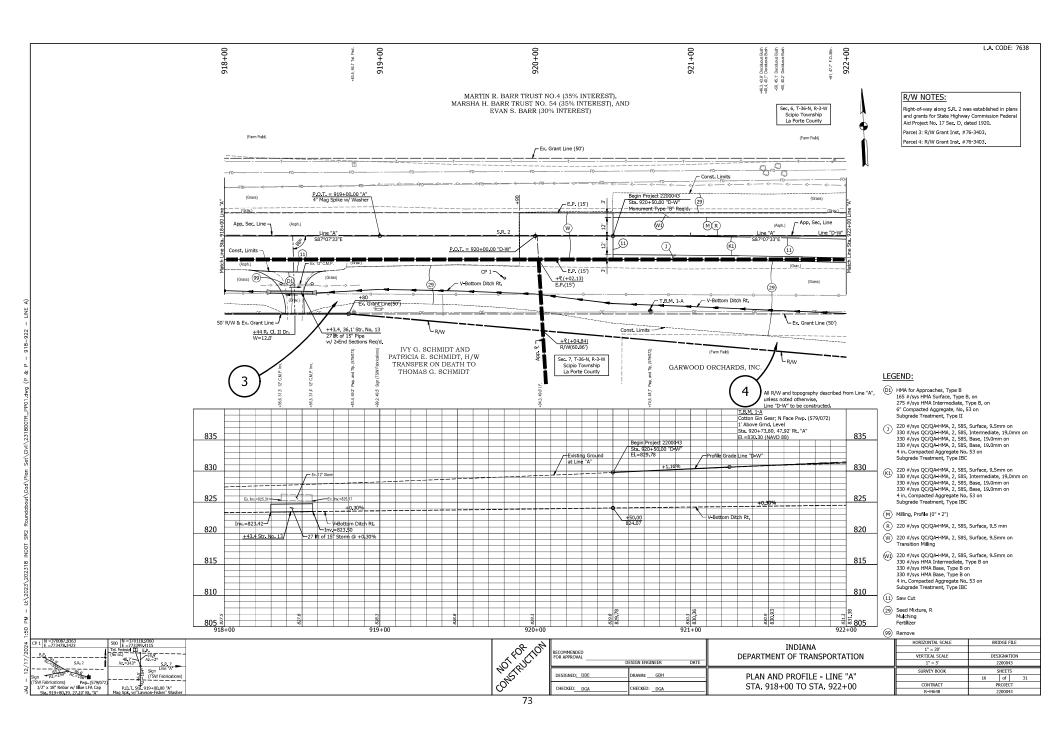


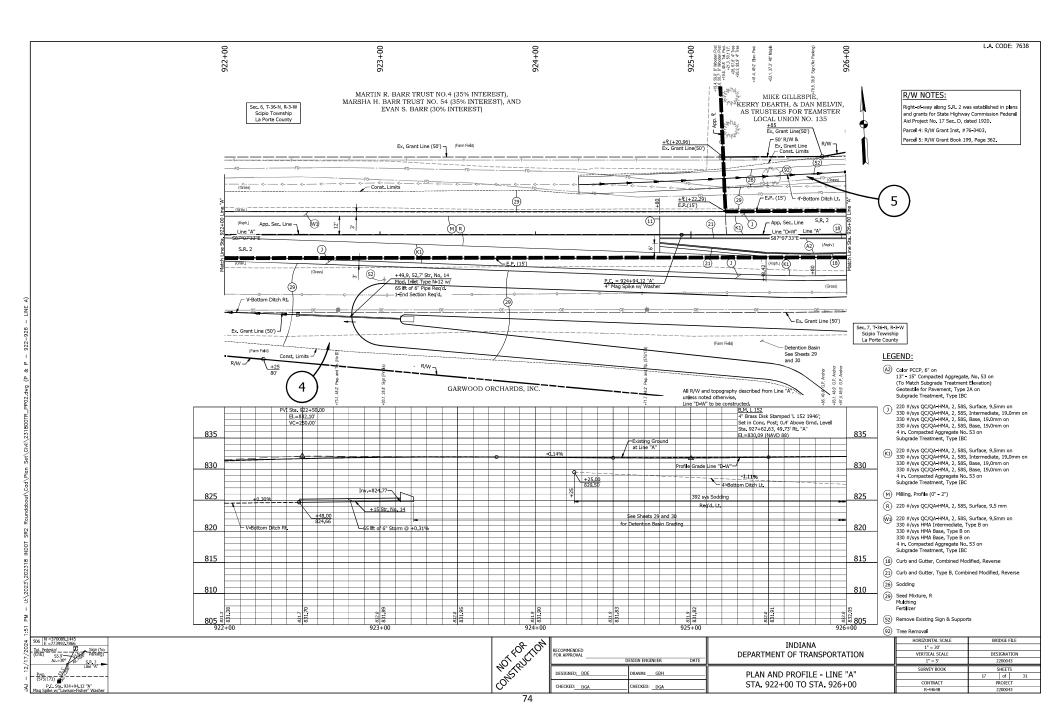


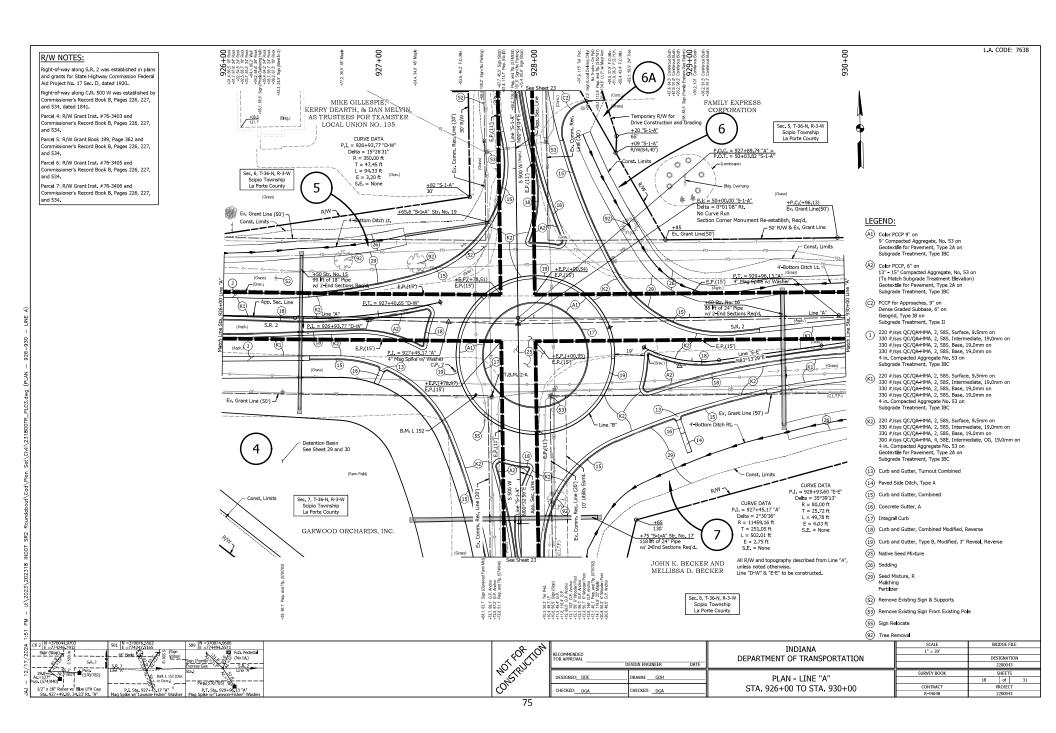


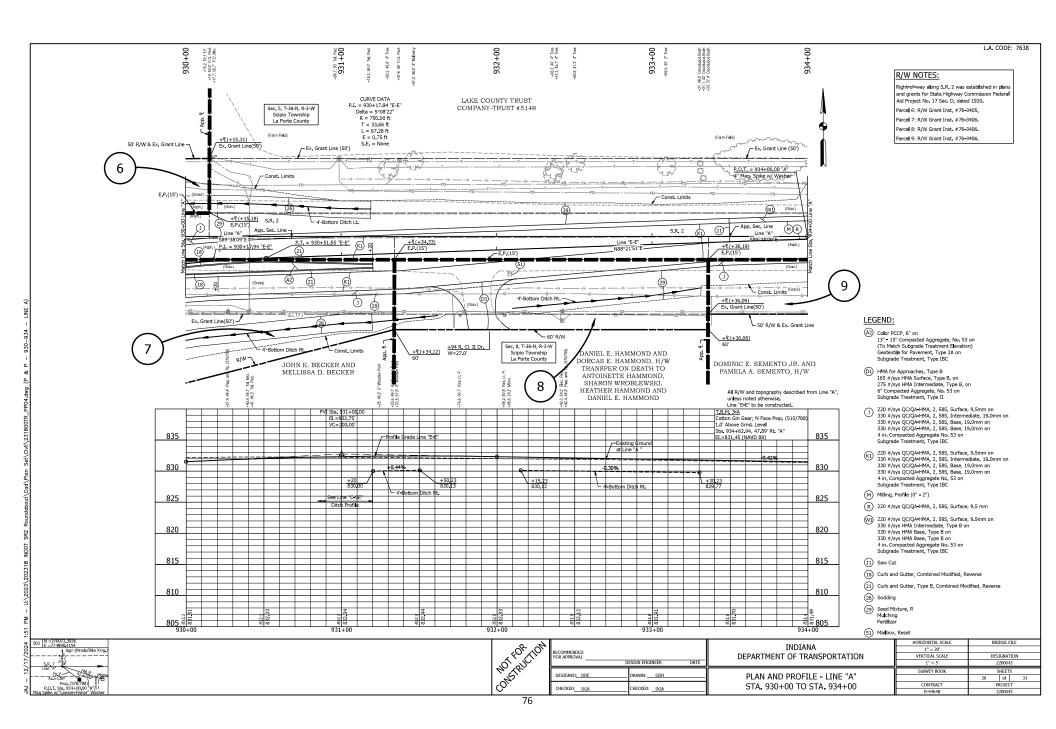


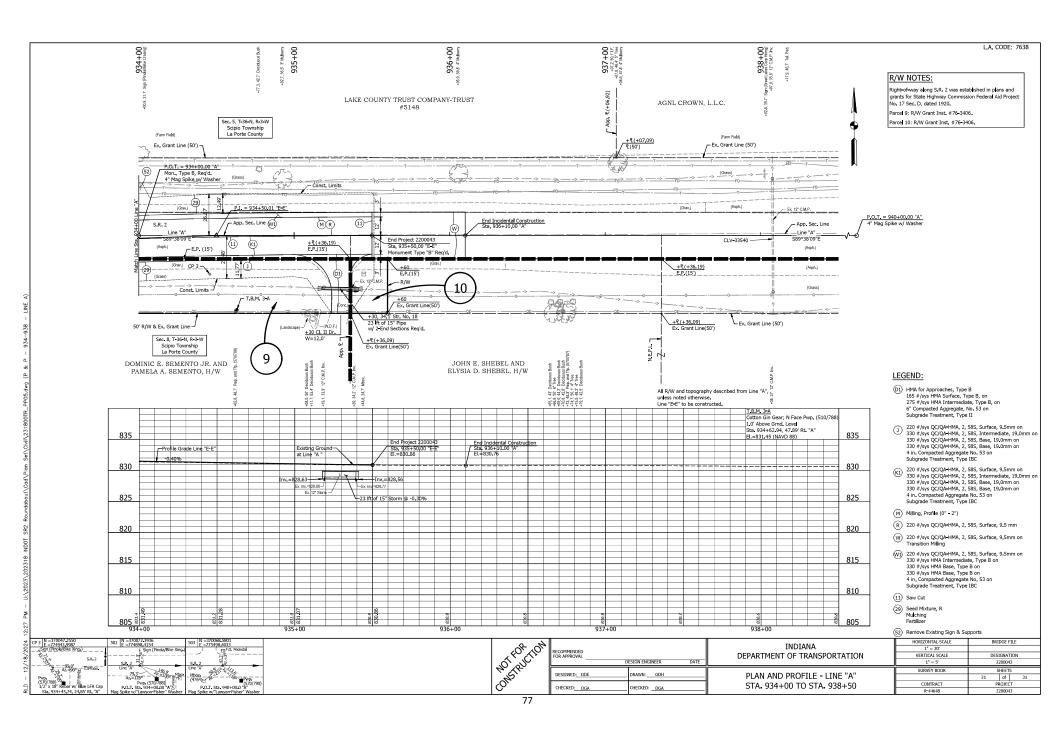


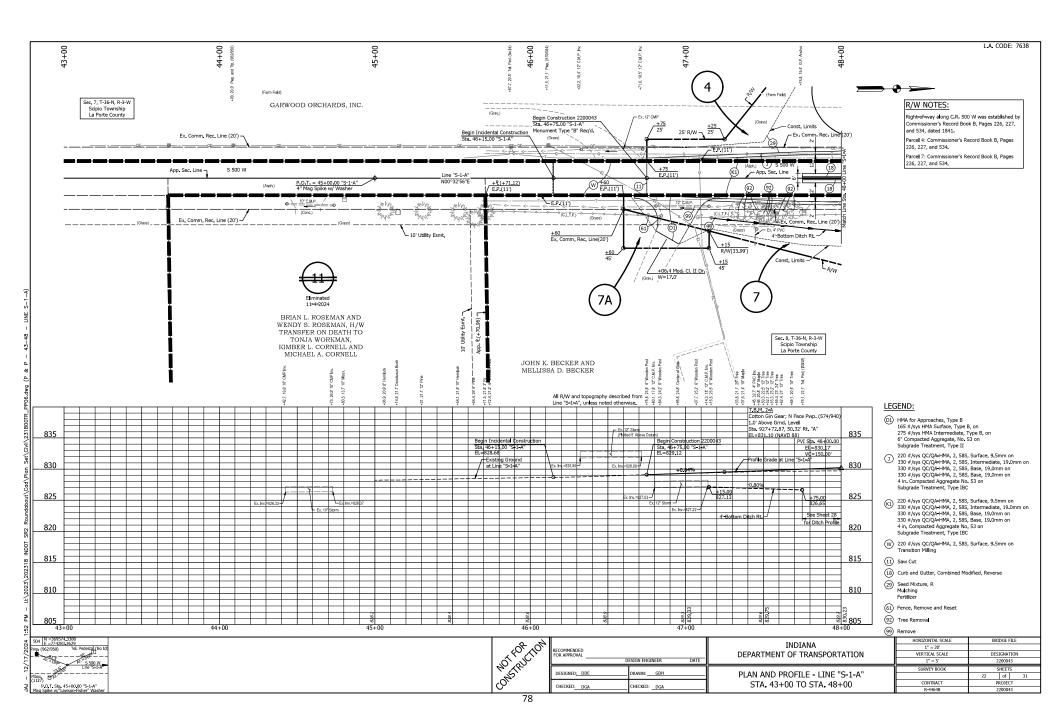


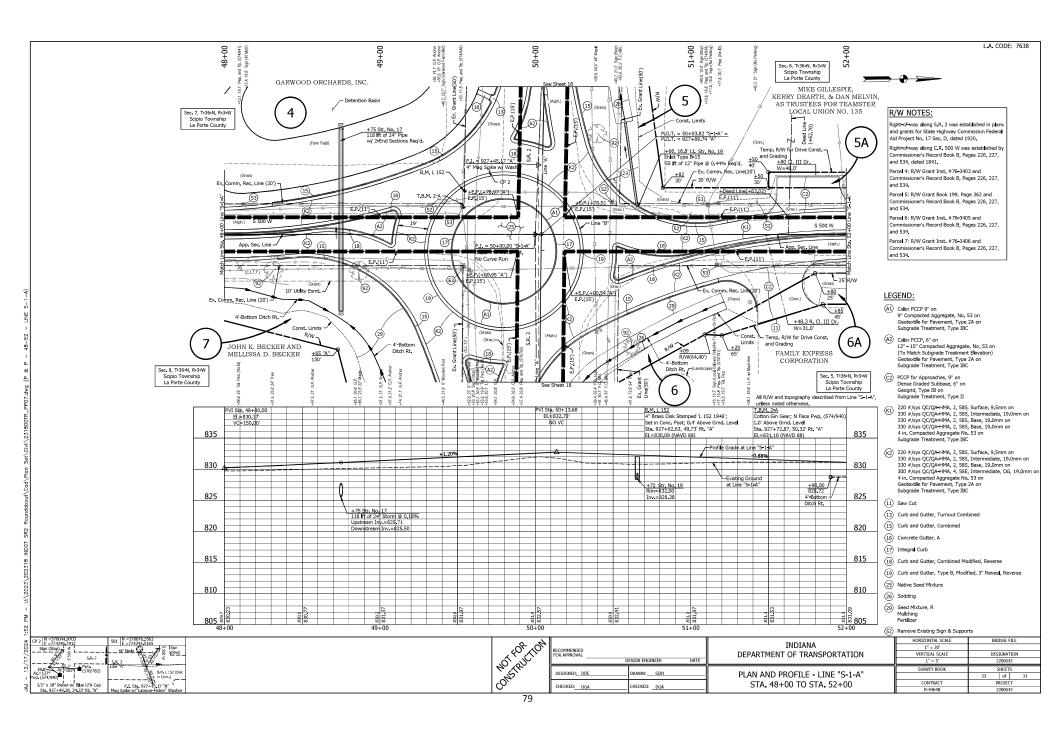


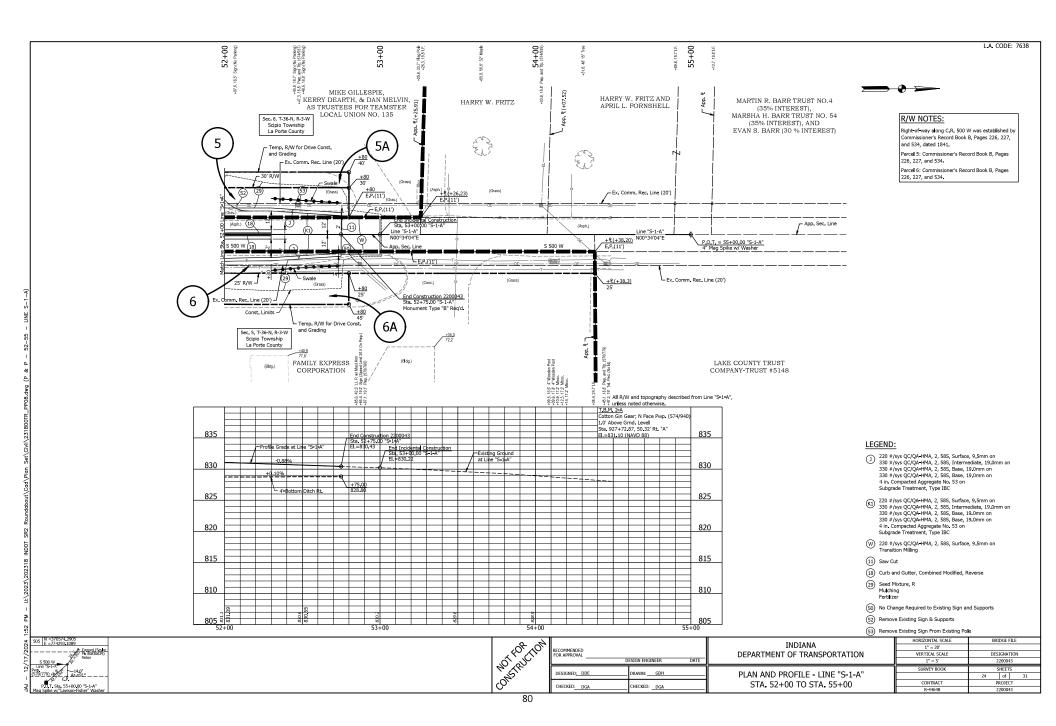


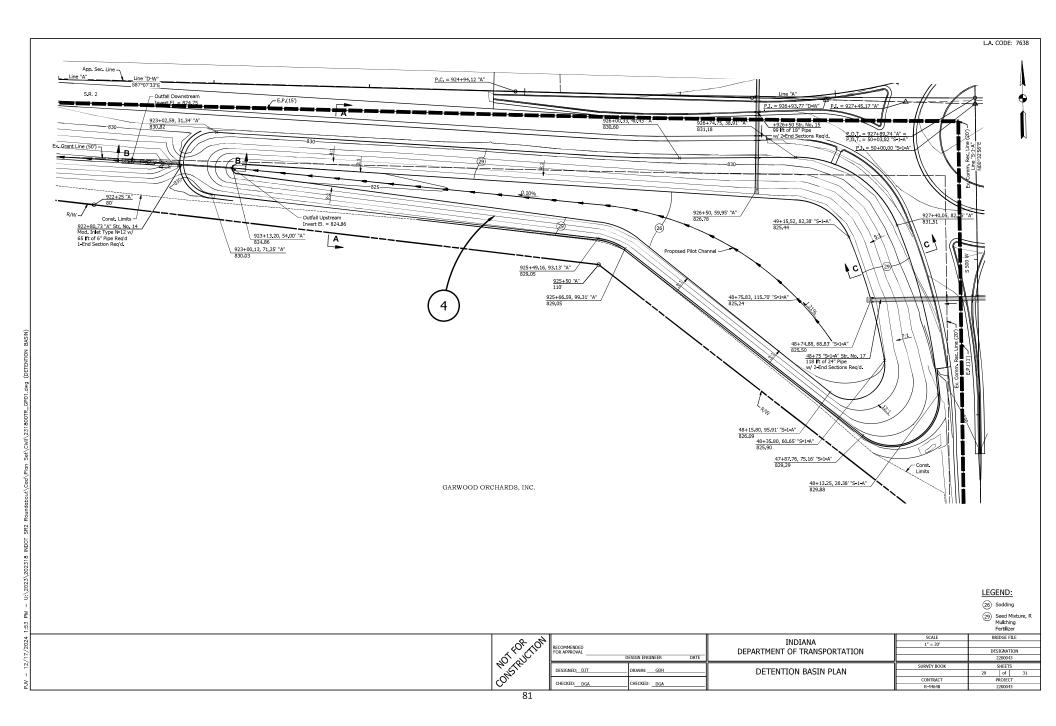


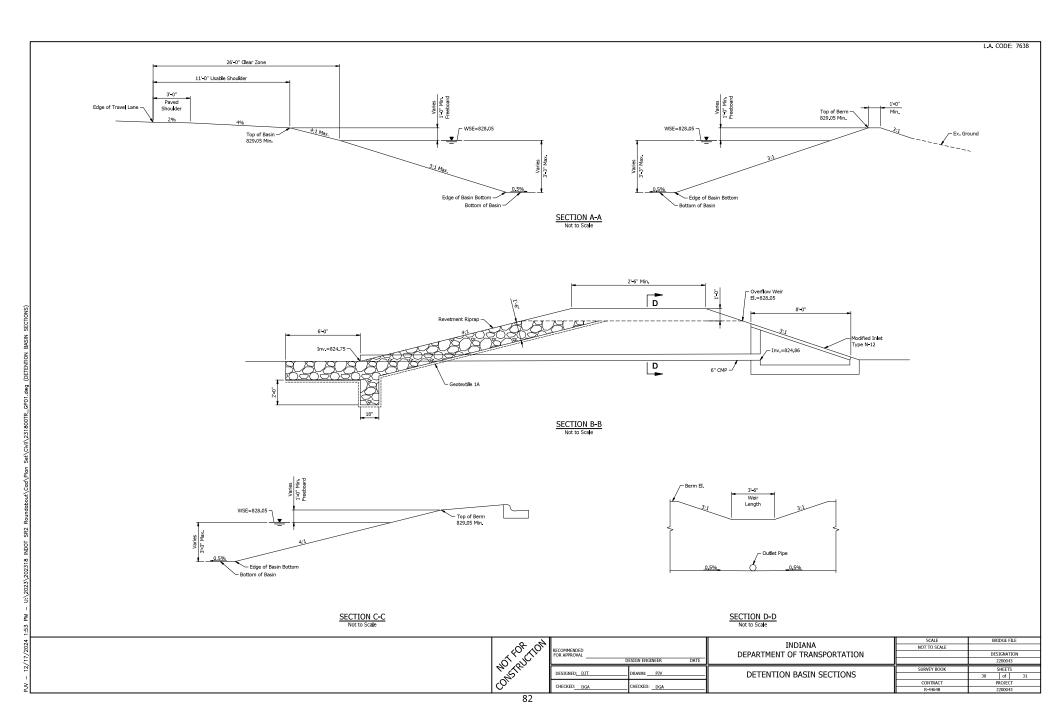












Appendix G. Affidavit of Publication and Public Notice

## **Affidavit of Publication**

STATE OF IN }
COUNTY OF LA PORTE }

SS

Meagan Hall, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Accounting Clerk of the La Porte County Herald Dispatch, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Michigan City, La Porte County, IN; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following

July 09, 2025

Publication Fees: \$52.61

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:

Subscribed to and sworn to me-this 9th day of July 2025.

Heather Purk, Notary Public 11/22/2030

HEATHER PURK NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF VAN BUREN

My Commission Expires November 22, 2030
Acting in the County of

70105571 71268161

Karen M Blake Metric Environmental 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250 Public Notice Des. No. 2200043

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT)is planning to undertake an intersection improvement project, funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration. The project is located at the intersection of State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West in LaPorte County, Indiana, southwest of the City of La Porte between United States Highway (US) 421 and US 35.

Under the preferred alternative, the proposed project will involve constructing a single-lane roundabout closely centered to the existing intersection with a truck apron. Along SR 2, the approach work is estimated to begin 1,640 feet west of CR 500 W and terminate approximately 760 feet east of CR 500 W. Along CR 500 W, the approach work is estimated to begin approximately 300 feet north of SR 2 and terminate approximately 435 feet south of SR 2. Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin to be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. Ancillary work involves removing existing trees along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, and installation of lighting within the project area. The anticipated amount of right-of-way acquisition is 2.020 permanent right-of-way and 3.619 acres of reacquired permanent rightof-way (totaling 5.639 acres), and 0.119 acre of temporary right-of-way. No relocations of properties are anticipated for this project.

The proposed action does not impact properties listed in or National Register of Historic Places. The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), on behalf of the FHWA, has issued a "No Historic Properties Affected" finding for the project due to the fact that no historic properties are present within the Area of Potential Effects (APE). In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the views of the public are being sought regarding the the proposed project on the historic elements as per 36 CFR 800.2(d), 800.3(e) and 800.6(a)(4). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the documentation specified in 36 CFR 800. 11(d)is available for inspection in Metric Environmental, LLC. Additionally, this documentation can be viewed electronically by accessing INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/ Section106Documents. This documentation serves as the basis for the "No Historic Properties Affected" finding. The views of the public on this effect finding are being sought. Please reply with any comments to Candace Hudziak of Metric Environmental, LLC (317-443-4123, candaceh@metricenv.com) no later than August 8, 2025.

In accordance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act", if you have a disability for which INDOTneeds to provide accessibility to the document(s) such as interpreters or readers, please contact Michael Grylewicz, at 219-325-7539 or mgrylewicz@ indot.in.gov.

hspaxlp

## APPENDIX E Red Flag and Hazardous Materials

# TO TRAINED TRAINED TO TRAINED TRAINED TRAINED TRAINED TRAINED TRAI

#### INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue Room N758-ES Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 PHONE: (855) 463-6848 (855) INDOT4U **Eric Holcomb, Governor Michael Smith, Commissioner** 

Date: March 7, 2024

To: Site Assessment & Management (SAM)

Environmental Policy Office - Environmental Services Division (ESD)

Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT)

100 N Senate Avenue, Room N758-ES

Indianapolis, IN 46204

From: Colin Keith

Metric Environmental, LLC 6958 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250 colink@metricenv.com

Re: RED FLAG INVESTIGATION

DES #2200043, State Project Intersection Improvement Project

State Route (SR) 2 at County Road (CR) 500 West, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39

LaPorte County, Indiana

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Brief Description of Project: The project is located at the junction of SR 2 and CR 500 West. SR 2 traffic at the intersection is free-flowing with stop signs posted for CR 500 West traffic. The intersection has a high frequency of car crashes, with the majority being right- and left-hand turns. Additionally, southbound CR 500 West experiences a high volume of traffic and long peak-hour delays. The goal of the project is to improve safety and reduce congestion at the intersection. The preferred alternative is to convert the intersection to a single-lane roundabout with a truck apron. The roundabout will be centered at the existing intersection to minimize property impacts, although additional right-of-way will be required. Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basin that will be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the junction. Ancillary work will include removing existing trees along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, and installing lighting.

Bridge Work Included in Project: Yes Alo X Structure #(s)

Curb and gutter will be installed within the limits of the roundabout to drain excess runoff into a new detention basir
that will be constructed in the southwest quadrant of the junction. Ancillary work will include removing existing trees
along the roadway, relocating overhead utilities, and installing lighting.
Bridge Work Included in Project: Yes 🗌 No 🗵 Structure #(s)
Is the bridge Historical? Yes $\square$ No $\square$ ; Select $\square$ Non-Select $\square$
(Note: If the project involves a <u>historical</u> bridge, please include the bridge information in the Recommendations
Section of the report).
Culvert Work Included in Project: Yes □ No ☒ Structure #(s)
Proposed right of way: Temporary $oxtimes$ #Acres $\underline{0.003}$ , Permanent $oxtimes$ #Acres $\underline{2.36}$ , Not Applicable (N/A) $oxtimes$
Type and proposed depth of excavation: Excavation up to five (5) feet below grade will be required for drainage
improvements and creating the detention basin.

1 | Page

Maintenance of traffic (MOT): Construction can be done while maintaining a minimum of one lane in each direction for
SR 2 traffic. A short closure of each leg of CR 500 West is anticipated in order to reconstruct each approach, with a detoui
route to be coordinated with county authorities.
Work in waterway: Yes □ No ☒ Below ordinary high water mark: Yes □ No □
State Project: ⊠ LPA: □
Any other factors influencing recommendations: N/A

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE TABLE AND SUMMARY**

Infrastructure Indicate the number of items of concern found within the 0.5 mile search radius. If there are no items, please indicate N/A:				
Religious Facilities	N/A	Recreational Facilities	N/A	
Airports <sup>1</sup>	1	Pipelines	2	
Cemeteries	N/A	Railroads	2	
Hospitals	N/A	Trails	1	
Schools	N/A	Managed Lands	N/A	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>In order to complete the required airport review, a review of public-use airports within 3.8 miles (20,000 feet) is required.

#### **Explanation:**

Airports: Although not located within the 0.5 mile search radius, one (1) public-use airport, LaPorte Municipal Airport, is located within 3.8 miles (20,000 feet) of the project area. LaPorte Municipal Airport is approximately 3.05 miles southeast of the project area; therefore, early coordination with INDOT Aviation will occur.

Pipelines: Two (2) pipeline segments are located within the 0.5 mile search radius. The nearest pipeline segment, a natural gas line owned by Northern Indiana Public Service Co., is approximately 0.12 mile north of the project area. No impact is expected.

Railroads: Two (2) railroad segments are located within the 0.5 mile search radius. The nearest railroad segment, an active track owned by Norfolk Southern Railroad, is approximately 0.24 mile north of the project area. No impact is expected.

Trails: One (1) trail segment is located within the 0.5 mile search radius. The trail segment, identified as *Porter County Line to LaPorte*, is a potential extension of the SR 2/Westville Trail Corridor that crosses through the project area. Coordination with the managing entity, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, will occur.

#### **WATER RESOURCES TABLE AND SUMMARY**

Water Resources Indicate the number of items of concern found within the 0.5 mile search radius. If there are no items, please indicate N/A:				
NWI – Points	N/A	Canal Routes – Historic	N/A	
Karst Springs	N/A	NWI – Wetlands	3	
Canal Structures – Historic	N/A	Lakes	1	
NPS NRI Listed	N/A	Floodplain – DFIRM	N/A	
NWI – Lines	N/A	Cave Entrance Density	N/A	
IDEM 303d Listed Streams and Lakes (Impaired)	N/A	Sinkhole Areas	N/A	
Rivers and Streams	N/A	Sinking-Stream Basins	N/A	

If unmapped water features are identified that might impact the project area, direct coordination with INDOT ESD Ecology and Waterway Permitting will occur.

#### Explanation:

NWI – Wetlands: Three (3) NWI wetland polygons are located within the 0.5 mile search radius. The nearest wetland polygon is approximately 0.07 mile north/northeast of the east end of the project area. No impact is expected.

Lakes: One (1) lake polygon is located within the 0.5 mile search radius. The lake polygon is approximately 0.08 mile north/northeast of the east end of the project area. No impact is expected.

#### **MINING AND MINERAL EXPLORATION TABLE AND SUMMARY**

Mining/Mineral Exploration Indicate the number of items of concern found within the 0.5 mile search radius. If there are no items, please indicate N/A:				
Petroleum Wells N/A Mineral Resources N/A				
Mines – Surface	N/A	Mines – Underground	N/A	

#### **Explanation:**

No mining or mineral exploration features were identified within the 0.5 mile search radius.

#### **HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CONCERNS TABLE AND SUMMARY**

#### Hazardous Material Concerns

Indicate the number of items of concern found within the 0.5 mile search radius. If there are no items, please indicate N/A:

Superfund	N/A	Manufactured Gas Plant Sites	N/A
RCRA Generator/ TSD	N/A	Open Dump Waste Sites	N/A
RCRA Corrective Action Sites	N/A	Restricted Waste Sites	N/A
State Cleanup Sites	N/A	Waste Transfer Stations	N/A
Septage Waste Sites	N/A	Tire Waste Sites	N/A
Underground Storage Tank (UST) Sites	1	Confined Feeding Operations (CFO)	N/A
Voluntary Remediation Program	N/A	Brownfields	N/A
Construction Demolition Waste	N/A	Institutional Controls	N/A
Solid Waste Landfill	N/A	NPDES Facilities	1
Infectious/Medical Waste Sites	N/A	NPDES Pipe Locations	N/A
Leaking Underground Storage (LUST) Sites	N/A	Notice of Contamination Sites	N/A

Unless otherwise noted, site specific details presented in this section were obtained from documents reviewed on the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Virtual File Cabinet (VFC).

#### Explanation:

Underground Storage Tank (UST) Sites: One (1) UST site is located within the 0.5 mile search radius. Pinola Porte (aka Family Express #59), 995 CR 500 W, AI ID #35631, is in the northeast quadrant of the intersection. IDEM conducted an Underground Storage Tank Inspection on February 2, 2021, and the facility was found to be in compliance with equipment, operating, and maintenance requirements set forth in Indiana's UST Rule 329 IAC 9. No impact is expected.

NPDES Facilities: One (1) NPDES facility is located within the 0.5 mile search radius. Scipio Township Fire Station, Permit #INRA09546, is mapped adjacent to the north of the project area; however, the fire station is physically located approximately 0.31 mile north of the project area. The permit status is effective, with an expiration date of June 6, 2027. No impact is expected.

#### **ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION SUMMARY**

The LaPorte County listing of the Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center information on endangered, threatened, or rare (ETR) species and high-quality natural communities is provided at <a href="https://www.in.gov/dnr/nature-preserves/files/np\_laporte.pdf">https://www.in.gov/dnr/nature-preserves/files/np\_laporte.pdf</a>. A preliminary review of the Indiana Natural Heritage Database by INDOT ESD did not indicate the presence of ETR species within the 0.5 mile search radius. Due to the nature of project activities, this project will fall under the guidelines set forth under USFWS Interim Policy for the Review of Highway Transportation Projects in Indiana dated May 29, 2013. No further coordination is necessary.

A review of the USFWS database did not indicate the presence of endangered bat species in or within 0.5 mile of the project area. The range-wide programmatic consultation for the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat will be completed according to the most recent "Using the USFWS's IPaC System for Listed Bat Consultation for INDOT Projects".

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS SECTION**

Include recommendations from each section. If there are no recommendations, please indicate N/A:

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

Airports: One (1) public-use airport, LaPorte Municipal Airport, is located approximately 3.05 miles southeast of the project area; therefore, early coordination with INDOT Aviation will occur.

Trails: One (1) trail segment, identified as *Porter County Line to LaPorte* (a potential extension of the SR 2/Westville Trail Corridor), crosses through the project area. Coordination with the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission will occur.

WATER RESOURCES: N/A

MINING/MINERAL EXPLORATION: N/A

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CONCERNS: N/A

ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION: The range-wide programmatic consultation for the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat will be completed according to the most recent "Using the USFWS's IPaC System for Listed Bat Consultation for INDOT Projects".

Shelby O'Neal Digitally signed by Shelby O'Neal Date: 2024.03.07 12:16:52

INDOT ESD concurrence: \_

\_(Signature)

Prepared by: Colin Keith Project Scientist Metric Environmental, LLC

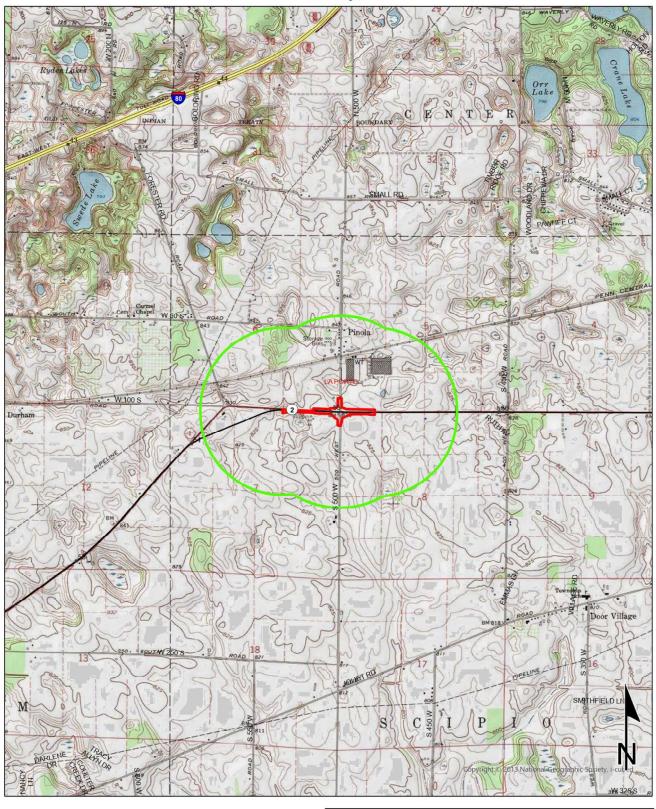
#### **Graphics:**

A map for each report section with a 0.5 mile search radius buffer around all project area(s) showing all items identified as possible items of concern is attached. If there is not a section map included, please change the YES to N/A:

SITE LOCATION: YES INFRASTRUCTURE: YES WATER RESOURCES: YES

MINING/MINERAL EXPLORATION: N/A HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CONCERNS: YES

### Red Flag Investigation - Site Location SR 2 at CR 500 West, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39 Des. No. 2200043, Intersection Improvement Project LaPorte County, Indiana



Sources: 0.45 0.23 0 0.45

Non Orthophotography

Data - Obtained from the State of Indiana Geographical
Information Office Library
Orthophotography - Obtained from Indiana Map Framework Data
(www.indianamap.org)
Map Projection: UTM Zone 16 N Map Datum: NAD83

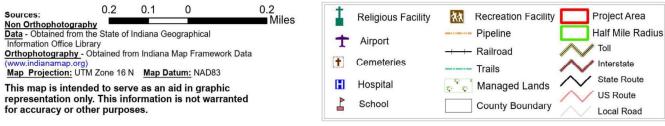
This map is intended to serve as an aid in graphic representation only. This information is not warranted

for accuracy or other purposes.

LAPORTE WEST QUADRANGLE INDIANA 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

#### Red Flag Investigation - Infrastructure SR 2 at CR 500 West, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39 Des. No. 2200043, Intersection Improvement Project LaPorte County, Indiana





#### Red Flag Investigation - Water Resources SR 2 at CR 500 West, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39 Des. No. 2200043, Intersection Improvement Project LaPorte County, Indiana



Non Orthophotography
Data - Obtained from the State of Indiana Geographical
Information Office Library
Orthophotography - Obtained from Indiana Map Framework Data
(www.indianamap.org)
Map Projection: UTM Zone 16 N Map Datum: NAD83
This map is intended to serve as an aid in graphic representation only. This information is not warranted for accuracy or other purposes.

#### Red Flag Investigation - Hazardous Material Concerns SR 2 at CR 500 West, 3.27 Miles West of SR 39 Des. No. 2200043, Intersection Improvement Project LaPorte County, Indiana





for accuracy or other purposes.

# **APPENDIX F Water Resources**



# WATERS OF THE U.S. DETERMINATION REPOT State Road 2 and County Road 500 West SR 2 Intersection Improvement LaPorte County, Indiana Des. No. 2200043 Prepared By: Seth Snyder, Metric Environmental, LLC March 5, 2024

Date of Waters Field Investigation: August 2, 2023

#### Location:

12-Digit HUC Watershed: 071200010406, (Headwaters Mill Creek) (**Exhibit 1**) Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8; Township 36 North; Range 3 West LaPorte West, IN 7.5 minute USGS Topographic Quadrangles (**Exhibit 2**) Scipio Township, LaPorte County, Indiana

Latitude: 41.591497 Longitude: -86.797925

#### **Project Description:**

The proposed project involves the improvements at the intersection of State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W), in Scipio Township, LaPorte County. The preferred alternative is to reconfigure the existing four-leg intersection into a roundabout. The Investigated Area (IA) will extend approximately 200 ft. from the center of the intersection within the southwest quadrant and 150 feet (ft.) from the center of the intersection within all other quadrants. Additionally, the investigated area will extend for approximately 350 ft. north and south along CR 500W, and 700 ft. east and west along SR 2, from the intersection.

#### **National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) Information:**

No mapped NWI polygons are located within the IA. The nearest mapped NWI polygon is located approximately 460 feet northeast of the IA. The NWI map is provided as **Exhibit 3**.

**Soils:** According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) Database for LaPorte County, Indiana, the IA contained five mapped soil units, listed in **Table 1** below. The NRCS soil survey map is provided as **Exhibit 3**.



**Table 1: NRCS Soil Summary Table** 

Soil Unit Symbol	Soil Unit Name	Hydric Soil Category	SSURGO Hydric Rating
ChB	Chelsea fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	0% Hydric
CoA	Coupee silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	0% Hydric
СоВ	Coupee silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	0% Hydric
EsA	Elston silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	0% Hydric
ТсВ	Tracy sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	0% Hydric

# Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Floodway and FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM):

According to the *IDNR Floodway Information Portal* on August 14, 2023, no mapped IDNR floodway is located within the IA. The nearest mapped IDNR floodway was located approximately 2.2 miles (mi.) southeast of the IA. No mapped floodplains are located within the investigated area. The nearest mapped floodplain was located approximately 2.4 miles (mi.) northeast of the IA and was associated with Stone Lake. The IDNR floodway map and FIRM map for this area is provided as **Exhibit 4**.

#### **USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) Information:**

Three mapped NHD flowlines are located within the IA. The NHD map is provided in **Exhibit 4**.

#### **Attached Documents:**

Maps of the Investigated Area (Exhibits 1-6)
Photograph Location Map (Exhibit 6)
Site Photographs
Wetland Determination Data Forms
Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Form
Wetland Summary Table

#### Field Reconnaissance:

The wetland determination field visit was conducted on August 2, 2023 by Zachary Root and Seth Snyder of Metric Environmental, LLC. The IA consists of the area that has the potential to be impacted, based on the provided design scenario. This area was evaluated for the presence of wetlands and Waters of the United States. This investigation was conducted in accordance with



the 1987 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wetland Delineation Manual and the January 2012 Northcentral and Northeast Regional Supplement (Version 2.0) Manual.

A Location Map showing the investigated area location is provided as **Exhibit 1**. The proposed project is located in the western half of LaPorte County, Indiana, on SR 2 approximately 0.8 mi. west of S 400 W. The IA extended along SR 2 for approximately 0.56 mi. and approximately 70 ft. from the SR 2 centerline. The IA extended along S 500 W for approximately 0.17 mi. An aerial map of sampling points and water features is provided as **Exhibit 5**. A photograph location map is provided as **Exhibit 6** and site photographs are attached.

#### **Streams:**

No streams were identified within the IA during the field reconnaissance.

#### Wetlands:

The site was investigated for evidence of hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soil, and wetland hydrology to determine if the project impacts wetlands and other Waters of U.S. The sampling point locations were chosen in possible wetland areas within the IA. The majority of the site consisted of residential lawn and row crop. These areas were investigated and determined to be upland due to upward sloping topography, the presence of dominant upland vegetation, and quality drainage. Dominant upland species observed within these upland areas included red mulberry (*Morus rubra*, FACU) in the tree stratum, and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*, FACU) and common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*, FACU) in the herb stratum. Two sampling points were taken and are identified as A1 and A2. One wetland was observed within the IA. The sampling points were recorded on the USACE Wetland Determination Data Forms, described on the Table 6 Wetland Summary Table, and shown on Exhibits 5 and 6.

#### Wetland A (0.012 ac.) - PEM1A

Wetland A was classified as a Palustrine, Emergent, Persistent, Temporarily Flooded (PEM1A) wetland. This wetland is located within a concave depression on the western edge of the IA. Approximately 0.012 ac. of Wetland A was contained within the IA and the wetland likely continued west beyond the IA. The boundaries of Wetland A were delineated by lack of wetland vegetation and increased elevation. Due to its location within the depression, Wetland A likely receives flood waters on a consistent basis during rain events. The wetland was not associated with an NWI polygon and was formed within the TcB mapped soil unit, which is listed as 0 percent hydric (nonhydric). The wetland is located adjacent to SR 2 and likely receives run-off from the adjacent paved road. The wetland exhibited poor plant species diversity and contained a dominant invasive species of reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*, FACW). These factors contribute to the conclusion that Wetland A can support a limited amount of wildlife or aquatic habitat and therefore should be considered to be of poor quality. Based on topography and



overland flow, it can be deduced that Wetland A does not contribute flow to a TNW. Because Wetland A does not contribute flow to a TNW, it should be considered a Waters of the State and will likely be regulated by the state under the Isolated Wetlands Law. However, INDOT requests that the USACE take jurisdiction over it.

#### **Roadside Ditches:**

Four roadside ditches (RSD) were identified within the IA as shown in **Table 3**. These features consisted of vegetated drainage swales consisting of red fescue (*Festuca rubra*, FACU). No OHWM and/or bed and bank was observed in these features, so they are likely non-jurisdictional.

**Table 3: Roadside Ditch Summary Table** 

	<u> </u>						
Name	Photo #	Location	Description	LFT			
RSD 1	20-22	West	Corrugated Metal Pipe	97			
RSD 2	32-33	South-central	Corrugated Metal Pipe	149			
RSD 3	34-35	South-central	Corrugated Metal Pipe	143			
RSD 4	44-45	East	Corrugated Metal Pipe	376			

#### Wildlife Observations/Crossings

No tracks were observed within any of the culverts at the time of the reconnaissance.

#### **Culverts and Drains:**

Five culverts, CV 1-5, were identified within the IA as shown in **Table 4**. The culverts were made of CMP (corrugated metal pipe. These culverts served to aid in roadside drainage and stormwater conveyance. These culverts did not carry jurisdictional waters due to a lack of an OHWM, bed and bank, and lack of a significant nexus to any jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. Locations of these culverts are shown on **Exhibits 5**, **Exhibit 6**, and attached photosheet.



**Table 4: Culverts and Drains Summary Table** 

Culvert and Drain Number	Туре	Purpose
CV 1, CV 2, CV 3	СМР	Roadside, stormwater drainage
CV 4 (CLV-336460)	СМР	Equalizes roadside drainage under SR 2

#### **Conclusion:**

One PEM1A wetland, totaling 0.012 ac. was identified within the IA during the field reconnaissance. This waterway should be considered a Waters of the State and will likely be regulated by the state under the Isolated Wetlands Law. However, INDOT requests that the USACE take jurisdiction over it. Every effort should be taken to avoid and minimize impacts to the waterway and wetlands. If impacts are necessary, then mitigation may be required. The INDOT Environmental Services Division should be contacted immediately if impacts will occur. The final determination of jurisdictional waters is ultimately made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This report is our best judgment based on the guidelines set forth by the Corps.



#### **Acknowledgements:**

This waters determination has been prepared based on the best available information, interpreted in light of the investigator's training, experience and professional judgement in conformance with the 1987 *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual*, the appropriate regional supplement, the USACE *Jurisdictional Determination Form Instructional Guidebook*, and other appropriate agency guidelines. See **Table 5** for a list of the associated Metric investigators.

**Table 5: Acknowledgement Summary Table** 

Table 3. Acknowledgement Sammary Table							
Metric Environmental Staff	Position	Contributing Effort	Signature/Date				
Alex Gray	Senior Project Manager 1	QAQC	Alex M. Gray 3/5/24				
Juliana Clayton	Project Scientist 1	QAQC	Juliana Clayton 3/5/24				
Zachary Root	Project Scientist 1	Field Data Collection	July Proot				
Seth Snyder	Natural Resources Intern	Field Data Collection, Report Preparation	Seth Ingelon 3/5/24				

Duplicate exhibits have been intentionally removed from this document. Please refer to Exhibit B in the CE document.



Wetland ID	Туре	Acreage	Quality	Photo IDs	Associated Structure ID	Likely WOTUS?	Data Point ID	Lat/Long	Dominant Vegetation	Hydric Soil Indicator(s)	Hydrology Indicator(s)	Within Wetland?	Notes
Wetland A	PEM1A	0.012	Poor	11-13	None	Yes	A1	41.591584, -86.804598	Phalaris arundinacea, FACW Cirsium arvense, FACU Persicaria lapathifolia, FACW	F6	D2, D5	Yes	Wetland A extends west beyond the west terminus of the IA.
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	14-16	None	n/a	A2	41.591623, -86.804430	Ambrosia trifida, FAC Festuca rubra, FACU	F7	None	No	n/a



# □ Investigated Area (IA) □ NRCS ■ NWI Wetlands

Exhibit 3 - NWI, and NRCS Soil Survey Map SR 2 - Intersection Improvement Roundabout Installation LaPorte County, Indiana Des. No. 2200043

Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 7/31/3\2023 Map Author: Seth Snyder All locations approximate

Source: ESRI World Imagery Clarity (2022)

N
0 250 500 1,000



Exh. 3

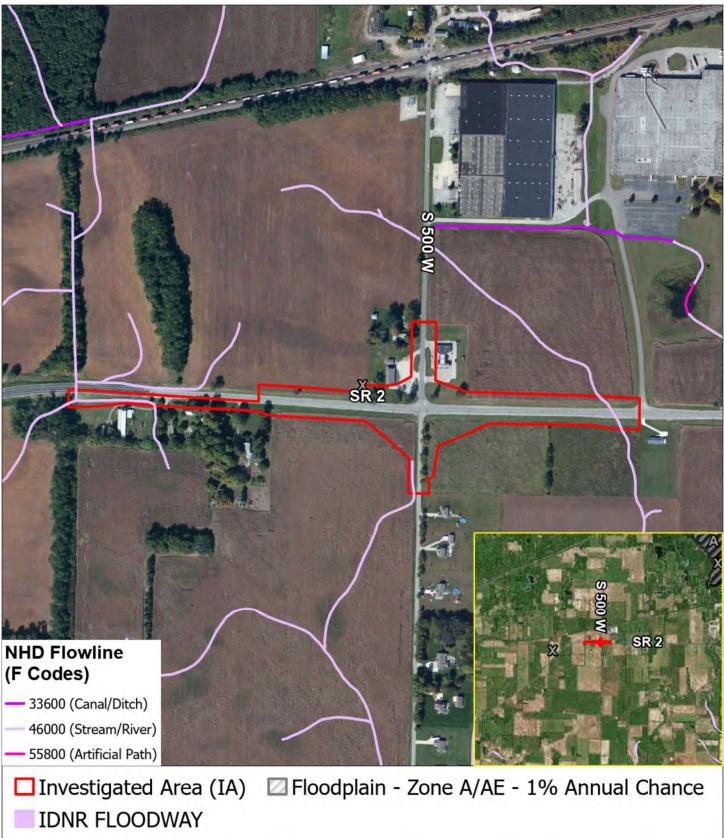


Exhibit 4A - FIRM, IDNR Floodway, NHD Flowline Map

Roundabout Installation
LaPorte County, Indiana
Des. No. 2200043

Metric Project No. 22-0216-1 Map Date: 7/31/2023 Map Author: Seth Snyder All locations approximate

Source: ESRI World Imagery Clarity (2022)





Exh. 4A



## Floodplain Analysis & Regulatory Assessment (FARA)



Point of Interest

**Base Flood Elevation Point** 

#### **VERSION**

1.5

FLD ZONE, SOURCE DNR, **ZONE\_SUBTY** 

Not Mapped

ong: **-86.79812438859864** Lat: 41.591573369837306

The information provided below is based on the point of interest shown in the map above.

County: Laporte

Approximate Ground Elevation: 831.1 feet (NAVD88)

Stream Name:

Base Flood Elevation: Not Available

**Unnamed Tributary** 

Drainage Area: Not Available

Best Available Flood Hazard Zone: Not Mapped

National Flood Hazard Zone: Not Mapped

Is a Flood Control Act permit from the DNR needed for this location? See following pages

Is a local floodplain permit needed for this location? Contact your local Floodplain Administrator-

Floodplain Administrator: Michael Polan, Building Commissioner

Community Jurisdiction: Laporte County, County proper

Phone: (219) 326-6808

Email: mpolan@laporteco.in.gov

US Army Corps of Engineers District: **Detroit** 

Exhibit 4B: FARA Report

Des. No. 2200043

Date Generated: 12/8/2023

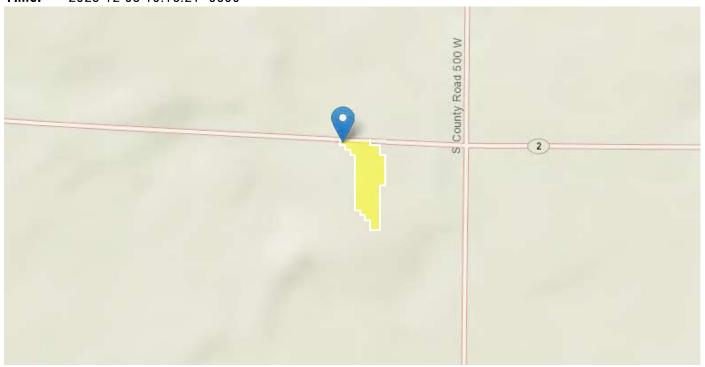
## StreamStats Report

Region ID: IN

Workspace ID: IN20231208151433060000

Clicked Point (Latitude, Longitude): 41.59150, -86.80088

Time: 2023-12-08 10:15:21 -0500



Collapse All

#### > Basin Characteristics

Parameter Code	Parameter Description	Value	Unit
CSL10_85	Change in elevation divided by length between points 10 and 85 percent of distance along main channel to basin divide - main channel method not known	45	feet per mi
DRNAREA	Area that drains to a point on a stream	0.004	square miles

#### **General Disclaimers**

Exhibit 4C: StreamStats Report Des. No. 2200043

The delineation point is in an exclusion area. SITE LOCATED IN NON-CONTRIBUTING AREA: DELINEATION MAY NOT BE VALID.

#### Appendix 2 - PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (PJD) FORM

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR PJD: March 5, 2024
- **B. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON REQUESTING PJD:**

Seth Snyder Metric Environmental, LLC 6971 Hillsdale Court Indianapolis, IN 46250 317-793-6217 seths@metricenv.com

C. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER:

#### D. PROJECT LOCATION(S) AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The proposed project (Des. 2200043) involves the improvements at the intersection of State Road (SR) 2 and County Road (CR) 500 West (W), in Scipio Township, LaPorte County. The preferred alternative is to reconfigure the existing four-leg intersection into a roundabout. The Investigated Area (IA) will extend approximately 200 ft. from the center of the intersection within the southwest quadrant and 150 feet (ft.) from the center of the intersection within all other quadrants. Additionally, the investigated area will extend for approximately 350 ft. north and south along CR 500W, and 700 ft. east and west along SR 2, from the intersection.

# (USE THE TABLE BELOW TO DOCUMENT MULTIPLE AQUATIC RESOURCES AND/OR AQUATIC RESOURCES AT DIFFERENT SITES)

State: IN	County/parish/borough: LaPorte County	City:	Pinola
Center cod	ordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal forn	nat):	
Lat.: 41.59	, ,	•	
Long.: -86	.798184°		
Universal <sup>-1</sup>	Transverse Mercator: 16 T 516820 39 F 46044	142 67 N	

Name of nearest waterbody Mill Creek

Ε.	REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):
	Office (Desk) Determination. Date:
	Field Determination. Date(s):

# TABLE OF AQUATIC RESOURCES IN REVIEW AREA WHICH "MAY BE" SUBJECT TO REGULATORY JURISDICTION.

Site number	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)	Estimated amount of aquatic resource in review area (acreage and linear feet, if applicable)	Type of aquatic resource (i.e., wetland vs. non-wetland waters)	Geographic authority to which the aquatic resource "may be" subject (i.e., Section 404 or Section 10/404)
Wetland A	41.591603	-86.804578	0.012 acres	Wetland	Section 404

- The Corps of Engineers believes that there may be jurisdictional aquatic resources in the review area, and the requestor of this PJD is hereby advised of his or her option to request and obtain an approved JD (AJD) for that review area based on an informed decision after having discussed the various types of JDs and their characteristics and circumstances when they may be appropriate.
- 2) In any circumstance where a permit applicant obtains an individual permit, or a Nationwide General Permit (NWP) or other general permit verification requiring "preconstruction notification" (PCN), or requests verification for a non-reporting NWP or other general permit, and the permit applicant has not requested an AJD for the activity, the permit applicant is hereby made aware that: (1) the permit applicant has elected to seek a permit authorization based on a PJD, which does not make an official determination of jurisdictional aquatic resources; (2) the applicant has the option to request an AJD before accepting the terms and conditions of the permit authorization, and that basing a permit authorization on an AJD could possibly result in less compensatory mitigation being required or different special conditions; (3) the applicant has the right to request an individual permit rather than accepting the terms and conditions of the NWP or other general permit authorization; (4) the applicant can accept a permit authorization and thereby agree to comply with all the terms and conditions of that permit, including whatever mitigation requirements the Corps has determined to be necessary; (5) undertaking any activity in reliance upon the subject permit authorization without requesting an AJD constitutes the applicant's acceptance of the use of the PJD; (6) accepting a permit authorization (e.g., signing a proffered individual permit) or undertaking any activity in reliance on any form of Corps permit authorization based on a PJD constitutes agreement that all aquatic resources in the review area affected in any way by that activity will be treated as jurisdictional, and waives any challenge to such jurisdiction in any administrative or judicial compliance or enforcement action, or in any administrative appeal or in any Federal court; and (7) whether the applicant elects to use either an AJD or a PJD, the JD will be processed as soon as practicable. Further, an AJD, a proffered individual permit (and all terms and conditions contained therein), or individual permit denial can be administratively appealed pursuant to 33 C.F.R. Part 331. If, during an administrative appeal, it becomes appropriate to make an official determination whether geographic jurisdiction exists over aquatic resources in the review area, or to provide an official delineation of jurisdictional aquatic resources in the review area, the Corps will provide an AJD to accomplish that result, as soon as is practicable. This PJD finds that there "may be" waters of the U.S. and/or that there "may be" navigable waters of the U.S. on the subject review area, and identifies all aquatic features in the review area that could be affected by the proposed activity, based on the following information:

#### SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for PJD (check all that apply)

Checked items should be included in subject file. Appropriately reference sources

below where indicated for all checke	ed items:
<ul><li>■ Maps, plans, plots or plat submit</li><li>■ Map: Dated 7/31/20</li></ul>	tted by or on behalf of the PJD requestor: 23 & 8/17/2023
Office concurs with data she	by or on behalf of the PJD requestor. ets/delineation report. data sheets/delineation report. Rationale:
Data sheets prepared by the Co	orps:
Corps navigable waters' study:_	
USGS NHD data.  USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC m	
U.S. Geological Survey map(s).	Cite scale & quad name: <u>LaPorte, IN 7.5 min, 1966</u>
■ Natural Resources Conservation	n Service Soil Survey. Citation: SSURGO LaPorte County
	o(s). Cite name: http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/
	ap(s):
FEMA/FIRM maps: ; Effective_	
	s:(National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 e & Date): Indiana Aerial Photograph, 2013
or 🔳 Other (Name	e & Date): Site Photographs, 8/02/2023
<del></del>	no. and date of response letter:
Other information (please specif	•
MADODIANI NOTE TI : (	
	recorded on this form has not necessarily Id not be relied upon for later jurisdictional
	Seth Snyder 3/5/2024
Signature and date of Regulatory staff member completing PJD	Signature and date of person requesting PJD (REQUIRED, unless obtaining the signature is impracticable) <sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Districts may establish timeframes for requestor to return signed PJD forms. If the requestor does not respond within the established time frame, the district may presume concurrence and no additional follow up is necessary prior to finalizing an action.

# **APPENDIX G Public Involvement**

JARED M. HUSS. PE

AARON W. BLANK, PS, PE
KEVIN J. SIEDLECKI, PE
CHRISTOPHER M. VANHULLE, PE
MICHELLE M.G. SLACK, PS
DMITRI G. ADAMS, PE
AMANDA R. BUDREAU, PE
JOSEPH D. DUNBAR, PE
PAULIN HAKIZIMANA, PE, PTOE
MARK H. FOSTER, PE

EASA KHAN, PhD, PE, PMP, PTOE

BLAKE R. WARNER, PE

REBECCA L. DUNBAR, PS. FI.

DAVID J. TEGGELAAR, PE TREVOR M. CREAGER, PE

JOHN J. LABOUNTY, PE

202318.10
CHRISTOPHER J. JETER, PE
DAN G. DELGADO, PE



Sample Notice of Entry Letter

July 27, 2023



RE: Intersection Improvement at State Road 2

and County Road 500 West

Des. No. 2200043 La Porte County, Indiana

Notice of Survey

County Parcel ID: 461008100053000060

Dear Property Owner:

Lawson-Fisher Associates P.C. has been retained by the LaPorte District, Indiana Department of Transportation, to perform a survey for an intersection improvement project in LaPorte County, Indiana.

Our information indicates you own or occupy property near the subject project. Our employees have completed a survey of the project area. It may have been necessary for them to come onto your property to complete this work. This is allowed by law by Indiana Code IC 8-23-7-26. Ideally, this notice would have preceded our field survey. That was an oversight on our part, and we do apologize for any inconvenience or misunderstanding that may have resulted. If you have sold this property or it is occupied by someone else, please let us know the name and address of the new owner or current occupant so we can contact them about the survey.

At this stage, we generally do not know what effect, if any, the project can eventually have on your property. If we determine your property is involved, we will contact you with additional information.

The survey work included mapping the location of features such as trees, fences, drainage features, pavement, drive entrances, utilities, and obtaining ground elevations. We also located evidence of property and right-of-way limits, which may have involved digging for property irons along the roadway frontage. The survey is needed for the proper planning and design of this intersection improvement project. Please be assured of our sincere desire to have caused you as little inconvenience as possible during this survey. If you have any concerns, please contact me at the phone number or address shown below.

Very truly yours,

LAWSON-FISHER ASSOCIATES P.C.

Aaron W. Blank, PS, PE

Vice President, Survey Director

AWB/maf

c: Dan G. Delgado, PE

# APPENDIX H Air Quality

Federal Transit Administration Region V 200 West Adams St., Suite 320 Chicago, IL 60606-5253

**U.S. Department** of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration Indiana Division 575 N. Pennsylvania St., Rm 254 Indianapolis, IN 46204-1576

August 28, 2025

Ms. Lyndsay Quist Commissioner Indiana Department of Transportation 100 N Senate Ave. N955 Indianapolis, IN 46204

SUBJECT: Indiana FY2026-2030 STIP Approval and Associated Federal Planning Finding

Dear Ms. Quist:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the FY2026-2030 Indiana Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (INSTIP), which was submitted by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) request letter dated June 6, 2025.

Based on our review of the information provided, certifications of the Statewide and Metropolitan transportation planning processes for and within the state of Indiana, and our participation in those transportation planning processes (including planning certification reviews conducted in Transportation Management Areas), FHWA and FTA are jointly approving the FY2026-2030 STIP, including the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) incorporated into the STIP by reference, subject to the corrective action identified in the attached Federal Planning Finding (FPF) report. FHWA and FTA consider the projects in the 5<sup>th</sup> year for informational purposes only, and our approval does not exceed four years per 23 CFR 450.220(c).

FHWA and FTA are required under 23 CFR 450.220(b) to document and issue an FPF in conjunction with the approval of the FY2026-2030 STIP. At a minimum, the FPF verifies that the development of the STIP is consistent with the provisions of both the Statewide and Metropolitan transportation planning requirements. FHWA and FTA find that the Indiana FY2026-2030 STIP substantially meets the transportation planning requirements and are approving the STIP subject to the corrective action outlined in the FPF. This approval is effective August 22, 2025, and is given with the understanding that an eligibility determination of individual projects for funding must be met, and INDOT must ensure the satisfaction of all administrative and statutory requirements, as well as address the corrective actions outlined in the attached report.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our approval and the FPF, please contact Ms. Erica Tait of the FHWA Indiana Division at (317) 226-7481, or by email at <a href="mailto:erica.tait@dot.gov">erica.tait@dot.gov</a>, or Mr. Anthony Greep of the FTA Region 5 Office at (312) 353-2866, or by email at <a href="mailto:anthony.greep@dot.gov">anthony.greep@dot.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

KELLEY BROOKINS Digitally signed by KELLEY BROOKINS Date: 2025.08.27 08:09:52 -05'00'

Kelley Brookins Regional Administrator FTA Region V Sincerely,

Digitally signed by CHRISTOPHER J HALL Date: 2025.08.28 10:04:48 -05'00'

Christopher J. Hall Interim Division Administrator FHWA Indiana Division

# TIME TO TRANSPORT TRANSPORT

#### INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue Room N758-Executive Office Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 PHONE: (855) 463-6848

Mike Braun, Governor Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner

June 6, 2025

Mr. Christopher J Hall, Interim Division Administrator FHWA Indiana Division 575 North Pennsylvania St., Room 254 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Ms. Kelley Brookins, Regional Administrator FTA Region 5 200 West Adams St. Suite 320 Chicago, IL 60606-5253

Dear Mr. Hall /Ms. Brookins:

The Indiana Department of Transportation is pleased to submit its Draft FY 2026-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for review and comment by your offices.

Included in the final submitted document is a listing of the state's expansion/preservation and local small urban and rural and rural transit projects. The following Metropolitan Planning Organization TIP's will be included in the FY 2024-2028 STIP by reference.

Area Plan Commission of Tippecanoe County (APCTC)  • APCTC TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Bloomington-Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization (BMCMPO)  • BMCMPO TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO)  • CAMPO TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Plan Commission (DMMPC)  • DMMPC TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization (EMPO)  • EMPO TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
<ul> <li>Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (IMPO)</li> <li>IMPO TIP FY2026-2029</li> <li>IMPO Project Listing FY2026-2029</li> </ul>	FY 2026-2029

Kokomo-Howard County Governmental Coordinating Council (KHCGCC)  • KHCGCC TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
<ul> <li>Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency (KIPDA)</li> <li><u>KIPDA TIP FY2025-2028</u></li> </ul>	FY 2025-2028
Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG)  • MACOG TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Madison County Council of Governments (MCCOG)  • MCCOG TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC)  • NIRCC TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC)  • NIRPC TIP FY2026-2030	FY 2026-2030
Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI)  • OKI TIP FY2026-2029	FY 2026-2029
Terre Haute Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (THAMPO) TIP  • THAMPO TIP FY2026-2029	FY 2026-2030

We greatly appreciate FHWA/FTA support in the development of the STIP 2026-2029 and look forward to working together to achieve our mutual goals. Should you have any questions pertaining to this amendment, please contact April Leckie, STIP Administration at 317-232-5466 or at <a href="mailto:aleckie@indot.in.gov">aleckie@indot.in.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner

Lyndsay Suist

Indiana Department of Transportation

cc: (w/enclosure): Angelica Salgado, FTA

Cecilia Crenshaw, FTA
Anthony Greep, FTA
Bill Wheeler, FTA
Kelley Brookins, FTA
Matt Kane, FTA
Susan Weber, FTA
Erica Tait, FHWA
Paige Story, FHWA
Lyndsay Quist, INDOT
Blake Martain, INDOT

Kathy Eaton-McKalip, INDOT

Louis Feagans, INDOT
April Leckie, INDOT
Roy Nunnally, INDOT
Larry Buckel, INDOT
Jay Mitchell, INDOT
Jason Casteel, INDOT
Ryan Pennington, INDOT
Michael McNeil, INDOT

#### Northwestern MPO

## Transportation Improvement Program Fiscal Year Adoption 2024-2028

415 Projects Listed

2301099		(Ver 4) 26-00,26-00				FEDERAL
Title:	Intersection Improvement Project			County: Porter	Dis	strict: LaPorte
Work Type:	Intersect. Improv. W/ Added Turn Lanes					
Limits:					Total 2026 - 2029:	\$1,341,717
Description:	Intersect. Improv. W/ Added NB Left Turn Lane (700 ft in	length), SR149 at CR600N,	2.0 miles N of SR13	30		
Phase	Fund Source	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
CN	NHPP Non Interstate	\$0	\$0	\$1,341,717	\$0	\$0
2003099		(Ver 5) 26-00,26-00				FEDERAL
Title:	District Intersection Improvement Project			County: Porter	Dis	strict: LaPorte
Work Type:	Intersect. Improv. W/ New Signals					
Limits:					Total 2026 - 2029:	\$1,056,995
Description:	Intersect. Improv. W/ New Signals on US 20, 1.5 mi east	of SR51 (Dombey Rd)				
Phase	Fund Source	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
CN	NHPP Non Interstate	\$1,056,995	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2000052		(Ver 5) 26-00,26-00				<b>FEDERAL</b>
Title:	Intersection Improvement Project in Lake County			County: Lake	Dis	strict: LaPorte
Work Type:	Intersection Improvement					
Limits:					Total 2026 - 2029:	\$1,848,000
Description:	Intersection Improvement, I-65 at 61st Avenue (SB Ram	p Terminal)				
Phase	Fund Source	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
CN	NHPP Interstate	\$0	\$1,680,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
CN	State Match	\$0	\$168,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
2200043		(Ver 4) 26-00,26-00				FEDERAL
Title:	Intersection Improvement, Roundabout			County: Laporte	Dis	strict: LaPorte
Work Type:	Intersection Improvement					
Limits:					Total 2026 - 2029:	\$2,150,000
Description:	Intersection Improvement, Roundabout at SR 2 & CR 50	0W, 3.27mi West of SR 39.				
Phase	Fund Source	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
CE	NHPP Non Interstate	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
CN	NHPP Non Interstate	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Northwestern MPO NIRPC Project Listing

Printed on Monday, April 28, 2025

Page 50 of 146

# **APPENDIX I Additional Studies**

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

### Intersection Improvement SR 2 at CR 500 W LaPorte County

Excerpt

Des. No. 2200043

November 05, 2021



Prepared By:



Prepared For:

Indiana Department of Transportation LaPorte District

Page 0

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Excerpt

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Intersection Improvement SR 2 at CR 500 W 3.27 miles West of SR 39 LaPorte County

Des. No. 2200043

By Greg R. Wendling, P.E. USI Consultants, Inc. November 05, 2021

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT:

The purpose of this report is to document the engineering assessment phase of project development, including all coordination that has been completed in preparation for this intersection improvement project. This document outlines the proposal and is intended to serve as a guide for subsequent survey, design, environmental, right of way, and other project activities leading to construction. The preferred alternative identified in this document is considered predecisional, pending the outcome of environmental studies.

#### 2. PROJECT LOCATION:

This SR 2 Intersection Improvement project is located at its intersection with CR 500 W. Reference post along SR 2 is 55+04. GPS Coordinates are 41.59149 North and -86.79792 West.

The project is located 2 miles west of the city of LaPorte, in LaPorte County, in the LaPorte District. The adjacent map shows the project location.



#### 3. NEED AND PURPOSE:

This intersection has a very high frequency of Crashes (Index of Crash Frequency, ICF is 2.92). Right angle crashes are the most prevalent crash type, and often result in injury.

Motorist delay on CR 500 W is significant, with the southbound Level of Service (LOS) expected to reach F prior to the design year.

The purpose of this project would be to improve intersection safety and provide a long-term solution to ensure safe and efficient operation of the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection.

#### 4. EXISTING FACILITY:

See the ground level photographs, pages B-1 to B-2 of the Appendix, and the aerial plan sheets on page A-1 of the Appendix for existing conditions in the project area.

**Basic Design Elements:** 

	SR 2	CR 500 W
	Urban Principal Arterial- Other	Urban Major Collector
Functional Class	(Suburban)	(Suburban)
Posted Speed	55 mph	35 mph
	3R Network	
Member Road Systems	Off National Highway System	
Member Road Systems	On National Truck Network	
	SubRegional Corridor (Statewide	
	Mobility Corridor Map)	
Lane Width	12'	11'
Shoulder Width	0' paved (6' usable)	0' paved (0' usable)

#### **Pavement History/Condition:**

SR 2 Pavement Data has not been provided. The designer shall obtain this information early in the design phase and include it with the pavement design request.

#### **Existing Right-of-way (R/W):**

An INDOT Records request indicated one previous project within the project limits. The R/W for project 17 Section D 1920 was acquired by R/W grant in 1939 and was not recorded until 1976. The plans show a 30' R/W each side of the centerline, however the R/W grants indicate a 50' R/W each side of the centerline. For purposes of this report, the apparent R/W was shown as the 50' described in the grants. Due to the untimeliness of the recording of the project grants reacquisition of this r/w may be necessary.

#### **Drainage:**

Drainage within the project area is generally with sheet flow to existing side ditches. The drainage along SR 2 in this area is generally from the east to the west, eventually outletting off of the south right-of-way.

#### 5. FIELD CHECK:

USI personnel visited the project site on January 05, 2021.

Data collected included field measurements, photographs, and identification of utilities.

#### 6. TRAFFIC DATA:

Turning movement counts were performed by the LaPorte District on 10/20/2020. AADT along SR 2 was obtained from the INDOT TCDS website. This information is included in the appendix on page B-3. 2026 Traffic volumes were inflated 105%, and 2046 Design Year traffic was inflated 115%. Official traffic projections from INDOT should be requested early in the design phase of the project.

Capacity analysis is being performed for the existing condition and for some of the alternates. This information will be included in the section titled "Alternates and Recommendations".

#### 7. CRASH DATA:

Crash data was reviewed as part of this assessment and a RoadHAT analysis was prepared. A total of 22 recorded crashes took place within the project limits during the three-year crash study period (2017 through 2019). The following tables summarize the number and types of crashes, as well as the RoadHAT results.

#### **Crash History**

ICC	0.69	Number of Crashes	22
ICF	2.92	Number of Fatal and Incapacitating Crashes	0
First Year of Crash Data	2017	Number of Non-Incapacitating Crashes	6
Last Year of Crash Data	2019	Number of Property Damage Only Crashes	16

NOTE: \* The RoadHAT ICF and ICC data has excluded the four animal crashes from the dataset (per RoadHAT guidelines).

#### **Crash Patterns: Manner of Collision**

Manner of Collision	Number	Percent
Backing Crash	0 (0)	0.00%
Collision With Animal (Including Deer) *	4(1)	18.18%
Collision With Object in Road	0 (0)	0.00%
Head On (Between Motor Vehicles)	1 (0)	4.55%
Left Turn, Right Turn or Angle	8 (3)	36.36%
Opposite Direction Sideswipe	3 (0)	13.64%
Ran Off Road	1 (0)	4.55%
Rear End	3 (2)	13.64%
Same Direction Sideswipe	1(0)	4.55%
Other	1(0)	4.55%
Total	22 (6)	100.00%

X (Y): X indicates the number of crash type Y indicates those resulting in injury

The RoadHAT analysis resulted in an Index of Crash Frequency (ICF) of 2.96, indicating that the crash frequency at this intersection is in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile compared to similar intersections. The Index of Crash Cost (ICC) is 0.69, indicating that the crash costs at this intersection are in the 64th percentile compared to similar intersections.

Proposed improvement alternates shall address ways to reduce right angle crashes on SR 2.

#### **Crash Pattern Analysis**

#### **Pavement Condition Percentages**

Туре	Number	Percent	Standard Value* Comparison:
On Snowy or Icy Pavement	2	9.09%	11.18%
On Wet Pavement	3	13.64%	15.49%
On Dry Pavement	17	77.27%	73.17%
On Other Condition Pavement	0	0.00%	0.16%

<sup>\*</sup>Standard values are based on 2014-2018 data for all state-owned facilities. Standard values are included for comparison purposes only.

**Lighting Condition Percentages** 

Type	Number	Percent	Standard Value* Comparison:
Dark (Lighted or Unlighted)	5	22.73%	32.76%
Dawn/Dusk	2	9.09%	5.49%
Daylight	15	68.18%	61.66%
Other	0	0.00%	0.10%

<sup>\*</sup>Standard values are based on 2014-2018 data for all state-owned facilities. Standard values are included for comparison purposes only.

**Weather Condition Percentages** 

Туре	Number	Percent	Standard Value* Comparison:
Clear	14	63.64%	62.39%
Cloudy	2	9.09%	18.33%
Fog (Or Smoke or Smog)	2	9.09%	0.68%
Rain	2	9.09%	9.79%
Snow or Sleet	0	0.00%	6.41%
Blowing Material	2	9.09%	2.13%
Severe Cross Winds	0	0.00%	0.26%

<sup>\*</sup>Standard values are based on 2014-2018 data for all state-owned facilities. Standard values are included for comparison purposes only.

#### 8. ALTERNATIVES AND RECOMMENDATION:

This report will look at possible intersection improvement alternates. All build alternates discussed in the Indiana Intersection Design Guide will be evaluated.

#### **Alternate 1: Do Nothing**

The Do Nothing Alternate does not address the high amount of crashes, nor the growing delay that occurs for the unsignalized approaches.

A Level of Service (LOS) analysis for the unsignalized intersection was performed for the intersection using Synchro (10.3). The following table summarizes LOS for the current traffic and design year.

					20	20					20	46		
In	tersect	ion	AM Peak Hour			PN	M Peak F	Hour	Al	M Peak I	Hour	PN	M Peak I	Hour
111	ierseci	1011	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)
	Ove	rall	В			С			С			С		
Alternate 1	EB	LT TH	A	8	2	A	8.4	2	A	0.5	2	A	8.6	2
l E		RT												
≥	WB	LT TH	A	8.2	6	A	8.0	2	A	2.0	6	A	8.2	2
200		RT												
at CR	NB	LT TH RT	С	17.2	10	С	19.9	10	С	20.7	14	С	24.9	14
SR 2	SB	LT TH RT	С	20.2	28	D	33.0	66	D	27.9	46	F	<mark>65.5</mark>	122

As user delay on the south approach already fails (LOS F) and is expected to get worse as traffic growth occurs and this alternate does not address the purpose of improving intersection safety, this alternate is being dismissed as a viable long-term solution.

#### **Alternate 2: Signalized Intersection**

Alternate 2 would consist of installing a traffic signal at the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection. An eastbound and westbound left turn auxiliary lane would be constructed. Widening of approximately 6 feet each side of the existing pavement will be required along SR 2. Installing a signal without the left turn lane construction on SR 2 was not considered viable due to rear-end crash concerns.

A Synchro (10.3) traffic signal analysis provided the following Level of Service (LOS) results for the signalized intersection. The summary tables provides LOS, Delay and Queuing length for each movement.

					20	26			2046					
Int	Intersection		AM Peak Hour			PN	И Peak I	lour	Al	M Peak l	Hour	PN	M Peak H	Iour
1110	iersect.	1011	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)
	Ove	rall	A	9.7	` ,	A	8.0	, ,	A	9.9	, ,	A	9.5	
7		LT	A	6.2	9	A	6.2	15	A	6.1	10	A	6.5	16
	EB	TH	В	11.1	81	A	8.5	92	В	11.3	91	В	10.1	103
Alternate		RT	A	0	0	A	0.2	1	A	0.1	1	A	0.4	1
ter		LT	A	8.9	38	A	5.8	10	В	9.4	33	A	5.9	11
	WB	TH	В	10.8	75	A	8.7	100	В	11.0	84	В	10.6	113
		RT	A	0	0	A	2.2	13	A	0.1	1	A	2.3	14
200 W		LT												
<b>~</b>	NB	TH	A	6.6	18	A	8.3	19	A	7.0	21	A	8.6	21
at CR		RT												
7		LT												
SR	SB	TH	A	6.3	33	A	8.8	56	A	6.7	37	В	11.2	62
		RT												

As shown in the above table, the intersection functions at LOS A or B for all approach movements.

A Traffic Signal warrant analysis was performed utilizing 2026 projected traffic data. Only warrant 3, Peak-Hour warrant, meets the warrant conditions. This signal warrant shall be applied only in unusual cases, such as office complexes, manufacturing plants, industrial complexes, or high-occupancy vehicle facilities that attract or discharge large numbers of vehicles over a short time. A copy of the warrant analysis is included in the appendix, pages B-5 to B-6.

This alternate meets the primary purpose and need of reducing user delay and improving safety by controlling the movements via a traffic signal. Alternate 2 will be moved forward for further discussion and analysis.

#### Alternate 3: Median U-turn (J-turn)

As SR 2 is a two-lane roadway without a median, this project would require extensive reconstruction of the SR 2 corridor to construct. It is being dismissed as a viable option.

#### Alternate 4: Roundabout Intersection

Alternate 4 (see plan display A-3 of the appendix) would consist of a constructing a single lane roundabout at the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection. The proposed roundabout is closely centered at the existing intersection. Approach work is approximately 420' east and west along SR 2 and 380' north and south along CR 500 W.

The anticipated LOS for this alternate is shown in the following table.

					20	26					20	46	(s) (ft) A 5.8			
In	Intersection		AM Peak Hour			PN	M Peak I	lour	Al	M Peak l	Hour	PN	M Peak H	lour		
1111			LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	Delay (s)	Queue (ft)	LOS	1			
	Ove	erall	A	5.2		A	5.9		A	5.2		A	5.8			
nate 3	ЕВ	LT TH RT	A	5.0	51	A	5.7	61	A	4.9	52	A	5.6	61		
W Alternate	WB	LT TH RT	A	4.7	63	A	5.0	70	A	4.7	63	A	4.9	70		
at CR 500 W	NB	LT TH RT	A	6.5	7	A	7.3	6	A	6.4	7	A	7.3	6		
SR 2 a	SB	LT TH RT	A	7.6	16	A	8.8	25	A	6.4	7	A	8.7	26		

This alternate meets the primary purpose and need of reducing the number of right angle crashes and improving the LOS at the intersection. This alternate will be moved forward for further discussion and analysis.

#### Alternate 5: Displaced Left-turn intersection

Displaced Left-turn intersections should be considered in situations with heavy left turn and heavy through movements. This intersection improvement would require 3 signals in order to safely remove left turns from the main intersection at SR 2 and CR 500 W. This type of intersection is primarily used in urban and suburban areas where the left turn volume is greater than 250 vehicles. As the volumes at the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection do not approach the warrants associated with this alternate, and the footprint of this alternate is much greater in terms of costs and environmental impact, this alternate is being dismissed from further consideration.

#### Alternate 6: Jughandle Intersection

The Jughandle intersection removes the left turns from the major road (SR 2) by constructing ramps to the minor road (CR 500 W). Jughandle intersections are typically

considered when an Urban signalized intersection is nearing saturation. By removing the left-turns from the intersection nearing full saturation, the signal phasing can be simplified, thus improving the LOS of the main intersection.

This alternate is being dismissed as a viable alternate for the SR 2 and CR 500 W intersection for the following reasons:

- Intersection volumes do not resemble that of a typical Jughandle application
- Large footprint required to construct ramps
- High costs in terms of construction cost and right-of-way impact

#### **Alternate 7: Offset T Intersection**

The offset T intersection is typically utilized when the major road and the minor road have a skew. Construction of the Offset T at this location would involve reconstruction of the north leg of CR 500 W, bringing it into SR 2 approximately 700' west of its current location. This would involve approximately 2000' of new alignment roadway for the north leg of CR 500 W. Due to this substantial S-line work, this alternate is being dismissed from further consideration.

#### **Alternate 8: Continuous Green T Intersection (CGT)**

A continuous green "T" intersection is only applicable to an existing "T" intersection. As Alternate 7 (Offset "T" Intersection) was dismissed, Alternate 8 is not applicable.

#### Alternate 9: Quadrant Roadway Intersection

A quadrant intersection is utilized at locations where high volumes of left turn movements exist along the major road. The improvements associated with this alternate would construct a new roadway in one designated quadrant in order to remove all of the left turns from the main intersection. This alternate is similar in application and impact to Alternate 6 (Jughandle Intersection), and is being dismissed for similar reasons.

#### Alternate 10: Grade Separation

A grade separation would take CR 500 W over SR 2. Vertical clearance over SR 2 would be 16'-6" minimum. Additionally, this alternate would only serve the CR 500 W through movements. CR 500 W traffic that currently turns east or west onto SR 2 would have to utilize the existing road network.

This alternate is being dismissed due to the high costs associated with constructing a new bridge (estimated length 80') over SR 2, and the limited benefit to motorists as turning movements would be eliminated.

**Preliminary Recommendation**: Alternates 2 & 4 are being moved forward as viable alternates. Additional analysis and discussion will take place in this report prior to the final recommendation. The following table is a direct relative comparison matrix of Alternates 2 & 4.

Comparison Matrix								
	Alternate 2	Alternate 4						
	(Signal)	(Roundabout)						
Safety	2	1						
Operational	1	1						
Performance								

Cost	1	2
Environmental	1	1
Impacts		
Total	5	5

**Safety**: Alternate 4 is viewed as the best alternate to reduce right angle crashes. Roundabouts by their physical nature have a high reduction in physical injury accidents due to the slowing of speeds and entry angles to potential conflict points. Alternate 2, with construction of left turn auxiliary lanes along SR 2 will have mitigated the expected increase in rear end crashes associated with installation of a traffic signal.

**Operational Performance**: The overall intersection LOS for both Alternate 2 and 4 is "A" through the design year for both the AM Peak and the PM Peak traffic volumes. These two alternates are rated equally in terms of Operational Performance.

**Costs**: Costs for both alternates have been developed and are summarized in the following table.

Alternate Cost Summary Table		
Alternate	Construction Cost	
Alternate 2	\$920,000	
Alternate 4	\$1,220,000	

Detailed Construction cost estimates are included on pages C-1 to C-4 of the appendix.

**Environmental Impacts**: Alternate 2 and 4 are similar in the amount of new construction area and the amount of R/W needed to build each project. The two alternates score equally in terms of environmental impact.

#### **Final Recommendation:**

Alternate 2 and 4 rank equally in the Comparison Matrix. Alternate 4 is the recommended alternate as it provides the greatest improvement to motorist safety, meets the purpose and need of improving safety and capacity at this intersection.

#### 9. MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC DURING CONSTRUCTION:

Construction of Alternate 4 can be done while maintaining a minimum of one lane in each direction for SR 2 traffic. A short closure of each leg of CR 500 W is anticipated in order to reconstruct each approach.

#### **10. COST ESTIMATE (2021):**

Estimated Costs for Alternate 4 are summarized in the following table:

	Alternate 4
Phase	
Right of Way Purchase:	\$60,000
Right of Way Services:	\$50,000
Preliminary Engineering 1:	\$300,000
Railroad PE 1:	\$0
Utilities PE (UT1):	\$10,000
Utilities CN (UT2):	\$0
Construction Total:	\$1,220,000
Construction (CN):	\$1,220,000
Railroad Construction:	\$0
Maintenance of Traffic:	Included in CN
Environmental Mitigation:	\$0
ADA	\$0
Construction Engineering (CE):	\$150,000
Other Considerations:	\$0
TOTAL:	\$1,790,000

#### 11. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Preliminary desktop review utilizing ArcGIS and INDOT SAM layers indicate minor environmental concerns within the project study area.

A planned Trail "State Road 2/Westville Trail Corridor" is mapped running parallel with SR 2 along the north side of the roadway. The potential project is sponsored by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC). According to the NIRPC website the corridor was identified in the "2010 Ped and Pedal" report as a "medium priority". Based on the site visit conducted in January 2021, no indication of a proposed trail was identified near the project area.

One (1) Underground Storage Tank (UST) is mapped near the project area. The feature appears to be registered to the gas station "Family Express" located in the northeast quadrant of the project area. Although the UST is mapped in the northwest quadrant of the project area, the gas station tanks appear to be located on the southernmost portion of the property in the northeast quadrant. Further investigation will be required during the project development process to determine if a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) would be required for R/W acquisition from the property with noted history with the IDEM Office of Land Quality.

No surface water features (streams or wetlands) were identified within the project area. Further investigation will be required to confirm if any jurisdictional features are present. Based on the preliminary desktop review no permits are anticipated for the proposed alternative.

Based on the findings of the preliminary desktop review of the existing and proposed conditions, it is anticipated that a Level 1 Categorical Exclusion (CE) will be the required NEPA

documentation for the recommended alternative. If proposed R/W increases above 0.5 acre of new R/W, the CE document will escalate to a Level 2 and will require opportunity for public hearing. The estimated completion time for this NEPA document is 9 months from receipt of preliminary plans if there are no requests for public hearing. No waterway permits would be anticipated. If the project area results in greater than 1 acre then a Rule 5 permit would be required.

#### 12. SURVEY REQUIREMENTS:

Survey for Alternate 4 should extend 6000' west and 600' east of CR 500 W and extend 100' north and south of the centerline. Survey coverage on CR 500 W should extend 400' north and south of SR 2 and extend 75' east and west of the centerline.

#### 13. RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPACT:

Alternate 4 will require permanent right-of-way from 4 parcels. Estimated right-of-way is shown on the plan display (A-3 of the appendix). The total estimated amount of right-of-way needed for Alternate 4 is approximately 0.13 acre of new r/w. Reacquisition of apparent r/w of nearly 2.0 acres may be necessary.

#### 14. UTILITY IMPACT:

A utility locate request identified the following utilities within the project area.

Utility Name	Type of Facility	Contact Person	Initial Notice Response
Frontier	Telecommunications	Diana Sacks	Frontier has buried and
		<u>Diana.l.sacks@ftr.com</u>	aerial facilities within the
		219-531-2118	project area. See map of
			facilities, Section D of
			appendix.
NIPSCO	Electric	Dean Garett	Overhead transmission
		utilitycoordination@nisource.com	and distribution exist
		219-547-6260	throughout the project.
			See map of facilities,
			Section D of appendix.
NIPSCO	Gas	Dean Garett	2" and 4" facilities exist
		utilitycoordination@nisource.com	throughout the project.
		219-547-6260	See map of facilities,
			Section D of appendix.

Overhead electric facilities along SR 2 will likely be impacted with the development of Alternate 2. Determining if buried gas, water and sewer will be impacted is dependent upon the exact horizontal and vertical location of their facilities. During the design, exact horizontal and vertical location of the buried facilities in critical areas will need to be determined utilizing Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE).

#### 15. RELATED PROJECTS:

USI reviewed the INDOT website <a href="https://entapps.indot.in.gov/dotmaps/nlri/">https://entapps.indot.in.gov/dotmaps/nlri/</a>. This site shows programmed projects throughout the state through Fiscal Year 2025.

Des. No 1702989: Intersection Improvement, Roundabout, US 6 at US 421 is on the proposed detour route for the subject project. Des. No. 1702989 is scheduled for

letting in Q1 of 2023 and will be completed by the time this subject project is completing design development.

As this project develops, the designer, along with the INDOT Project Manager shall continue to monitor other projects along the corridor and detour.

#### **16. CONCURRENCE:**

This document was prepared by:	
Greg R. Wendling, P.E. USI Consultants, Project Manager	DATE: <u>November 05, 2021</u>
Reviewed by:	
Alan Holderread Digitally signed by Alan Holderread Date: 2022.02.09 12:50:33 -06'00'	DATE:
Alan Holderread, PE District Traffic Engineer, LaPorte District	
Reviewed by:	
Paul South Digitally signed by Paul South Date: 2022.01.24 10:30:10 -05'00'	DATE:
Paul South, PE Scoping Project Manager, LaPorte District	
Approved by:	
Steve J. Digitally signed by Steve J. Benczik  Date: 2022.02.09 15:45:13-06'00'	DATE:
Steve Benczik, PE System Asset Manager, LaPorte District	

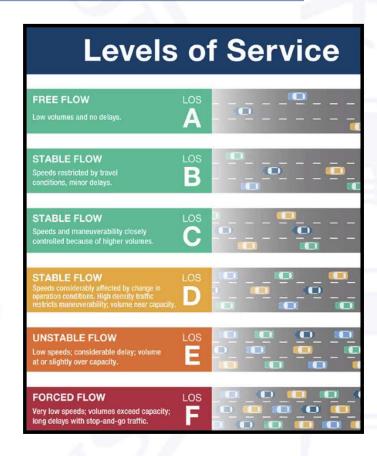
# Main Alternatives Considered

#### No Build Alternative

- Baseline for comparison of build alternative
- Does not meet purpose and need of project
- Does not improve the mobility or safety of the intersection

## Traffic Signal with Added Left Turn Lanes

- Left turn lanes required on S.R. 2 for mobility and safety
- Signals are known to increase crashes due to rear-ends and red light running
- Does not reduce intersection conflict points or crashes
- Provides Level of Service B
- Does not fully meet the purpose and need of the project



#### Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) County Property List for Indiana (Last Updated March 2022)

ProjectNumber	SubProjectCode	County	Property
1800200	1800200	LaPorte	Fox Memorial Park
1800228	1800228	LaPorte	Fox Memorial Park
1800265	1800265	LaPorte	Kesling Park
1800332	1800332	LaPorte	Rumley Park
1800351	1800351	LaPorte	Westville Park (Prairie Meadow Park)
1800373	1800373	LaPorte	Kesling Park
1800402	1800402	LaPorte	Nelson Park
1800405	1800405V	LaPorte	Galena Marsh Nature Preserve
1800453	1800453	LaPorte	Luhr Park
1800547	1800547	LaPorte	Hansen & Gifford Parks/Old Spur Trail
1800608	1800608	LaPorte	Luhr County Park

<sup>\*</sup>Park names may have changed. If acquisition of publically owned land or impacts to publically owned land is anticipated, coordination with IDNR, Division of Outdoor Recreation, should occur.