

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

DES. NO. 2002538

Vanderburgh County is developing plans for the proposed Oak Hill Road Improvement project (Des. No. 2002538) located on Oak Hill Road beginning at Lynch Road and extending 1.012 miles north to St. George Road in Evansville, Vanderburgh County, Indiana. The proposed project will consist of, but is not limited to, widening the roadway to include a two-way left turn lane (TWLTL), on-street bike lanes, and construction of pedestrian facilities as well as curb and gutter along the roadway.

The purpose of this project is to improve left turn mobility for vehicles, reduce the number of opportunities for rear-end vehicle conflicts, and improve access to existing pedestrian facilities along Oak Hill Road. The need for the project is evidenced by a lack of pedestrian facilities as well as the number of rear-end crashes along the project area as a result of vehicles stopping while attempting to turn left across the roadway.

The project proposes to widen Oak Hill Road to include two 11-foot wide travel lanes (one northbound and one southbound), a 12-foot wide TWLTL, two 5-foot wide on-street bike lanes (one northbound and one southbound), as well as curb and gutter throughout project area. A six-foot wide sidewalk will be installed along the east side of Oak Hill Road. Storm sewer will be constructed along Oak Hill Road throughout the project area to collect runoff from the new curb and gutter. Three existing unnumbered culverts, which convey unnamed tributaries (UNTs) 1, 2, and 3 to Pigeon Creek beneath Oak Hill Road, will be replaced and realigned to provide connectivity to the new storm sewers.

The proposed construction of this project will require approximately 4.77 acres of new permanent right-of-way and 0.33 acre of temporary right-of-way. The proposed project will not result in the relocation of businesses, residences, or farms along the project corridor.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan will include the full closure of Oak Hill Road, from Lynch Road to St. George Road. During the closure of this segment of Oak Hill Road, northbound traffic will be detoured from the intersection of Lynch Road and Oak Hill Road east to North Green River Road, north along North Green River Road to Heckel Road, then west along Heckel Road to Oak Hill Road. Southbound traffic will be detoured along the same route, beginning at the intersection of Heckel Road and Oak Hill Road. This detour has a total length of approximately 3.53 miles. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. The proposed start of construction is Summer 2025 and will continue through Summer 2027.

The cost associated with this project is approximately \$9,985,955 which includes design, right-of-way, and construction costs. Both federal and local funding will be used. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and INDOT have agreed this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 2 environmental document. Preliminary design plans along with the CE 2 are available for review at the following locations:

1. In-person at:
 - a. Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library, 200 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Evansville, IN 47713
2. Online at the American Structurepoint, Inc. Website - www.structurepointpublic.com/oakhill

Persons with limited internet access may request the project information be mailed, please contact Preeti Samra at (317) 547-5580 or psamra@structurepoint.com. A copy of the CE 2 may also be mailed upon request to interested persons.

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Preeti Samra, American Structurepoint Inc., 9025 River Road, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46240 or psamra@structurepoint.com on or before March 25, 2024.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in alternative formats are encouraged to contact Preeti Samra at (317) 547-5580 or psamra@structurepoint.com for the arrangement and coordination of services. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in another language are encouraged to contact Preeti Samra at (317) 547-5580 or psamra@structurepoint.com.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1)) stating, “Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program.”; 2) 23 CFR 450.210(a)(1)(ix) stating, “Provide for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate.”; and 3) The *INDOT Project Development Public Involvement Procedures* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.