Public Notice of Planned Improvement regarding proposed bridge work on US 40, over Nolands Fork, 6.84 miles west of US 27.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is planning to proceed with project DES 1701344, a bridge replacement project on US 40, over Nolands Fork 6.84 miles west of US 27 in Wayne County. The project limits are 500 feet east and 500 feet west of the bridge center. The need for this project is due to the deteriorated condition of the existing bridge with an overall 5 (fair) structure condition rating on a scale from 0 (failed condition) to 9 (excellent condition). The purpose of this project is to have a structure with a condition rating of good (7 or above). The project involves the replacement of the existing bridge with a three-span concrete beam bridge. Channel clearing (excavation within the floodway underneath the structure) will be performed to provide additional flow area underneath the structure. A minor stream realignment will be required to better align Noland’s Fork on the north and south sides of US 40. Construction of the project may require approximately 1.25 acre of new permanent right-of-way and 0.25 acre of temporary right-of-way. No residential or commercial relocations are anticipated. This project involves federal and state funding sources.

The Maintenance of Traffic for the project will require the closing of US 40 during construction. The official detour route will be signed to maintain traffic. The detour is expected to be in place no more than 18 weeks. The detour route will use SR 1, I-70, and US 27 which is 20.3 miles total and will add approximately 6.9 miles to the original route for traveling motorists. This detour route will include both eastbound and westbound US 40.

FHWA and INDOT have agreed that this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion Level 3 Environmental Document. No significant adverse impacts to the human and natural environment were found during the creation of this document. For stream impacts to Nolands Fork a Section 404 Regional General Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) will be required. Total disturbed area will be 2.0 acre, which is more than the 1 acre threshold for an IDEM Rule 5 Storm Water Runoff Permit, therefore this permit will be required.

All interested parties are hereby notified of the availability of the environmental document for inspection and the preliminary design plans for viewing at the following website:

https://www.in.gov/indot/2704.htm

Persons with limited internet access may request project information be mailed. Please contact Kirk Roth, 200 S. Meridian Street, Suite 330, Indianapolis, IN 46225; or [kroth@corradino.com](mailto:kroth@corradino.com).

In accordance with the “Americans with Disabilities Act”, if you have a disability for which INDOT needs to provide accessibility to the above documents such as interpreters or readers, please contact Kirk Roth, 200 S. Meridian Street, Suite 330, Indianapolis, IN 46225; or [kroth@corradino.com](mailto:kroth@corradino.com).

All interested persons may request a public hearing, or express their concerns, by submitting comments to the attention of Kirk Roth, 200 S. Meridian Street, Suite 330, Indianapolis, IN 46225; or [kroth@corradino.com](mailto:kroth@corradino.com) on or before December 25, 2020. If a hearing is determined to be in the best interest of the public, additional notification will be prepared and the public notified. Otherwise, any comments or materials received will be considered in the decision-making process.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) 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.” 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 provide full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate.”; and 3) The INDOT *Public Involvement Policies and Procedures* approved by the FHWA on August 16, 2012.

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