



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N755
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (317) 881-6408

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Karl B. Browning, Commissioner

February 20, 2015

RE: **NOTICE OF SURVEY AND/OR INVESTIGATION**

Dear Property Owner:

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is undertaking a Tier 2 Environmental Impact Statement for Section 6 of I-69 in Morgan, Marion and Johnson counties. Research of county records indicates that you own property in the study area for I-69 Section 6.

This letter is to advise you that it may be necessary for contractors of INDOT to enter upon your property in order to conduct an investigation and/or survey in connection with its extension of I-69. This inspection and/or survey is authorized by Indiana Code 8-23-7-26 and if needed would be conducted on the subject property on or after February 25, 2015.

The survey and investigation activities that IC 8-23-7-26 authorizes INDOT to perform by "manual or mechanical means" on your property include: "(1) inspecting, (2) measuring, (3) leveling, (4) boring, (5) trenching, (6) sample-taking, (7) archeological digging, (8) investigating soil and foundation, (9) transporting equipment, (10) and any other work necessary to carry out the survey or investigation."

Please be advised that, pursuant to Indiana Code 8-23-7-28, you have the right to be compensated for damage that occurs to your property as a result of the entry upon, over or under your property or work performed during the entry. For information about obtaining such compensation, please contact the I-69 Section 6 Project Office at 317-881-6408. Project representatives at the project office can provide you with a form to request compensation for damages. If you are not satisfied with the compensation that INDOT determines is owed to you, Indiana Code 8-23-7-28 provides that:

The amount of damages shall be assessed by the county agricultural extension educator of the county in which the land or water is located and two (2) disinterested residents of the county, one (1) appointed by the aggrieved party and one (1) appointed by INDOT. A written report of the assessment of damages shall be mailed to the aggrieved party and INDOT by first class United States mail. If either INDOT or the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the assessment of damages, either or both may file a petition, not later than fifteen (15) days after receiving the report, in the circuit or superior court of the county in which the land or water is located. INDOT shall pay any compensation awarded to an aggrieved party under this section: (1) not more than sixty (60) days after the date on which the parties agree to the amount of the compensation; or (2) as ordered by the circuit or superior court.

This letter is intended to provide advance notice of any investigation and survey to be performed upon, over or under the subject property. If you are available, the field employees of INDOT's contractors will show identification before coming on to your property.

While such surveys and investigations are permitted, it is INDOT's sincere desire to cause you as little inconvenience as possible during this survey and/or investigation. If you own but are not currently the occupant of the subject property, please promptly contact the I-69 Project Office at 317-881-6408 with the name of the current occupant of the subject property so that he or she may be also notified about this inspection and/or survey.

Thank you for your attention to and cooperation with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah Rubin
I-69 Section 6 Project Manager

cc: I-69 Section 6 Project File

Enclosures



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N642
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2216

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Karl Browning, Commissioner

Indiana Department of Transportation Notice of Entry for Survey or Investigation Indiana Department of Transportation

If you have received a “Notice of Entry for Survey or Investigation” from INDOT or an INDOT representative, you may be wondering what it means. In the early stages of a project’s development, INDOT must collect as much information as possible to ensure that sound decisions are made in designing the proposed project. Before entering onto private property to collect that data, INDOT is required to notify landowners that personnel will be in the area and may need to enter onto their property. Indiana Code, Title 8, Article 23, Chapter 7, Section 26 deals with the department’s authority to enter onto any property within Indiana.

Receipt of a Notice of Entry for Survey or Investigation does not necessarily mean that INDOT will be buying property from you. It doesn’t even necessarily mean that the project will involve your property at all. Since the Notice of Entry for Survey or Investigation is sent out in the very early stages and since we want to collect data within AND surrounding the project’s limits more landowners are contacted than will actually fall within the eventual project limits. It may also be that your property falls within the project limits but we will not need to purchase property from you to make improvements to the roadway. Another thing to keep in mind is that when you receive a Notice of Entry for Survey or Investigation, very few specifics have been worked out and actual construction of the project may be several years in the future.

Before INDOT begins a project that requires them to purchase property from landowners, they must first offer the opportunity for a public hearing. If you were on the list of people who received a Notice of Entry for Survey or Investigation, you should also receive a notice informing you of your opportunity to request a public hearing. These notices will also be published in your local newspaper so interested individuals who are not adjacent to the project will also have the opportunity to request a public hearing. If a public hearing is to be held, INDOT will publicize the date, location, and time. INDOT will present detailed project information at the public hearing, comments will be taken from the public in spoken and written form, and question and answer sessions will be offered. Based on the feedback INDOT receives from the public, a project can be modified and improved to better serve the public.

So, if you have received a “Notice of Entry for Survey or Investigation”, remember:

1. You do not need to take any action at this time. It is merely letting you know that people in orange/lime vests are going to be in your neighborhood.
2. The project is still in its very early planning stages.
3. You will be notified of your opportunity to comment on the project at a later date.