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Posted: Oct 09, 2014 6:50 PM CST

Updated: Oct 09, 2014 6:53 PM CST

By Courtney Yuen | [CONNECT](#)

It's a road project that's been in the works for years and now, people who live near Route 30 from Fulton to Rock Falls have a preview of how it may all turn out.

Right now, Route 30 is a two lane, two-way highway. Motorists have complained about mobility through the area and future projections say traffic volumes will get even higher.

Let's take a look at the solutions Illinois DOT has come up with.

There's three ways it could go: one is a route which bypasses Morrison to the north and the green route which bypasses the city to the south. The last option is a no-build, which would keep everything the same.

Many who attended the meeting today have mixed feelings about which plan they like the best. .

"I just hope maybe there could be another way," said Shannon Jacobs, who lives past Blue Goose Road near Route 30.

Like many others today, Jacobs is giving her input to IL-DOT.

"We are outside all the time," said Jacobs. "We enjoy, we go for walks in the trees, by the creek. We see turkey, we see deer. It's a beautiful area and I love it."

She's worried that all of that might be taken away from her if Route 30 were to be expanded to a four lane highway near her home past Blue Goose Road.

"There's a lot of trees. There's a lot of wildlife," said Jacobs. "It's a very pretty are of route 30."

Another who lives southwest of Morrison said the plans aren't a good solution.

"It's a waste of tax money for one thing. They're cutting into a lot of farmland," said Herald Schroth. "It's bypassing Morrison which will hurt the businesses in Morrison."

Schroth said the plans will divide up farmland making it difficult for farmers to get to their fields.

Some homeowners may have to leave their homes and move somewhere else.

But for another man, he said the new alternatives could help save his business money.

"It probably won't shorten the distance, but it'll decrease the time that they have to travel," said Eric Johnson.

"They can bypass the stop lights in Morrison. Morrison is very troublesome, because it's a bottleneck a lot of times especially during the busy times in the morning or afternoon."

But why is this project needed?

"It relates to traffic, the mobility through the area, the rate of collisions in the area and trying to make sure goods and people can get from one place to another," said project engineer for IL-DOT Becky Marruffo.

She said the cost so far of this phase, phase I has been about \$7 million and there's no funding secured yet for the next phase of creating the blueprints for the project.

"We still have another year before the phase I will be finished," said Marruffo. "It's certainly possible that funding might be evaluated and determined to be put into our program at some point."

IL-DOT is asking for public input, which they say will factor into their final decision about the highway. Written statements must be mailed or [entered online](#) by November 10th.



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Another project that might be great, but it should be planned and done after Illinois gets the Pot Of Gold back under the proverbial rainbow. Who are you going to vote for - another story-teller?

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