Notice of Public Hearing

Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Public Hearing to present the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor in Utica Township, Clark County

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host a public hearing regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed construction of new heavy-haul designated roadway (Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor) in Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana. **The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at Utica Elementary School, 210 Maplehurst Drive, Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130. A formal presentation will be given by the project team at 6:30 p.m. (local time).** Doors will open to the public beginning at 6:00 p.m. (local time) with an informal open house session where members of the project team will be available to present project materials and address questions.

The public hearing is an opportunity for interested persons to review the environmental documentation and related materials which include the identification of a preferred alternative. The public hearing is also an opportunity for the public to provide comments regarding the Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor project and have those comments entered into the official public record for review and consideration. As part of the public comment process, written comments will be accepted during the open house session(s) with verbal statements to be accepted during a public comment session immediately following the formal presentation. Verbal statements will be limited to two minutes to accommodate as many speakers as possible.

The need for the Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor is due to the current and predicted rapid industrial and commercial development in the area that would result in a significant increase in volume of heavy haul vehicles mixing with local traffic. This growth, combined with the lack of connectivity and suitable roadways for heavy haul vehicles in the area, indicates a need for the proposed project. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a route built specifically for heavy haul vehicles that provides a continuous connection between the River Ridge Commerce Center and the Ports of Indiana-Jeffersonville via the new State Road 265/Old Salem Road interchange. The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on the EA and the identification of a preferred alternative. In addition, the EA includes information regarding community and environmental impacts related to the proposed project.

The preferred alternative begins approximately 0.5 mile north of the Brown Forman Road and Utica Pike intersection, extends generally north 1.48 miles, and ends at the SR 265/Old Salem Road interchange. The preferred Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor roadway will be constructed as a two-lane urban minor arterial road designed to “heavy haul” specifications. To account for the heavy haul vehicles, the proposed roadway will be constructed as 14.5-foot thick pavement with lime subgrade. The proposed roadway will have a design speed of 35 miles per hour with two 13-foot wide travel lanes and 11-foot wide outside shoulders. Several small structures will be placed along the project corridor to convey roadside drainage and streams beneath the proposed roadway.

INDOT is soliciting comments for the Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor EA document and encourages the community to attend and participate. **The official public comment period for the EA begins on February 9, 2018 and will end on March 16, 2018.** INDOT respectfully requests that comments be submitted or postmarked by that time. Comments regarding the Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor EA may be sent to the following locations: (1) INDOT Seymour District Customer Service Center, 185 Agrico Lane, Seymour, Indiana 47274 and/or via email to secommunications@indot.in.gov; (2) INDOT Office of Public Involvement, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N642, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204; via email to rclark@indot.in.gov.
Hard copies of the draft EA document are available for the public to view at the following locations:

Jeffersonville Township Public Library, 211 East Court Avenue, Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130; Phone (812) 285-5630

INDOT Seymour District Office, 185 Agrico Lane, Seymour, Indiana 47274; Phone (877) 305-7611

secommunications@indot.in.gov

INDOT Office of Public Involvement, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N642, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204; Phone (317) 232-6601

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities requiring assistance and/or accommodation related to accessibility to project documents and participation at the public meeting venue, are encouraged to contact INDOT’s Office of Public Involvement (317) 232-6601 rclark@indot.in.gov. Persons of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requiring assistance related to accessing project documents and participation at the public meeting venue are also encouraged to contact Office of Public Involvement. Persons representing an ADA and/or LEP population are encouraged to contact the project team with regard to coordinating services such as language, visual and audio interpretation services. We respectfully request advance notice should ADA and/or LEP services be required.

Winter Weather Notice

In the event of inclement weather causing hazardous driving conditions and resulting in the closure of the meeting venue, the Heavy Haul Transportation Corridor public hearing would be postponed and rescheduled for Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at the same location and time listed above. Please contact the INDOT Office of Public Involvement at (317) 232-6601 rclark@indot.in.gov to learn if the hearing will be held or postponed.

This notice is published in compliance with Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111 (h)(1) states: “Each state must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program.” 23 CFR 450.212 (a)(7) states: “Public involvement procedures shall provide for periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all and revision of the process necessary” approved by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation and the Indiana Department of Transportation on August 16, 2012.