



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Fort Wayne District  
5333 Hatfield Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

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**Eric Holcomb, Governor**  
**Joe McGuinness, Commissioner**

DES. # 1800016

## LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for the proposed small structure replacement on State Road (SR) 16 over an unnamed tributary (UNT) to Eel River, 3.36 miles east of SR 19, located in Miami County.

The purpose of this project is to address the structural deficiencies of the existing small structure to perpetuate vehicular crossings at this location, while also improving its hydraulic characteristics. The need for this project is evidenced by the structural deficiencies of the existing reinforced concrete box structure that carries SR 16 over the UNT to Eel River. The existing structure is a 5-foot by 4.2-foot four-sided box culvert. Based on an INDOT Culvert Inspection Report dated April 2, 2019, there are two sets of wide cracks on the top and sides of the structure with efflorescence and wetness. Additionally, several spalls with exposed rebar, extensive honeycomb, and cold joints on the side walls were observed. Both head and wing walls have minor surface scaling. The culvert was given a rating of five (5) meaning moderate to major deterioration or disintegration. The UNT is prone to flash flooding, which has caused scouring, given the channel an overall rating of five (5).

The project proposes to replace the existing structure with a 6-foot diameter smooth pipe with a 12-inch sump. The project will also include grading of side slopes.

The proposed construction of this project will require the acquisition of approximately 0.48 acre of permanent right-of-way. No temporary right-of-way is anticipated for the project.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan for the small structure project is a full closure with an official detour route of SR 19, SR 114, and SR 15. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations, local officials and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. The proposed start of construction is Spring 2024.

The construction cost associated with this project is approximately \$588,744 with both federal and state funds anticipated to be used. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and INDOT have agreed this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 1 environmental document.

Preliminary design plans along with the CE are available for review at the following locations:

1. Roann Paw Paw Township Public Library, 240 S Chippewa St, Roann, IN 46974
2. INDOT Fort Wayne District, 5333 Hatfield Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46808
3. Hanson Professional Services Inc, 6510 Telecom Drive, Suite 210, Indianapolis, IN 46278
4. Online at <https://www.in.gov/indot/2703.htm>

**All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Karen James, INDOT Fort Wayne District, 5333 Hatfield Road, Fort**

Wayne, IN 46808 or [kjames1@indot.in.gov](mailto:kjames1@indot.in.gov) **on or before DATE**. Copies of project information may be mailed upon request. Additionally, any questions about the project can be directed to Jason Rowley, Project Manager, Hanson Professional Services Inc, 6510 Telecom Drive, Suite 210, Indianapolis IN, 46278 or [jrowley@hanson-inc.com](mailto:jrowley@hanson-inc.com).

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in alternative formats are encouraged to contact the INDOT Fort Wayne District Offices for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact Karen James at (260) 969-8264 or [KJames1@indot.in.gov](mailto:KJames1@indot.in.gov). In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in another language are encouraged to contact the INDOT Fort Wayne District Offices.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1) stating, “Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program.”; 2) 23 CFR 450.210(a)(1)(ix) stating, “Provide for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate.”; and 3) The INDOT Public Involvement Policies and Procedures approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.