

# I-57 Access Study

South of Wilmington-Peotone Rd. to North of Manhattan-Monee Rd.

## CAG Meeting #2

July 17, 2025



# ROADMAP

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Project Process Review
3. Study Overview and Update
4. CAG Meeting #1 Summary
5. Problem Statement
6. Purpose and Need
7. Interactive Activity
8. Next Steps



# WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS



# INTRODUCTIONS

## Study team

### IDOT

- Brenda Alicea, Consultant Studies Unit Head
- Anna Kutryn, Project Manager
- Valentina DeFex , Project Engineer

### Consultants

- Megan McDonald (WSP)
- Jamie Bents (WSP)
- John Donners (R.M. CHIN)
- Mark Heaton (Hanson)

## CAG Members

# COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) RESPONSIBILITIES

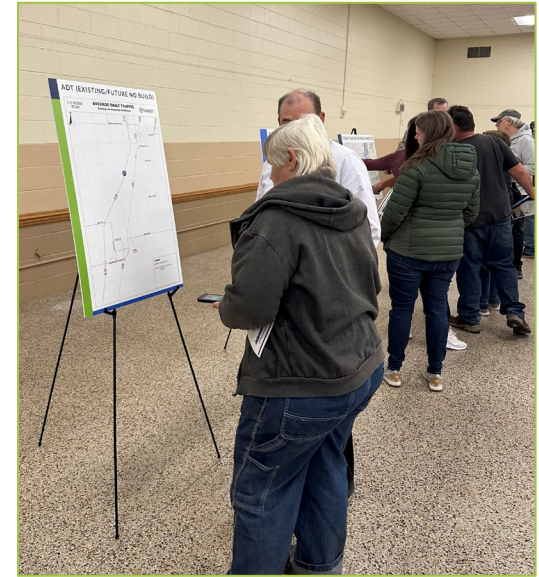
What is the role of the CAG?

- Represent a wide variety of local interests related to the study
- Communicate local issues related to project study area
- Act as liaison between community and study team
- Provide input at study milestones and throughout study process



# CAG RULES

- Input from all participants is **valued** and **considered**.
- Keep an **open mind** and participate **openly, honestly**, and **respectfully**.
- Participants must treat each other with **respect** and **dignity**.
- Participants are expected to be **punctual** for meetings and to inform the study team in advance if unable to attend.
- To be a participant, **introductions** will be made by all attendees and name tags will be worn at the start of the meetings. Those opting out will be asked to take on an observer role.
- Study must progress at a **reasonable pace**, based on the study schedule.
- Work **collaboratively** and **cooperatively** to seek a general understanding of agreement.
- Meetings will be documented, and meeting summaries will be made available to the public.
- CAG rules and expectations will be reviewed at each meeting.



## General understanding of agreement:

“when a majority of stakeholders agrees on a particular issue, while the remainder of the stakeholders agrees its input has been heard and duly considered and that the whole process was fair.”

# PROJECT PROCESS REVIEW



# IDOT PROJECT PROCESS REVIEW

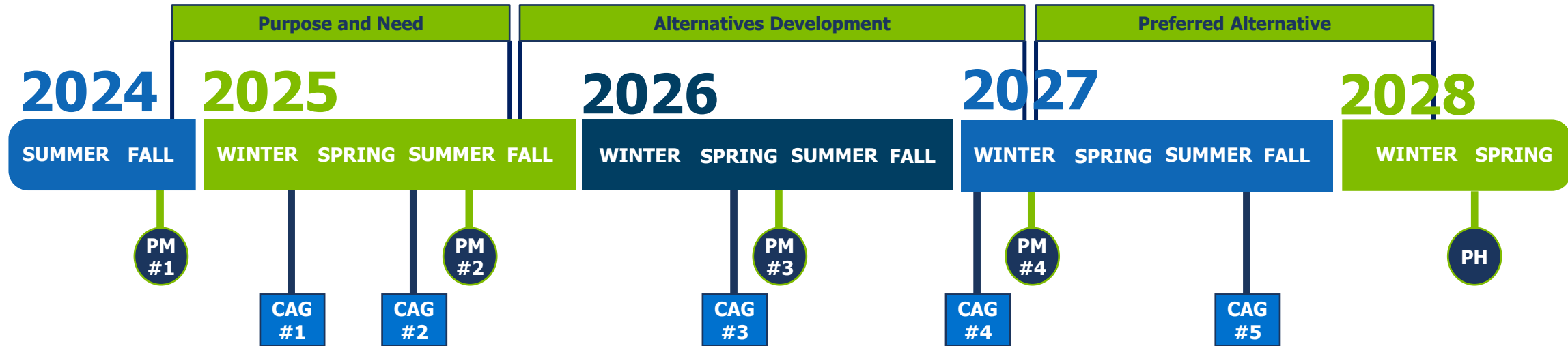
We are here



Why is the project needed?  
Initial design of solutions.  
Select best option.  
Minimize effects from project.  
Environmental clearance.

This project is included in the Department's FY 2025-2030 Proposed Highway Improvement Program.

# Study Timeline



## KEY

**CAG** = Community Advisory Group

**NEPA** = National Environmental Policy Act

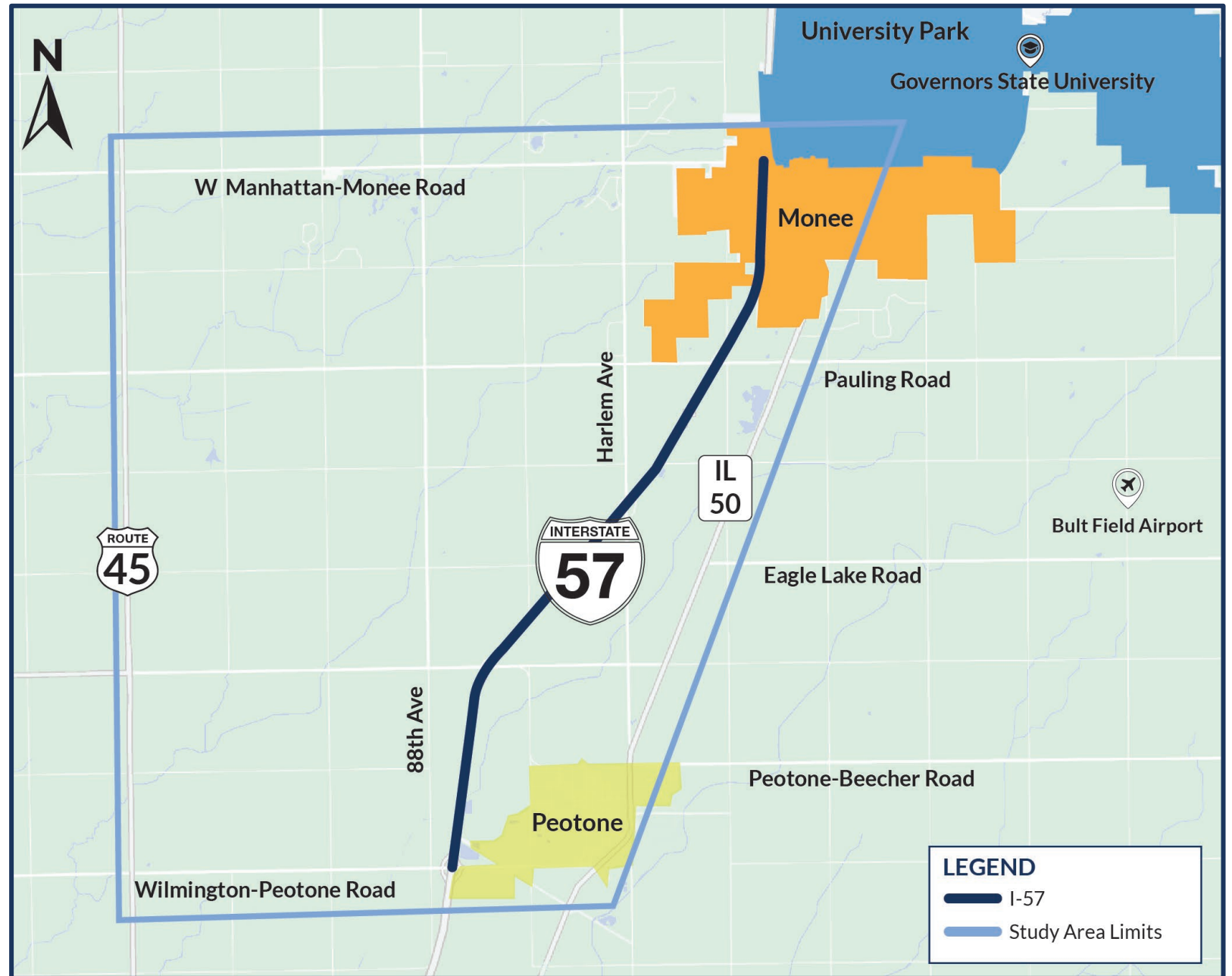
**PM** = Public Meeting

**PH** = Public Hearing

# STUDY OVERVIEW & UPDATE



# STUDY AREA



# EXISTING CONDITIONS REVIEW

1

## Existing Roadway

Average Daily Traffic

Crash History

2

## Existing Resources

Environmental Resources

Community Resources

3

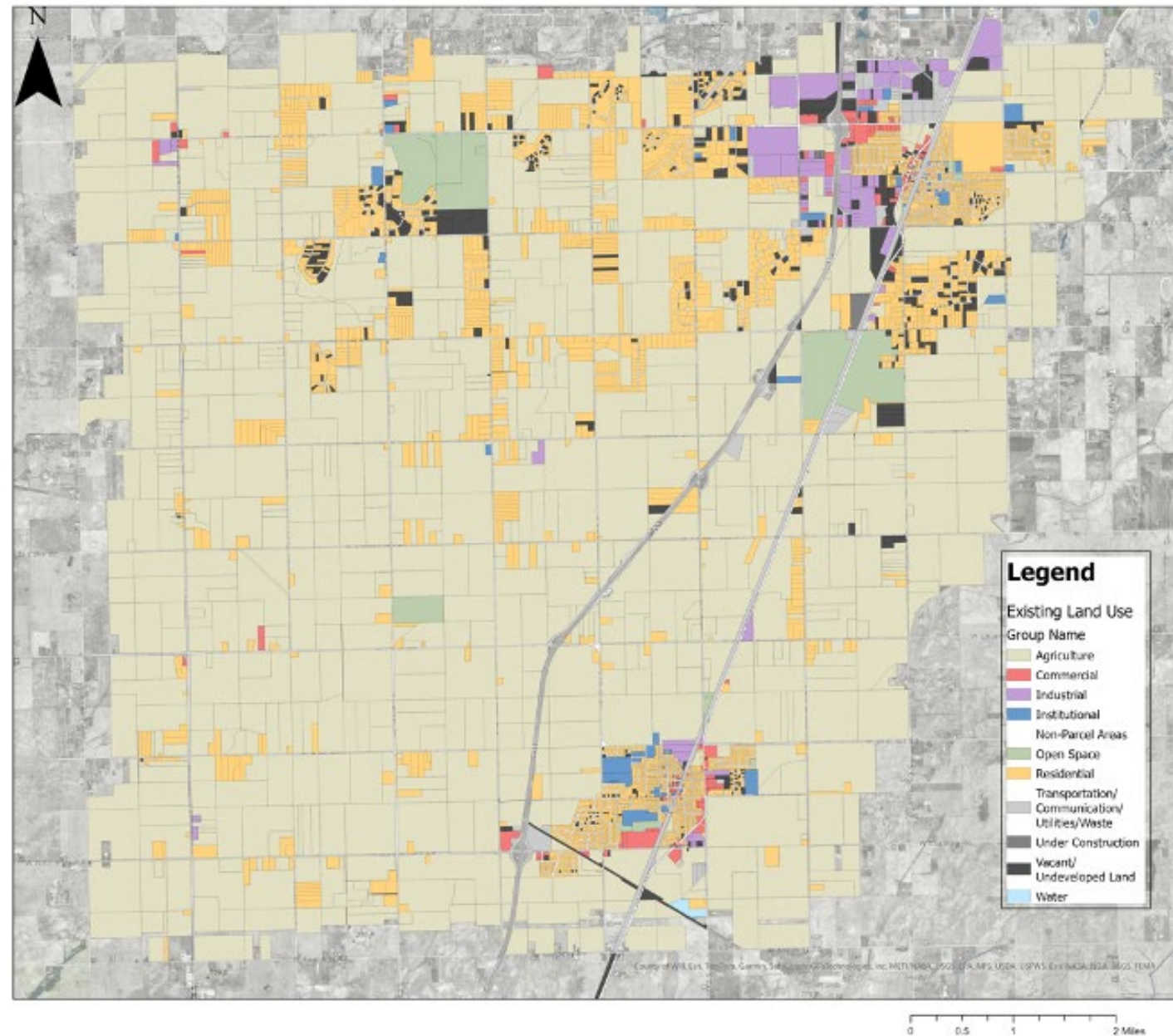
## Existing Land Use

Land Use / Zoning

Freight & Economic Conditions



# EXISTING ZONING AND LAND USE



# CAG Meeting #1 Summary



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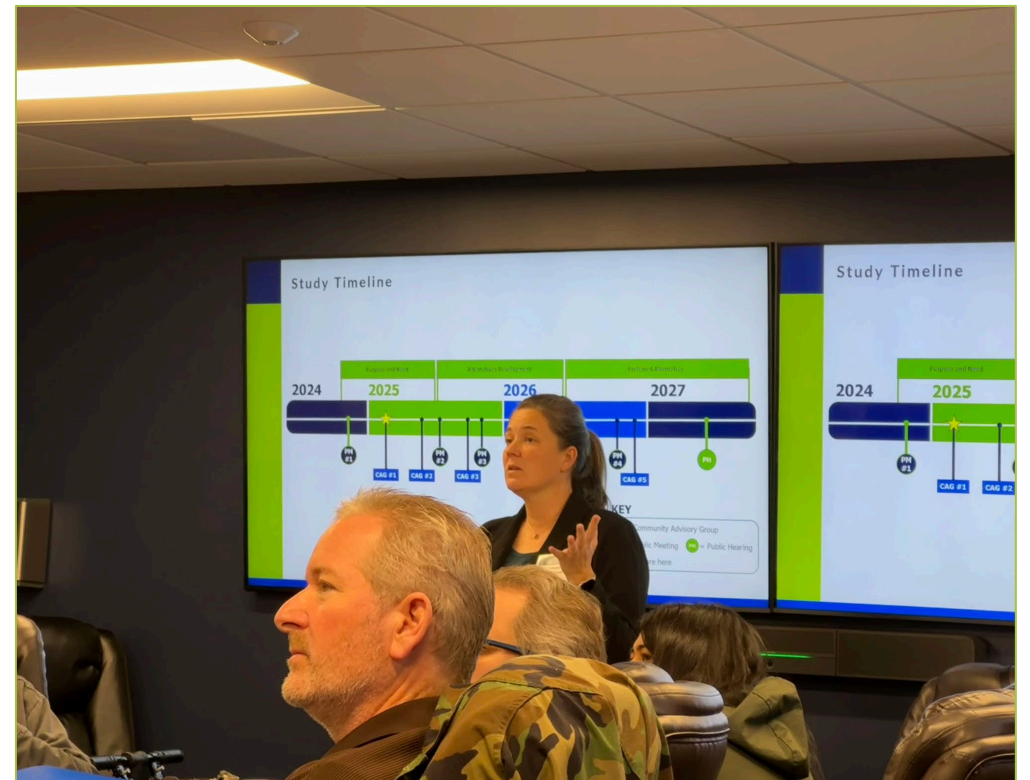
# February 25, 2025, Monee, IL



Total attendees: 16



**Thank you for attending the  
first CAG meeting!**



# What we heard:

Economic Development	Local Travel	Multimodal Travel	Land Use	Safety	Environmental Concerns	Traffic Capacity (Auto and Freight)	Rail Crossing Improvements
Small businesses need to be supported broadly and during construction (including agricultural)	Distance between interchanges affects access for residents	Bike accommodations	Warehouses are an incorrect use of land	Need more safety improvements (safety-rumble strips, signage, cameras, stoplight placement & timing)	Concern about the environmental impact of trucks parking on shoulder	More use of residential roadways to avoid congestion	Need gates for at-grade separations
The economic potential of this project should be studied	Better connectivity east-west & north-south could relieve warehouse traffic	Low connectivity for cyclists and pedestrians	Residential areas must be removed from truck traffic	Arterial access from interstate funnels on local roads and increases risk of crashes	Environmental impacts should be weighed against economic potential	Nearby rest areas are full	
Economic development should be more than warehouses	Better connections to work are needed			Dangerous drivers on east-west corridors		Specific roads affected by congestion (Harlem, Pauling Road)	
	East-west traffic from the center point of the study area to the west should be accounted for			Trucks park on shoulders inside municipalities due to full rest areas		High traffic because of industrial/ warehousing uses and commuters	
				Outdated infrastructure		Arterial access from interstate funnels on local roads and increases congestion	

# Feedback and Discussion

## 1. Transportation Issues in study area



- Freight and truck traffic
- Safety concerns, crashes, driver behavior
- Bike and pedestrian access
- Congestion
- Rail crossing

## 2. Concerns accessing I-57 or local roadways



- Warehouse growth impacts
- Increased usage of residential roadways
- Impacts to small businesses, agricultural impact
- Design elements – sensors, cameras, signage, stoplight placements

## 3. Problems the study should address?



- Economic potential, weigh environmental factors
- Communities outside boundaries, East/West traffic capture
- Connectivity to work and surrounding communities
- Existing interchange improvements

## Follow Up Questions



# PROBLEM STATEMENT



# Problem Statement

The current infrastructure is insufficient to accommodate rising truck volumes, leading to safety concerns and conflicts with local traffic, and non-motorized users. Improvements are needed to address these issues while supporting regional economic development, enhancing connectivity, reducing congestion, and minimizing environmental impacts in this predominantly rural area.

**Feedback?**

# PURPOSE AND NEED



# What is a Purpose and Need Statement?

**Key Milestone of the NEPA Process, developed with input from stakeholders**

**Purpose** establishes why the proposed action is being pursued

**Need** identifies the transportation problems to be addressed

The **Purpose and Need Statement** establishes:

- Goals and objectives of the project
- Acts as a foundation for the evaluation of alternatives and the selection of the Preferred Alternative

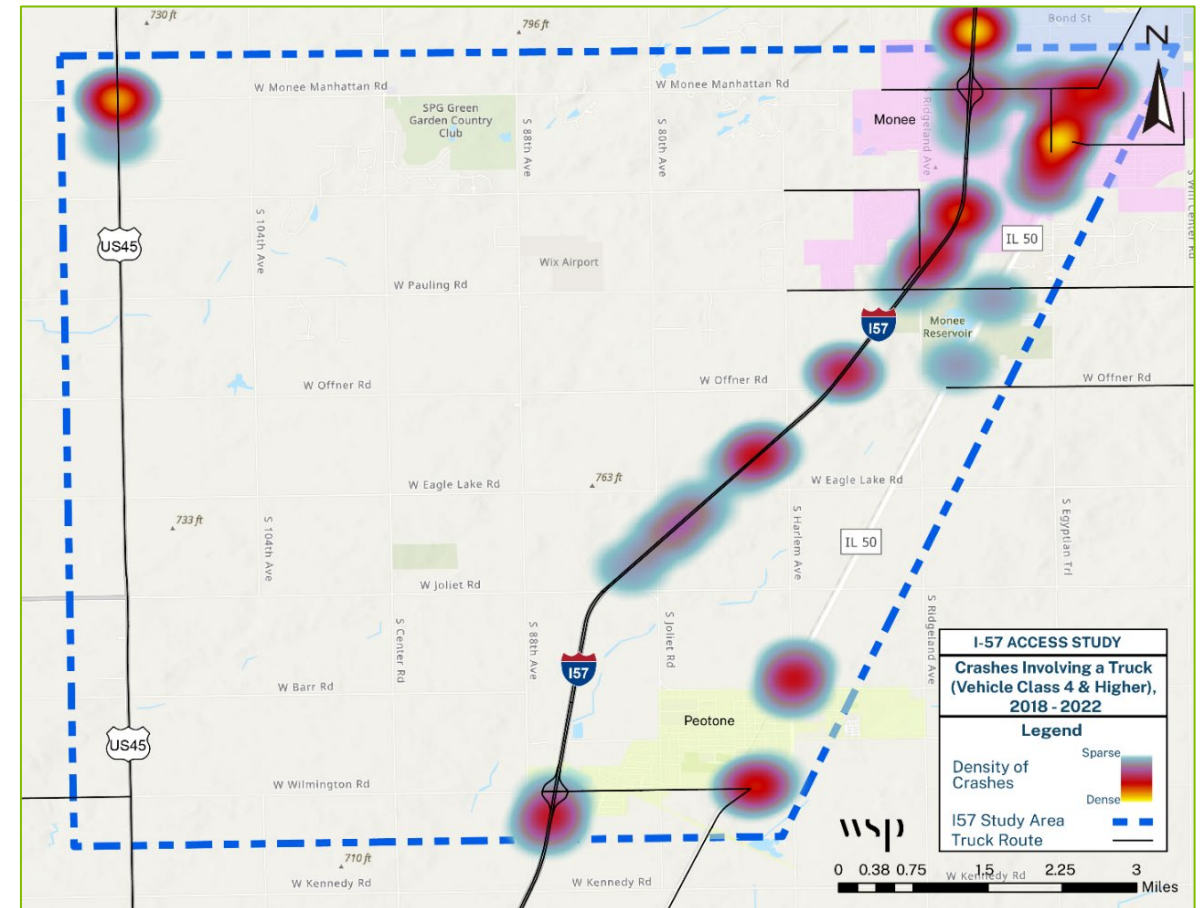
# Purpose Statement

The purpose of the I-57 Access Study is to enhance transportation safety, provide adequate transportation system capacity, and accommodate projected transportation demands along the I-57 corridor between Monee and Peotone.



## Identified Need – Improve Transportation Safety in Study Area

- Ramp and local road crashes in interchange areas due to traffic capacity, sight distance, design criteria issues
- Design of I-57 may be contributing to fixed object and sideswipe crashes
- Few designated truck routes / accesses
- Truck "bottleneck" identified at Manhattan-Monee Road interchange



# Identified Need – Improve Predicted Capacity in Spot Locations

Access points to I-57 to experience traffic delays in the future include:

## Manhattan-Monee Road

Ramp delay predicted to increase,  
resulting in higher traffic  
during peak travel

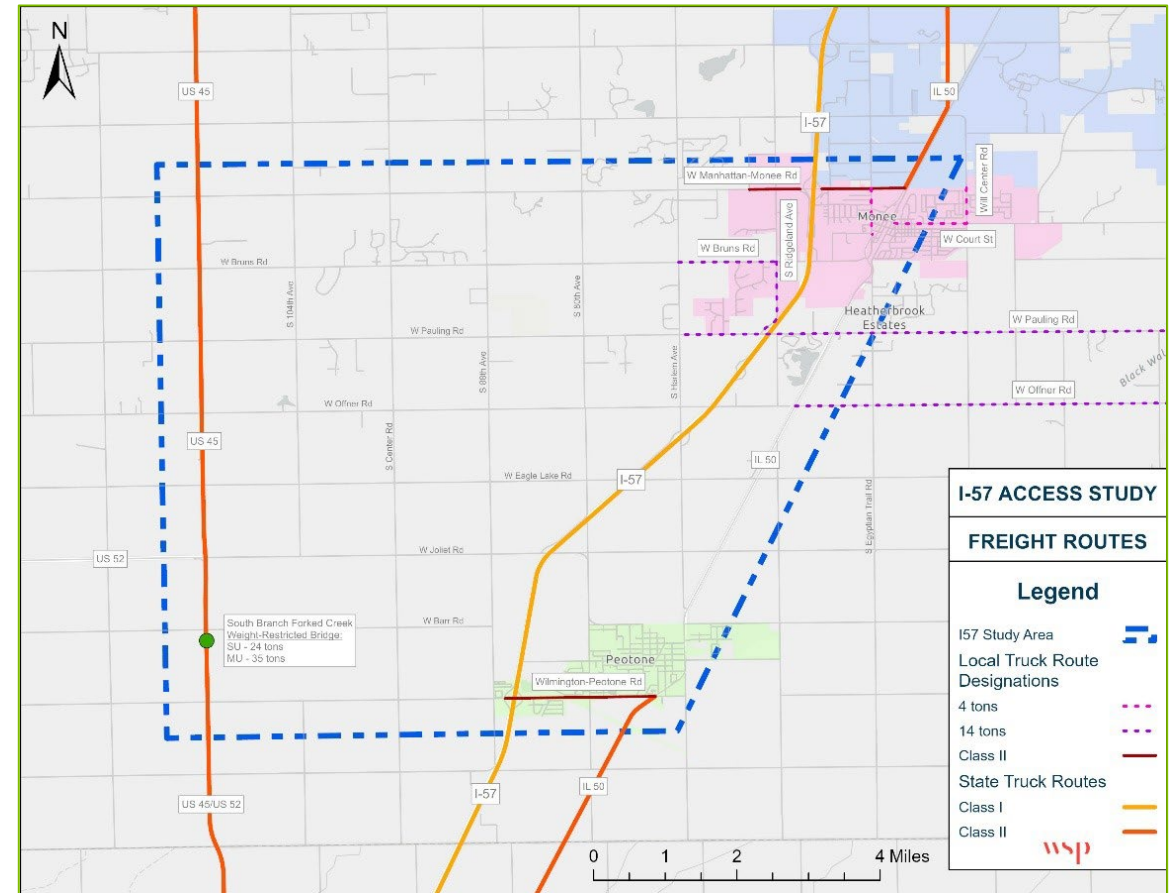
## Wilmington-Peotone Road

Delay at intersections will increase  
due to increase in ramp traffic

There is a need for the project to improve these existing “spot locations” to resolve these operational constraints.

# Identified Need – Accommodate Existing and Future Modal Interrelationships and Connectivity

- Will County is projected to have over a million residents by 2040
- Most workers are expected to commute by car due to low transit availability
- Will County has the second highest amount of industrial space in the region, behind only to Cook County
- Between 2022 and 2050, there will be a 69.5% increase in freight tonnage from 39.9 million tons to 67.7 million tons along I-57



# INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY



# INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY

- **Discuss** the focus questions with your group
- **Summarize** and **write** your answers on the large sticky notes
- **Present** to the group

## Focus Questions:

1. Does the Purpose and Need capture the transportation problems within the study area?
2. What solutions should be considered to resolve the transportation problems and identified needs?

# Q&A SESSION



## WHAT'S NEXT?

- Public Meeting #2
  - Summer 2025, Purpose and Need
- CAG Meeting #3
  - Fall 2025, Alternatives Development

Contact Us Anytime

Study Website: [Tiny.cc/AccessI57](https://tiny.cc/AccessI57)

Study Email: [AccessI57Study@gmail.com](mailto:AccessI57Study@gmail.com)



THANK YOU

