



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DES. # 2001905

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Roadway Right-Sizing on State Road 46 in Franklin and Ripley Counties.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host a public hearing on May 5, 2025, at Batesville High School, at One Bulldog Boulevard in Batesville, IN 47006. The open house portion of the hearing will begin at 5:30 p.m., and the presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on current preliminary design plans for the roadway right-sizing project on State Road (SR) 46 in Franklin and Ripley counties (DES. # 2001905). The proposed project extends 0.29 mile west of SR 229 to 1.07 miles east of SR 129 on SR 46 in Franklin and Ripley Counties, Indiana.

The proposed project is needed due to the high number of crashes occurring in the project area. Between 2021 and 2023, between Bedel Boulevard and Fisherman Road, there were three fatal or incapacitating injury crashes, 14 non-incapacitating/possible injury crashes, and 30 property damage crashes. The purpose of the proposed project is to improve safety and reduce crash frequency on SR 46 between SR 129 and SR 229.

The preferred alternative will reduce the number of travel lanes from four to two and convert the existing median to a two-way center turn lane. Deep patching will take place as needed, and the pavement will be overlaid with hot mixed asphalt (HMA). Through the use of pavement markings, the existing two lanes in each direction will be reduced to one, and a 16-foot-wide center two-way turn lane will be created. SR 229 will receive an HMA overlay that will extend 615 feet south of its intersection with SR 46.

Because of the lane reduction, traffic signals at various intersections will be modified. At SR 229, signal heads will be replaced, and new backplates will be added to aid in visibility. A new "Right Turn Only" sign will be added facing eastbound SR 46 traffic. At the Tekulve Road intersection, two dedicated left-turn lane 4-section signal heads will be added for east and westbound traffic on SR 46. The preferred alternative is expected to reduce travel speed through this corridor, while providing a left-turn area that will not impede through traffic.

The preferred alternative will be completed within existing INDOT right-of-way. No permanent or temporary right-of-way will be required.

Traffic will be maintained utilizing single-lane closures with flagging on both SR 46 and SR 229 during project construction.

Federal and state funds are proposed to be used for construction of this project. INDOT and the Federal Highway Administration have agreed that this project poses minimal impact to the natural environment. A Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 1 environmental document has been prepared for

the project. The environmental documentation and preliminary design information is available to view prior to the hearing at the following locations:

1. Batesville Memorial Public Library, 131 N. Walnut St., Batesville, IN 47006
2. Online via the INDOT project webpage at <https://seymour.indot.in.gov/>

Public statements for the record will be taken as part of the public hearing procedure. All verbal statements recorded during the public hearing and all written comments submitted prior to, during, and for a period of two (2) weeks following the hearing date will be evaluated, considered, and addressed in subsequent environmental documentation. Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and within the comment period to the attention of Andrea Mikrut at INDOT Seymour District, 185 Agrico Lane, Seymour, IN 47274 or via email at amikrut@indot.in.gov. All comments must be received on or before **May 20, 2025**.

With advance notice, INDOT will provide accommodations for persons with disabilities with regards to participation and access to project information as part of the public information process, including arranging auxiliary aids, interpretation services for the hearing impaired, services for the sight impaired, and other services as needed. In addition, INDOT will provide accommodations for persons of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requiring auxiliary aids, including language interpretation services and document conversion. Should accommodations be required, please contact Andrea Mikrut at INDOT Seymour District, 185 Agrico Lane, Seymour, IN 47274, 812-524-3936, or amikrut@indot.in.gov, by **May 1, 2025**.

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."; 2) 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 as necessary." 3) The INDOT Public Involvement policies and Procedures approved by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation on July 7, 2021.