

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT:  
 LINCOLN PRAIRIE GRASS TRAIL 4(f) RESOURCE  
 COLES COUNTY, ILLINOIS | FEBRUARY 2022

# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

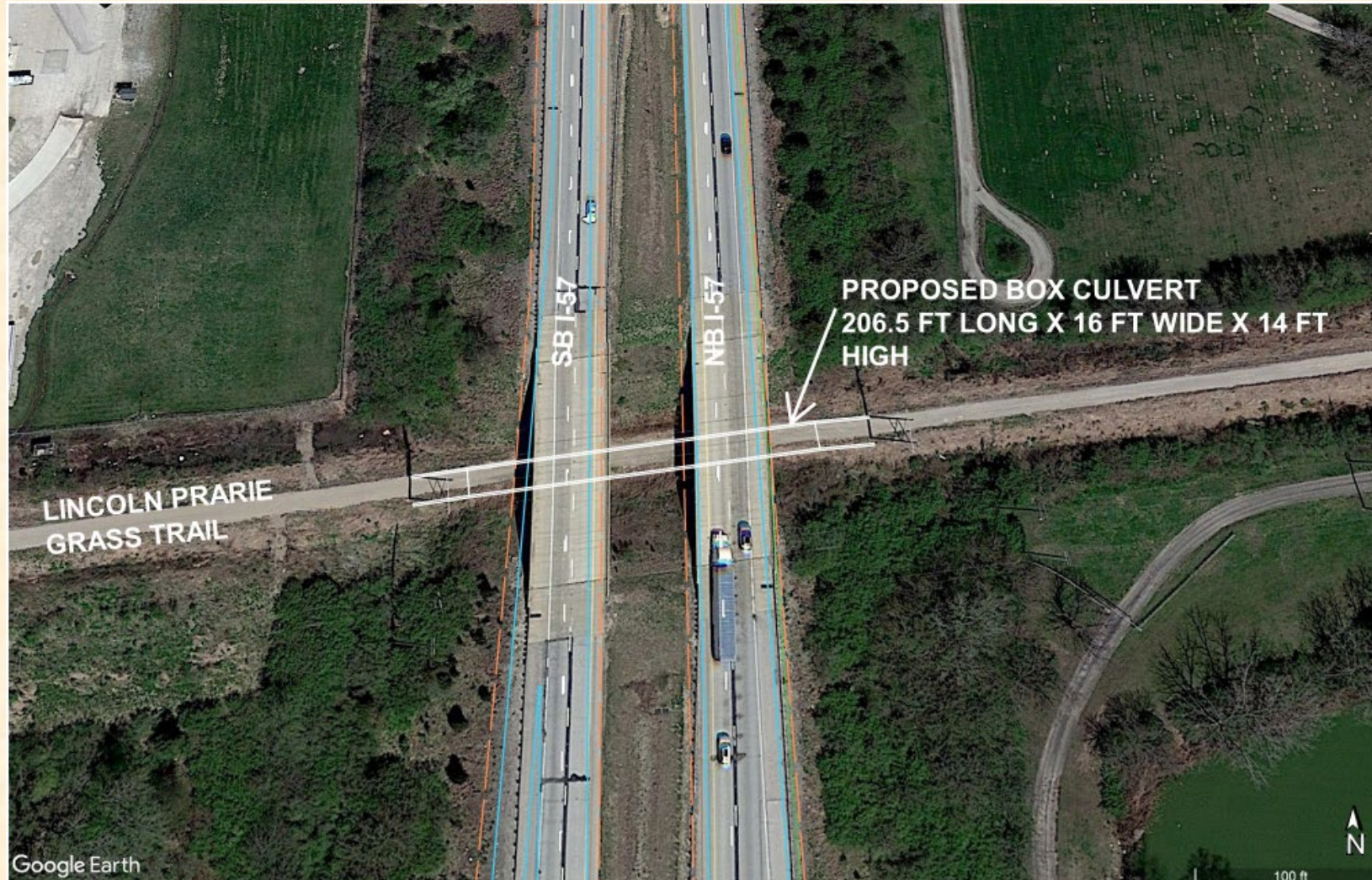
Thank you for attending the comment and review session for the Lincoln Prairie Grass Trail

- The purpose of the meeting is to:
  - Provide an overview of the overall project
  - Communicate the importance of the trail as a 4(f) resource
  - Describe what a 4(f) resource is
  - Describe what a de minimis impact to a 4(f) resource is
  - Provide information on the impacts to the resource
  - Provide information on avoidance and mitigation of the resource
  - Provide an opportunity for the public to review and comment on the effects of the project on the activities, features and attributes that qualify the Lincoln Prairie Grass Trail for protection under Section 4(f).
- After reviewing the information, we encourage you to complete an online comment form.
- If you would like to request an individual meeting to speak with IDOT representatives, please contact Mark Daugherty by email at [Mark.Daugherty@illinois.gov](mailto:Mark.Daugherty@illinois.gov).

# **PROJECT OVERVIEW: I-57/IL 16 INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION**

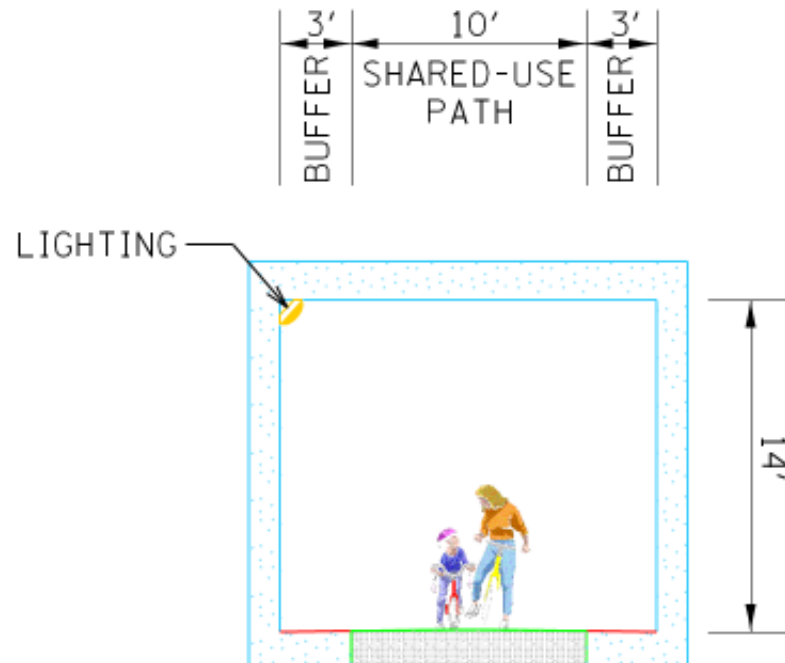
- The I-57 bridges over IL 16 will be removed and replaced.
- The profile of these bridges will be raised to allow for a minimum of 16'-6" clearance with IL 16.
- The cloverleaf interchange will be reconstructed due to the raising of the IL 16 bridges.
- To accommodate the new interchange ramps, the I-57 bridges over the Lincoln Prairie Grass Trail will be removed and replaced with a 16' wide by 14' tall by 206.5' long box culvert.

# LINCOLN PRAIRIE GRASS TRAIL PLAN VIEW



# LINCOLN PRAIRIE GRASS TRAIL CROSS-SECTION VIEW

LINCOLN PRAIRIE GRASS TRAIL  
THROUGH PROPOSED BOX CULVERT  
UNDER I-57



# LINCOLN PRAIRIE GRASS TRAIL

- 12-mile multi-use recreational trail
- Connects the communities of Mattoon and Charleston
- Runs from 10<sup>th</sup> St. in Mattoon to CR. 1800 E approximately 1 mile east of Charleston.
- In 2020 the 10' wide trail was paved with hot-mix asphalt
- Charleston created bike lanes to connect the trail to Eastern Illinois University.
- Is a Section 4(f) Resource

# DE MINIMIS IMPACT OF A 4(f)RESOURCE

- 4(f) Resource
  - Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 774
  - Includes public parks, recreation areas, wildlife or waterfowl refuges of significance, or historic sites on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
  - Projects that involve federal funding and utilize 4(f) resources must receive approval from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).
- De Minimis Impact
  - Impact is generally minor in nature
  - FHWA intends to make a finding that the proposed project will not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes of the Section 4(f) resource

# PROJECT IMPACTS TO THE LINCOLN PRAIRIE GRASS TRAIL

- Construction of the proposed box culvert beneath I-57 will necessitate that the trail be closed for 2 to 3 months.
- Short-term weekly or daily closures are expected to occur periodically to accommodate the construction of the interchange



# AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION EFFORTS

- Project decisions were made that will minimize the initial closure of the trail during construction and minimize future closures of the trail for maintenance of the I-57 structures.
- Construction Time Minimized
  - The proposed interchange configuration keeps the ramps closer to the I-57 roadway to minimize the box culvert length
  - The stage construction of the box culvert is designed to be built all at one time as opposed to being built in multiple stages
- Future Maintenance Minimized
  - Compared to a new bridge a box culvert has a longer life span and very little maintenance

# MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT EFFORTS

- Mitigation Efforts
  - Alert local media prior to the temporary closure of the trail
  - Provide signage to alert the public prior to short-term closures of the trail
  - A signed detour will be utilized for the trail during closures.
- Enhancement Efforts
  - A new 10' wide multi-use path will be constructed as part of this project along the south side of IL 16
  - The new path will extend from Swords Ave in Mattoon to the Coles Center Parkway
  - The new path will be constructed of Portland Cement Concrete

# PUBLIC COMMENTS

## YOUR COMMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED

- Please submit your comments by completing the [online comment form](#) or provide your written comments to:

Mr. Jeffrey Myers, P.E.  
Region 4 Engineer  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
400 West Wabash Avenue  
Effingham, IL 62401  
Attention: Mark Daugherty, P.E.

If you would like to request an individual meeting to speak with IDOT representatives, please contact Mark Daugherty by email at [Mark.Daugherty@illinois.gov](mailto:Mark.Daugherty@illinois.gov).

- Comments received after February 28, 2022 will not be part of the Public Comment and Review Record.