

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are you studying U.S. 421?

The goal of Project 421 is to select a route that best addresses the safety concerns, mobility challenges and economic development needs of Madison, Ind.

What portion of U.S. 421 are you studying?

Project 421 is the Indiana Department of Transportation's study of the half-mile section of U.S. Route 421 through Madison that approaches the Milton-Madison Bridge, which spans the Ohio River between Madison and Milton, Ky.

How many vehicles travel this area each day?

The current alignment routes nearly 11,500 vehicles on U.S. 421 through a portion of The National Historic Landmark Madison Historic District, causing traffic backups, safety concerns, and negative environmental impacts.

Will this project address non-motorized traffic?

Project 421 will also consider pedestrian and bicycle movement through Madison, ensuring access is maintained to the Milton-Madison Bridge.

What is the timeline for development?

Project 421 has two phases:

- Now-Jan./Feb. 2017: This study phase includes preliminary engineering, alternative analysis, utility coordination, title research, environmental survey and topographic survey. By winter 2016, INDOT plans to identify the preferred alternative for U.S. 421.
- 2017-2018: This detailed design phase includes right of way acquisition, and developing final design and construction plans.
- 2019-2020: This construction phase would begin in 2019 and conclude in 2020.

How much property do you believe INDOT needs to acquire if an alternative route is selected?

While the exact amount of right of way required for the project cannot be determined until an alternative route is selected, it does factor into choosing the final alignment.

How will you analyze the historic properties along the route?

One significant component of the study phase is analyzing the potential impacts to historic properties in and along the project area. INDOT will follow all guidelines of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 when analyzing the alternatives.

What laws are in place to protect historic properties?

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) requires Federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties, and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) a reasonable opportunity to comment. The historic preservation review process mandated by Section 106 is outlined in regulations issued by ACHP.

If you select an alternative route, what will happen to existing U.S. 421?

If an alternate route is selected, INDOT will work with the local government to determine the best use of and maintenance for current U.S. 421 moving forward.



Is the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet involved in this project?

While the Milton-Madison Bridge Project was a joint effort between the Indiana Department of Transportation and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, INDOT has sole jurisdiction over the project on U.S. 421 in Madison.

What environmental research are you conducting?

The National Environmental Policy Act promotes the enhancement of the environment and requires that all projects utilizing federal assistance create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony. For Project 421, this means that multiple environmental aspects will be studied, including – but not limited to – cultural resources, ecological resources, air quality, noise, hazardous materials and community impacts.

How do you plan to inform the public about this project?

Public outreach is a significant area of focus for Project 421, and we want to make sure Madison residents and business representatives stay as updated as possible throughout the project.

The study team plans to host several public open houses in the coming year to inform the public of the project’s status and gather residents’ feedback. Information will be shared with members of the project’s Community Advisory Committee and Consulting Parties group, and via the project e-newsletter and webpage www.project421.com. INDOT will also share updates via [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). To subscribe to the e-newsletter, visit www.project421.com.