Notice of Public Hearing

Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Public Hearing to present the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for U.S. Route 421 Proposed New Road Construction in Madison, Jefferson County

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host a public hearing regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA) for U.S. Route 421 proposed new road construction (Project 421) in Madison, Indiana, Jefferson County. **The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at Brown Gym, 100 Broadway Street, Madison, Indiana 47250. A formal presentation will be given by the project team at 6:00 p.m. (local time).** Doors will open to the public beginning at 4:00 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 Project 421 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.

Project 421 is the study of the half-mile section of U.S. 421 through Madison that approaches the Milton-Madison Bridge, which spans the Ohio River between Madison and Milton, Ky. The purpose of the project is to select a route that best addresses the safety concerns, mobility challenges and pedestrian connectivity needs of Madison. The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the identification of a preferred alternative. In addition, the EA includes information regarding community and environmental impacts related to the proposed project including the Section 106 finding of “adverse effect”.

The preferred alternative is an “at-grade” alignment. U.S. 421 is proposed to remain on the existing north-south Harrison Street alignment to Second Street, where it will follow a new alignment on horizontal curve tying into Main Street at Roosevelt Street. A signalized intersection with widened radii will be provided at the intersection of Second Street and U.S. 421. Buildings and land between Second and Sering/Main Streets are proposed to be acquired. The 15 to 20 foot grade change between Second and Sering/Main would require a retaining wall along the north side of U.S. 421. S.R. 56 would become an access road east of the intersection where U.S. 421 ties in with Sering/Main Street.

The undertaking will adversely affect the Madison NRHP Historic District and the Madison, Indiana, NHL District. On February 14, 2017, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued an Adverse Effect finding for impacts to the Madison NRHP Historic District and the Madison NHL Historic District.

INDOT is soliciting comments for the Project 421 EA document and encourages the community to attend and participate. **The official public comment period for the EA begins on February 1, 2018 and will end on March 7, 2018.** INDOT respectfully requests that comments be submitted or postmarked by that time. Comments regarding the Project 421 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.
A copy of the EA and other project information is available for review online, please visit http://www.Project421.com to view the document. Hard copies of the draft EA document are available for the public to view at the following locations:

Jefferson County Public Library, 420 West Main Street, Madison, Indiana 47250; Phone (812) 265-2744

Madison City Hall, 101 West Main Street, Madison, Indiana 47250; Phone (812) 265-8300

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 rclark@indot.in.gov

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 Project 421 public hearing would be postponed and rescheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 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.