US24 at County Road 600 East Intersection Improvement

Thursday, November 2, 2017
Welcome

- Purpose/explanation of public hearing
- Public hearing format
- Visit our sign-in table
- Informational handouts
- Participate during public comment session
- Submit written public comments
- Project display area
US 24 at County Road 600 East

- **Introduction of INDOT Project Team**
  - Project Management
  - Public Involvement
  - LaPorte District – INDOT Regional Office
  - Environmental Services
  - Design

- **Recognition of elected and local public officials**

- **Sign-in at attendance table to be added to project mailing list**

- **Legal notice of public hearing was published in Pharos-Tribune on 10/10, 10/17, 10/24**

- **A notice of the public hearing was mailed to known property owners within project area**

- **Announcement of this hearing was posted to INDOT website. A media release was also issued**

- **A copy of presentation and project documentation are available for review on-line via INDOT website**
Project Stakeholders

- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Indiana Division Federal Highway Administration
- Cass County & City of Logansport
- Elected & Local officials
- Residents and citizens
- Commuters
- Businesses
- Emergency services
- Schools
- Churches
- Community Organizations
Project Development

Public Involvement:

- **June Public Information Meeting**
- **Project materials on INDOT website**
- **Public Hearing during environmental analysis phase**
- **Communicate project decision**
Environmental Document

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
• Requires INDOT to analyze and evaluate the impacts of a proposed project to the natural and socio-economic environments
• NEPA is a decision-making process
  • Purpose and Need
  • Alternatives Screening
  • Preferred Alternative

• Impacts are analyzed, evaluated and described in an environmental document
  • What are the impacts this project might have on the community?
  • How can impacts be avoided?
  • Can impacts be minimized?
  • Mitigation for impacts?

• Draft environmental document released for public involvement
  • Available for public review at several locations and INDOT website
Need for Improvement & Alternatives

- **Enhance safety at intersection**
  - Traffic directly crossing U.S. 24 at County Road 600 East poses a safety concern

- **No Build**
  - No additional work beyond routine maintenance activity

- **Signalized Intersection**
  - Traffic on minor leg (County Road 600 East) does not warrant a signalized intersection when compared to traffic on major leg (US 24)

- **Re-Align Intersection** (to 90 Degrees)
  - Would require purchase of right-of-way
  - Minimal reduction in number of crashes

- **Bridge County Road 600 East over U.S. 24**
  - Requires purchase of right-of-way, limits direct access to U.S. 24, impacts mobility
  - Significant increase in cost

- **Interchange**
  - Implementation would require years of planning and design, would not address safety concerns in a timely fashion
  - Purchase of right-of-way
  - Significant increase in cost

- **J-Turn Intersection**
  - Enhances safety at intersection by eliminating or significantly reducing injury crashes
  - Can be implemented in one construction season
Project Resource Locations

• **INDOT LaPorte District Office**
  315 E. Boyd Boulevard, LaPorte, IN 46350
  • Toll Free number  1-855-464-6368
  • [LaPorteDistrictCommunications@indot.in.gov](mailto:LaPorteDistrictCommunications@indot.in.gov)
  • [http://www.in.gov/indot/2705.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/2705.htm)
  • Planning, Project Development/Delivery, Construction, Maintenance for Northwest Indiana

• **Logansport Public Library** -  616 East Broadway, Logansport, IN 46947; Phone (574)753-6383

• **INDOT Office of Public Involvement**
  100 North Senate Avenue, Room N642, Indianapolis, IN 46204; Phone (317) 232-6601
  [rclark@indot.in.gov](mailto:rclark@indot.in.gov)
### Crash Data for US 24 at C.R. 600 East (2012-2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEVERITY</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crash with no Injury</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Incapacitating Injury</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incapacitating Injury</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td><strong>34</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A total of 4 injury crashes have occurred in 2017 (3 non-injury crashes) (1 incapacitating injury crash)
Intersection Safety

- Crashes can occur when vehicles directly cross multiple lanes of traffic through wide intersections with varying directional movements
J-Turn is an alternative for consideration

- Conflict points are dramatically reduced
- J-Turn intersections prevent direct crossing and left turn movements
- Left turns & crossing minor roads are made using U-turn movement on major road
- Left turns from major road are made under yield (as current)
Recap of Alternatives Considered

- **No Build**
  - No additional work beyond routine maintenance activity

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Timeline

• Public Information Meeting – June 2017

• Environmental document released for public involvement - August 2017

• Public Hearings – October/November 2017

• INDOT Decision - Fall 2017
Your Input is Needed

• Submit public comments using the options described in first page of information packet:
  • Public Comment Form
  • Via e-mail
  • Participate during public comment session following formal presentation

• **INDOT respectfully requests comments be submitted by Friday, November 17, 2017**

• All comments submitted will become included in an official public hearings transcript and made part of the public record

• Comments will be reviewed, evaluated and given full consideration during decision making process
Public Involvement

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  rclark@indot.in.gov

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  http://www.in.gov/indot/2705.htm
  Planning, Project Development/Delivery, Construction, Maintenance for Northwest Indiana
Next Steps

- Public and project stakeholder input
  - Submit comments via options described on page 1 of information packet
- INDOT review and evaluation
  - All comments are given full consideration during decision-making process
  - Finalize/approve environmental document
- Communicate a decision
  - INDOT will notify project stakeholders of decision
  - Work through local media, social media outlets, paid legal notice
  - Make project documents accessible via repositories
- Questions? Contact Public Involvement Team
Thank You

• Please visit with the design team and INDOT project officials following the presentation

• Project Open House
  • Project maps, displays, INDOT project team and informal Q & A
  • INDOT LaPorte District page [http://www.in.gov/indot/2705.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/2705.htm)
  • LaPorteDistrictCommunications@indot.in.gov