



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

DES. # 2000028 & 2000029

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for proposed Auxiliary Passing Lanes on two sections of US 33. Des. 2000028 is from 3.8 Miles North of US 30 to 0.80 Miles South of SR 205 in Allen County. Des. 2000029 is from 3.56 miles north to 2.79 miles south of SR 9.

The purpose of this project is to reduce the crash frequency and severity of crashes and improve passing opportunities on these sections of US 33. The purpose is also to address the deterioration and provide culverts with condition ratings of 9 (excellent). The need for the project is due to the number of crashes in these areas of US 33. Additionally, there are multiple structural deficiencies on small culverts located within these stretches of US 33.

The Des. 2000028 project proposes to construct 0.9 mile of passing lanes on both sides of US 33, one along the northbound (NB) lane and one along the southbound (SB) lane, with 12-foot paved lanes and 2-foot usable outside shoulders. This alternative will also cause a minor realignment of US 33 to avoid impacts to an outstanding historic site. The existing curve radius of 2,300 feet will be reconstructed resulting in a new curve radius of 2,200 feet. This allows the edge of the south bound travel lane to remain in nearly the same location. Ditches will be regraded, and driveways and public road approaches will be replaced. Pavement markings will be updated to match current passing lane marking standards with milled corrugations and raised pavement markers. Four detention areas will be constructed to control and treat stormwater runoff from the added pavement. Three will be on the north side of US 33 east of Felger Road. One will be on the north side of US 33, just west of Hildebrand Road. Seven small culverts and three driveway culverts will be replaced. Three new driveway culverts will be installed, and four new detention outfall pipes will be installed. Riprap will be installed at culvert outlets for scour protection.

The Des. 2000029 project proposes to construct 0.76 mile of passing lanes (one northbound NB and one southbound SB), along the outside of the existing US 33 roadway, from 3.56 miles north to 2.79 miles south of SR 9. The final cross section will have two 12-foot travel lanes (one NB and one SB) and two 12-foot passing lanes (one NB and one SB) with 2-foot paved shoulders and 2-foot aggregate shoulders. Ditches along the corridor will be regraded and driveways along the corridor will be replaced. Guardrails will be installed along the east side of US 33 between CR 550 East and the northern limit of the project. The right-turn lane at CR 550 East and US 33 will be perpetuated, and pavement markings will be updated to double yellow markings with milled corrugations and raised pavement markers. Three detention areas will be constructed to control and treat stormwater runoff from the added pavement. One is on the north side of US 33, just northwest of Big Blue River, one is on the south side of US 33, just southeast of CR 550 East, and one is on the south side of US 33 near the northern limits of the project. Four small culverts under US 33 and seven driveway culverts will be replaced and one culvert will be extended on both sides of US 33. One new small culvert and one new driveway culvert will be installed. Two new detention pond culverts and two new outfall pipes will be installed. Riprap will be installed at culvert outlets for scour protection.

The proposed construction of this project will require 9.428 acres of new permanent right-of-way (ROW) and 0.169 of temporary ROW for Des. 2000028 and 15.581 acres of permanent ROW and 0.41 acres of temporary ROW for Des. 2000029. There will be one residential relocation for Des. 2000029.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan for Des. 2000028 is phased construction to maintain two lanes of traffic (one in each direction). The MOT plan for Des. 2000029 is to close US 33 for approximately six months and provide a 12.3 mile state road detour using SR 205 to US 30 to SR 9. Local roads may be used by local traffic. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. Roadway construction will start in April 2028 and will be completed in November 2029. Tree clearing and utility relocation will occur in summer 2026 through fall 2027.

The cost of construction associated with these two projects is approximately \$11,626,525, 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 2 environmental document for Des. 2000028 and a CE Level 3 environmental document for Des. 2000029. Preliminary design plans along with the CEs are available for review at the following locations:

1. Allen County Public Library, Main Branch, 900 Library Plz. Fort Wayne, IN 46802
2. Churubusco Public Library, 116 N. Mulberry St., Churubusco, IN 46723
3. INDOT Fort Wayne District Office 5333 Hatfield Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46808, 855-463-6848 (855-INDOT4U)
4. INDOT Fort Wayne District website: <https://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-fort-wayne-district/fort-wayne-district-projects/>

Emergency Situation Guidance: During emergency situations, public viewing locations may be limited or prohibited as part of the Notice of Planned Improvement. Project documents may only be available on-line during emergency situations. The notice must offer the public the opportunity to request project documents be mailed. INDOT and/or the project sponsor will mail project documents upon request.

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Jason Rowley, 317-605-7860, jrowley@hanson-inc.com on or before 22 October 2025.

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 (Specific District) for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact Tucker Miguel at mtucker2@indot.in.gov or 260-969-8225. 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.

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 Project Development Public Involvement Procedures* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.