



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Fort Wayne District  
5333 Hatfield Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

PHONE: (855) 463-6848  
FAX: (260) 471-1039

**Eric Holcomb, Governor**  
**Michael Smith, Commissioner**

Des. No. 1700098

## LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) with partial funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) proposes a reduced conflict intersection project (installation of median U-Turn) located on State Road (SR) 63 and County Road (CR) 1650 N, approximately 600 feet (ft.) (0.1 mile) north of Interstate (I)-74 in Vermillion County.

The purpose of this project is to reduce the crash rate on this segment of SR 63 by an alternative traffic operation for SR 63 that is efficient for trucks and that will result in high driver compliance. The need for this project is a result of the crash history on SR 63 through the project area. Based on the crash data collected by INDOT from 2015 through 2018, this segment of SR 63 had a total of eighteen crashes, including a fatality. The existing SR 63 left-turn sight distance restrictions and low compliance with the posted speed limit of 45 miles per hour, result in frequent right-angle, failure to yield crashes.

The preferred alternative is to construct a new reduced conflict intersection (median opening) on SR 63 approximately 390 ft. north of the north gas station drive to the truck plaza; eliminating the existing median opening on SR 63 located across from the north gas station drive; and extending and raising splitter islands at CR 1650 N. New pavement markings, advanced street directional signs, and high lumen roadway luminaire lights will be installed. One stormwater pipe will be installed in the grass median at the north end of the project limits. The pipe will be 15 inches in diameter and 135 ft. long. Approximately 6 tons of revetment riprap on 12 square yards of geotextile will be placed at the outlet of the pipe.

The project length is approximately 0.08 mile, not including incidental construction. This project will occur within existing right-of-way. No permanent or temporary right-of-way will be required for this project.

The maintenance of traffic for the project will require Phased construction. A detour will not be necessary to complete the project.

Phase 1 will include outside construction. Temporary traffic control devices and temporary pavement markings will be placed to close the southbound outside lane of traffic. Erosion and sediment control measures will be installed. Ingress and egress to all properties will be maintained at all times during construction. The pavement bump-out for the reduced conflict intersection will be constructed. Upon completion of Phase 1, all temporary pavement markings and traffic control devices will be removed from the southbound outside lane closure.

Phase 2 will include inside construction. Temporary traffic control devices and temporary pavement markings will be placed to close the northbound and southbound inside lanes of traffic. Ingress and egress to all properties will be maintained at all times during construction. The median pavement for the reduced conflict intersection will be constructed and the median pavement between CR 1650 N and the reduced conflict intersection will be removed. Permanent signage and pavement markings will be installed. Seed will be placed at all disturbed areas.

and temporary erosion control measures will be removed. Upon completion of Phase 2, all temporary pavement markings and traffic control devices will be removed from the northbound and southbound inside lane closures.

Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations, local officials and emergency services will be notified of temporary closures prior to construction. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in Spring 2024 and continue through Summer 2024.

The construction cost associated with this project is approximately \$813,286.00 with both federal and state funds anticipated to be used. 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. INDOT Crawfordsville District, 41 West 300 North, Crawfordsville, IN 47933
2. Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc., 11 South Third Street, Suite 200, Lafayette, IN 47901
3. Online at <https://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-crawfordsville-district/sr-63-and-cr-1650-reduced-conflict-intersection/>

To view a hardcopy of the plans at the INDOT Crawfordsville District Office, please call Project Manager Mr. Arshad Ahmed at 765-361-5258 or send an email to [arahmed@indot.in.gov](mailto:arahmed@indot.in.gov) to schedule an appointment.

**All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Arshad Ahmed, INDOT Crawfordsville District, 41 West 300 North, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or [arahmed@indot.in.gov](mailto:arahmed@indot.in.gov) on or before October 20, 2022.** Copies of project information may be mailed upon request. Additionally, any questions about the project can be directed to Matt Oyer, Project Manager, Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc., 11 South Third Street, Suite 200, Lafayette, IN 47901 or [moyer@bfsengr.com](mailto:moyer@bfsengr.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 Crawfordsville District Office for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact Arshad Ahmed at 765-361-5258 or [arahmed@indot.in.gov](mailto:arahmed@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.