LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is proposing to replace the existing culvert located on SR 62 over an Unnamed Tributary (UNT) to Otter Creek, approximately 4.79 miles east of SR 61 in Skelton Township, Warrick County, Indiana. The project proposes replacing the existing culvert with a new 14 ft. span by 8 ft. rise reinforced concrete box (RCB) culvert. The scope of work for this project includes: replacing the existing culvert, placement of riprap as a scour countermeasure, installation of new guardrail, construction of 4 ft. paved shoulders, full depth pavement replacement over the culvert trench, and realigning and regrading the stream channel and roadside ditches present within the project area. The construction limits will extend approximately 180 ft. to the east and west from the center of the structure.

The need for this project stems from the deteriorating conditions of the existing culvert. The existing culvert is showing signs of delamination and spalling with exposed reinforcement, severe section loss in the superstructure, and cracking with

efflorescence in the beams. The purpose of this project is to provide a structurally and hydraulically sufficient structure at this location.

Approximately 0.524 acre of permanent right-of-way (ROW) is anticipated to be needed, consisting of a mix of residential, agricultural, and forested property. The permanent ROW is required for the construction of the new culvert and for continued maintenance of this culvert. No temporary ROW is anticipated to be acquired. In addition, this project will not require the displacement or relocation of any residents or businesses.

Impacts to UNT to Otter Creek will be necessary for the replacement of existing culvert. Impacts are anticipated to exceed 300 linear ft. and stream mitigation may be required. No impacts to any wetlands are anticipated as a result of this project.

The Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) for this project will require a road closure with a detour route. The best available detour route would be SR 161 to SR 68 to SR 61 to SR 62 for westbound traffic and opposite for eastbound. This route would add a distance of 23.10 miles for traveling motorists. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations and emergency services will be notified prior to any construction that would block or limit access. The total estimated project cost is $2,199,238. This project is anticipated to begin construction in the Spring of 2022.

This project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion Level 2 Environmental Document. No significant adverse impacts to the human and natural environment were found during the creation of this document. All interested parties are hereby notified of the availability of the environmental document and preliminary design plans for review online at INDOT Vincennes District webpage at: <https://www.in.gov/indot/2707.htm>. Persons with limited internet access may request project information to be mailed, please contact David Bourff at 317-436-4841 or d.bourff@gaiconsultants.com.

In accordance with the “Americans With Disabilities Act”, INDOT can provide special accommodation for persons with disabilities and or limited English speaking ability and persons needing auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters, signers, readers, or large print. Should special accommodation be needed in regard to the attendance and participation during the public involvement process, please contact Aubrey Howder, 812-895-7309, ahowder@indot.in.gov.

All interested persons may request a public hearing, or express their concerns, by submitting comments to the attention of David Bourff at the following address: 201 N. Illinois Street, Suite 1700, Indianapolis, IN 46204 or d.bourff@gaiconsultants.com on or before July 10, 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) Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 771.111 (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 *Public Involvement Policies and Procedures* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on August 16, 2012.