



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - DES. # 1700198

Proposed Improvement SR 45/46 Access Improvements in Bloomington, Monroe County

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host a public hearing on June 7, 2022 at North Central Church of Christ, located at 2121 North Dunn Street, Bloomington, Indiana.

The hearing will be held at 6 pm. The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on current preliminary design plans for SR 45/46 Access Improvements in Bloomington, Monroe County. The purpose of the project is to reduce the likelihood of more severe right-angle and left turn crashes by reducing the number of crossing conflict points along this stretch of SR 45/46 between W Stonelake Drive/N Monroe Street and to restore local connectivity to areas north of SR 45/46. The need for the proposed project is a result of the number of crashes occurring along this stretch of SR 45/46 which includes the intersections of W Stonelake Drive/N Monroe Street as well as limited local connectivity to areas north of SR 45/46 due to the conversion of SR 37 to a limited access interstate highway (I-69).

As proposed, the project involves modifying the intersection of Monroe Street/West Stonelake Drive and SR 45/46 utilizing a reduced conflict intersection concept. Additionally, a new offramp will be constructed for westbound traffic on SR 45/46 to West Arlington Road in the northeast quadrant of the Arlington Road overpass of SR 45/46. To accomplish these improvements, the existing access point of West Stonelake Drive and SR 45/46 would be eliminated. A new access point on SR 45/46 would be constructed approximately 600 feet east of the existing West Stone Lake Drive and SR 45/46 intersection and align with North Stonelake Drive. A reduced conflict intersection concept would be developed at the new access point of North Stonelake Drive, the existing access point of Monroe Street, and SR 45/46 which would allow only right turns from the minor approaches and would force the direct left-turn and through movements to indirect U-Turn movements along the major roadway (SR45/46). Auxiliary left and right turn lanes would be added to SR 45/46 to accommodate the new traffic pattern at both North Stonelake Drive and Monroe Street. Impacts to existing roadside lighting along SR 45/46 and at Stonelake Drive/Monroe Street are anticipated, and impacted lighting will be replaced. Impacts to the existing storm sewer in the SR 45/46 median are anticipated and new storm sewer will be designed per INDOT guidelines.

The Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan for the project will require a single travel lane in each direction along SR 45/46 to be maintained at all times. It is anticipated that the project will be constructed in phases. A local detour is expected for N Monroe Street during reconstruction of the approach and the SR 45/46 median. The detour will route traffic east along West Gourley Pike to North Kinser Pike at which point traffic will be directed north to SR 45/46. Access to W Stonelake Drive will be maintained at all times. MOT details will be presented during the public hearing. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. INDOT will coordinate with emergency services, local school corporation officials and project stakeholders to ensure potential disruptions and impacts are minimized as much as possible. The project will require approximately 1.361 acre of permanent new right-of-way, in addition to 0.027 acre of temporary right-of-way needed during construction. Additionally, one relocation will be required for this project.

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 natural environment. A Categorical Exclusion (CE) environmental document has been prepared for the project. This document and project information can be mailed upon request. The environmental documentation and preliminary design information is available to view prior at the following locations:

1. Monroe County Public Library, 303 East Kirkwood Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana
2. American Structurepoint, Inc. webpage www.structurepointpublic.com/sr46-46access
3. INDOT Seymour District webpage: seymour.indot.in.gov

A project webpage and virtual open house will be created prior to the public hearing to ensure project information, including the hearing presentation, is available on-line via the American Structurepoint, Inc. webpage www.structurepointpublic.com/sr46-46access and will be linked on the INDOT Seymour District webpage (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 Kaitlynn Walker, American Structurepoint, Inc., 9025 River Road, Suite 200, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. Email: kawalker@structurepoint.com. Comments can also be submitted on the project webpage www.structurepointpublic.com/sr46-46access. **INDOT respectfully requests comments be submitted by June 21, 2022.**

With advance notice, INDOT will provide accommodations for persons with disabilities with regards to participation and access to project information as part of the hearings 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 accommodation be required please contact Kaitlynn Walker, American Structurepoint, Inc., at (317) 547-5580, or email kawalker@structurepoint.com by May 31, 2022.

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." 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." approved by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation on July 7, 2021.