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Legal Notice of Planned Improvement - SR 38 over Big Blue River - Des. 1593238

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) intend to proceed with a bridge replacement project (Des. 1593238) for the bridge carrying SR 38 over Big Blue River in New Castle, Indiana.

The need for this project is due to the deteriorated condition of the existing structure (Bridge No. 038-33-04063 A; NBI No. 012910) carrying State Road (SR) 38 over Big Blue River. The existing structure is a three-span, reinforced concrete girder bridge measuring 129 feet long and 37.8 feet wide. The existing bridge deck and wearing surface are in fair condition with minor delaminations and leakage at the underside of the longitudinal construction joints. There are delaminations, spalls, and exposed rebar located in the southwest corner of Span C, the north joint in Span B, and several small previous repair patches throughout. The northern bridge girder in Span C has minor delaminations and vertical exposed rebar. Piers 2 & 3 each have wide vertical cracking with heavy efflorescence and spalling noted throughout each of the piers. Exposed rebar is noted at some of the spalling locations. The purpose of the project is to maintain a safe vehicular crossing of the Big Blue River.

The proposed project includes replacement of the existing bridge with a three-span, continuous composite steel beam bridge, installation of approach roadway guardrail and bridge rail transitions, replacement of the existing bridge approach slabs, and installation of revetment riprap at the abutments and piers for scour protection. Channel clearing will occur along both spill slopes to provide a sufficient hydraulic opening in the event of a 100-year flood. The preferred alternative will include two, 12-foot through lanes with 5.4-foot paved bridge shoulders and 5.75-foot paved roadway shoulders.

It is anticipated that the proposed project will require acquisition of approximately 0.69 acre of new permanent right-of-way. No displacements are associated with this project. No wetlands will be impacted by the project. The estimated cost for the design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction is approximately $1,523,174. The maintenance of traffic (MOT) for the project will require the closure of SR 38 with a detour. An official state route detour utilizing SR 109, SR 38, SR 3, and US 36 will be in place. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the INDOT have agreed this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) 2.

All interested parties are hereby notified of the availability of the environmental document for inspection and the preliminary design plans for viewing at the following website <https://www.in.gov/indot/2704.htm>

Persons with limited internet access may request project information be mailed. Please contact Kate Williams, HNTB Corporation, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis, IN 46204, 317-917-5332 or klwilliams@HNTB.com.

In accordance with the “Americans with Disabilities Act”, if you have a disability for which INDOT needs to provide accessibility to the above documents such as interpreters or readers, please contact Kate Williams, HNTB Corporation, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis, IN 46204, 317-917-5332 or klwilliams@HNTB.com.

All interested persons may request a public hearing, or express their concerns, by submitting comments to the attention of Kate Williams, HNTB Corporation, 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis, IN 46204, 317-917-5332 or klwilliams@HNTB.com OR Don McGhghy, INDOT, 32 South Broadway Street, Greenfield, IN 46140, 317-467-3920 or dmcghghy@indot.in.gov on or before June 8, 2020. If a hearing is determined to be in the best interest of the public, additional notification will be prepared and the public notified. Otherwise, any comments or materials received will be considered in the decision-making process.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) 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.” 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 provide 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 FHWA on August 16, 2012.