



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## **DES. NO. 1700148 LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT**

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is planning to proceed with the replacement of Bridge No. 159-77-05955 B, which carries State Road (SR) 159 over Branch Spencer Creek in Sullivan County, Indiana.

The purpose of this project is to extend the service life of the crossing to a minimum of 20 years and improve the condition of the superstructure, deck, substructure, and channel. The need for the project stems from the deteriorated condition of Bridge No. 159-77-05955 B (NBI No. 028060). In its current condition, the bridge has an estimated remaining life of 10-15 years.

The project will replace the existing bridge that carries SR 159 over Branch Spencer Creek. The preferred alternative for the new structure is a 3-sided flat top box culvert structure with a 30-foot span and a 10-foot rise. The new roadway typical cross-section on structure will include two 11-foot asphalt travel lanes with 4.75-foot paved shoulders. The clear roadway width will be 31.5 feet and the out-to-out deck width will be 32 feet. Additionally, this project will involve the realignment of Branch Spencer Creek in the southwest quadrant of the crossing. Approximately 455 feet of Branch Spencer Creek will be filled and seeded, and the new stream alignment will be constructed approximately 35 feet west of its current alignment. The length of the new stream alignment will be 465 feet. The typical section of SR 159 along the reconstructed approaches will consist of two 11-foot asphalt travel lanes with 4.75-foot usable shoulders. Outside of the paved shoulders, there will be a 3.25-foot compacted aggregate shoulder with a 4:1 slope. The total length of the project along SR 159 is approximately 885 feet.

A total of 1.79 acres of new permanent right-of-way will be required for the completion of this project. No temporary right-of-way will be required. No relocations will occur as a result of the project.

The Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) requires the closure of SR 159 between CR 750 S to CR 700 S during construction. No state route detour is feasible due to SR 159 ending at CR 900 E, east of the community of Pleasantville. Signs informing motorists of the closure will be posted. All access to driveways in the closure area will be maintained. It is anticipated that the closure will last eight months.

This project will impact a total of 541 linear feet (0.14 acre) of Branch Spencer Creek. There are no impacts to wetlands. The cost associated with this project is approximately \$2,216,040 which includes preliminary engineering, right-of-way, construction with both federal and state funds anticipated to be used. This project is being processed as a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 2 document due to the amount of right-of-way required and stream impacts.

The preliminary design plans and the CE-2 are available for review at the following location:

INDOT, Vincennes District website - <https://www.in.gov/indot/4052.htm>

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 Office of Public Involvement for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact Rickie Clark at (317) 232-6601 or at [rclark@indot.in.gov](mailto:rclark@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 Office of Public Involvement.

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Chad Costa at 317-334-6807 or at [CCosta@lochgroup.com](mailto:CCosta@lochgroup.com) on or before May 28, 2020. Persons with limited internet access may request project information be mailed by contacting Chad Costa.

This notice is published in compliance with Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 771.11(h) entitled "Early Coordination, Public Involvement and Project Development" and the *INDOT Public Involvement Policies and Procedures Manual*, approved by the Federal Highway Administration, US Department of Transportation, on August 16, 2012.