

LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Boone County Highway Department with oversight by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is developing plans for a proposed bridge replacement project in Union Township, Boone County, Indiana. The project will take place on County Road (CR) 1000 East over Eagle Creek, 0.40 mile North of State Road (SR) 32.

The purpose of the project is to address the deficiencies of the Boone County Bridge No. 61 (Structure No. 06-00061/NBI #0600044) and to improve the condition ratings of the structure to at least 7 (Good) of 9 for all bridge elements.

The need for the project stems from the deteriorated condition of the existing structure (Structure No. 06-00061/NBI #0600044) carrying CR 1000 East over Eagle Creek. Condition ratings are used in structure inspection reports to assess whether structures are in good, fair, or poor condition following FHWA guidelines. Conditions ratings are ranked on a scale from 0 to 9, with lower scores indicating a greater level of deterioration. A structure that has any component with a rating of 4 or below is considered structurally deficient. The September 28, 2022, bridge inspection report indicates the bridge deck, wearing surface and superstructure are all in satisfactory (6 out of 9) or good (7 out of 9) condition, exhibiting minor deterioration including minor cracks in the wearing surface and some leakage between beams due to minor spalls in beams and some weep holes. The substructure is in poor (4 out of 9) condition exhibiting advanced deterioration (Appendix I, Pages 7-14). The north abutment exhibits up to 5-inch deep abrasions and the south abutment exhibits up to 6 inch deep abrasions, with cracking and spalls in both the southwest corner abutment and northeast wing. The channel/channel protection is in satisfactory condition (6 out of 9) exhibiting some bank slump and widespread minor damage and the scour is fair (5 out of 9) with scour within the limits of the footings or piles.

Proposed work includes the replacement of the existing structure with a three-span, cast-in-place reinforced concrete flat slab structure with a new length of 120 feet. The proposed structure would have an out-to-out coping width of 28-feet and 6-inches allowing for a 28-foot and 3/4-inch clear roadway width, providing two 10-foot travel lanes (one in each direction) and two 4-foot and 3/8-inch wide shoulders. The proposed project also includes the placement of Class 1 riprap for erosion control, the reconstruction of the bridge approaches, approach roadway work, the replacement of guardrail, and the replacement of a 35 ft long, 48" diameter concrete pipe under a driveway in the northwest quadrant of the bridge which carries flow from UNT2 to Eagle Creek to the concrete lined roadside ditch that connects UNT2 to Eagle Creek to Eagle Creek. Work along CR 100E would extend 247 feet north and 428 feet south of the structure center.

The proposed construction of this project will acquire 0.75 acre of new permanent right-of-way and 0.03 acre of temporary right-of-way. No relocations will occur as part of the project.

The project is expected to take 12 months to complete. The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan proposes a road and bridge closure of approximately 9 months and a detour utilizing United States Highway (US) 421, SR 32, and CR 100 N. The detour will result in approximately 3 miles of additional travel. Other local roads may be used by local traffic. 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 Fall of 2026.

The cost associated with this project is approximately \$3,470,200 which includes preliminary engineering, right-of-way, and construction with both federal and local funds anticipated to be used. The 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 are available for review at the following locations:

- Boone County Highway Department (1955 Indianapolis Avenue, Lebanon, IN 46052)
- USI Consultants, Inc. Website (<https://www.usiconsultants.com/2101727/>)

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Courtney Haverbusch, (513) 917-0331, 8415 East 56th St. Indianapolis, IN 46216, chaverbusch@usiconsultants.com, on or before November 15, 2024. Project documents can be mailed upon request.

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 the Boone County Highway Department for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact Kaylee Jessie, (765) 483-4492, kjessie@co.boone.in.us. 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 the Boone County Highway Department.

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.