### US BUSINESS ROUTE 20 From Shaw Road to State Street/North Appleton Road Intersection in Belvidere Public Hearing | October 25, 2023

Thank you for joining us! The hearing will begin at 5pm

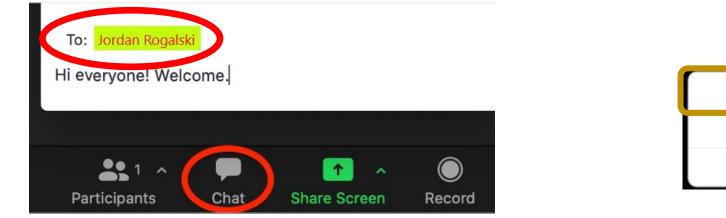
This hearing will be recorded and available on the project website after tonight.



# **Virtual Hearing Format**

#### We Value Your Feedback!

Click the Chat icon at the bottom of the screen to provide your feedback and submit questions.



Computer view



Mobile view



This hearing is being recorded

### **Presenters**



Elli Cosky Public Involvement Coordinator



Michael Kuehn IDOT Studies & Plans Engineer



Amber Petkevicius Hanson Project Engineer



**Jeff Bushur** Hanson Environmental Lead



# Agenda

- 1) Purpose of Public Hearing
- 2) History of the Study
- 3) Proposed Improvements
- 4) Anticipated Project Impacts
- 5) Next Steps
- 6) Live Q&A



# Purpose of Public Hearing



## **Purpose of Today's Public Hearing**

Present the Proposed Improvements

Present the Project Impacts

- Anticipated Proposed Right-of-Way (ROW) Needs
- Environmental Impacts In Draft Stage

Provide Another Opportunity for Public Comment

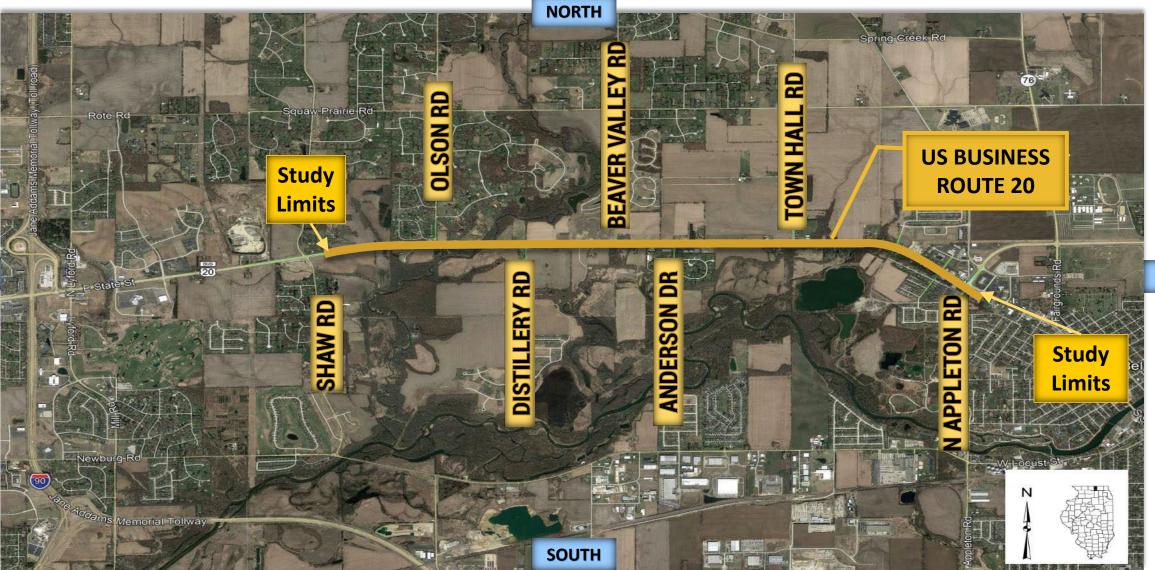
New format added



# History of The Study



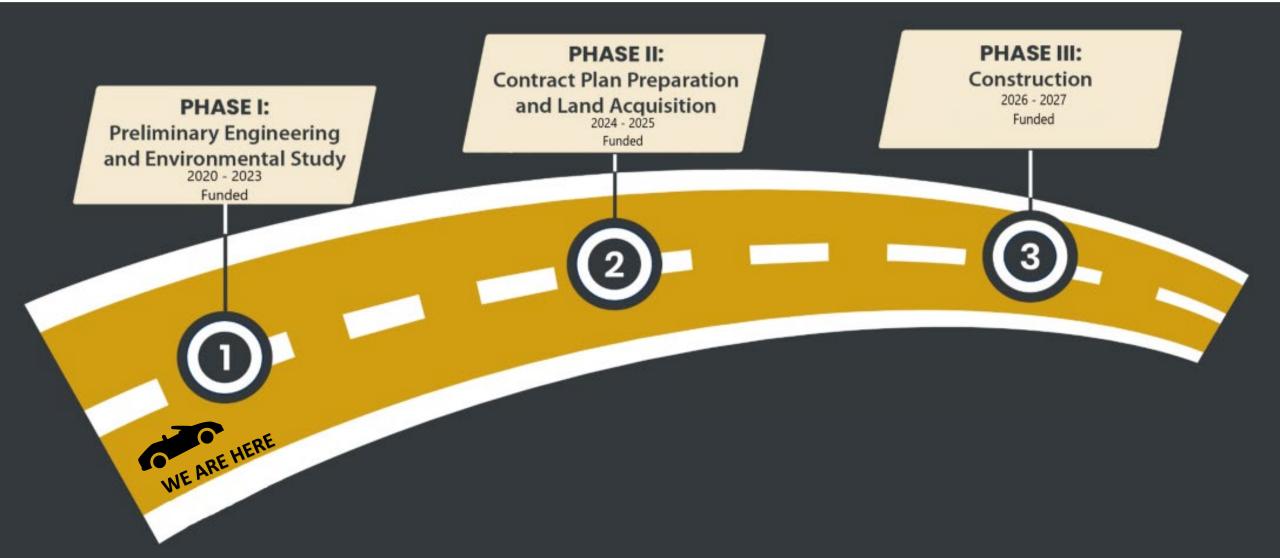
### **Study Limits**



WEST

EAST

### **Recap of the Study**



## **IDOT Phases - Phase I**

#### **Data Collection**

- 1986 Findings
- Infrastructure age and condition
- Traffic Volumes
- Crash history collection
- Environmental Conditions
- Noise Analysis
- Existing/Proposed Drainage

#### Identify Transportation Needs for All Users

- Vehicles, Pedestrians, and Bicyclists
- Complete Street Requirements

#### **Conceptual Design**

#### Stakeholder Input

- Public Meetings (x2)
- Additional Public Outreach

# Refinements to Conceptual Design based on feedback

#### Stakeholder Input Again

Public Hearing

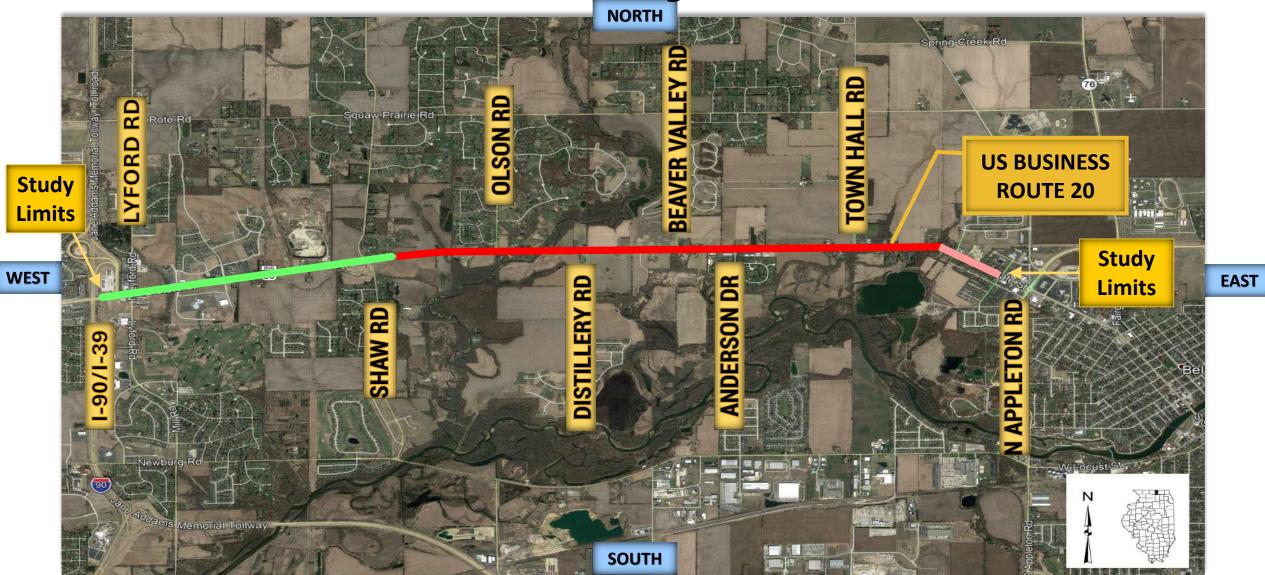
Finalizing Scope of Improvements



WE ARE

HERE

### **1986 Study Limits**



# Original Environmental Assessment (EA) & FONSI

- EA document prepared in mid-1980s
- Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) issued in 1986
- Covered all three road segments
- **EA** content:
  - Purpose and Need for Action
  - Affected Environment
  - Alternatives including Proposed Action
  - Environmental Consequences
  - Comments and Coordination

FHWA-IL-EA 09-86	
Administrative Action Finding of No Significant Impact	
Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)	
by	
U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and Illinois Department of Transportation	
U.S. BUSINESS ROUTE 20 (F.A.P. 517) LYFORD ROAD, ROCKFORD TO HIGH LINE STREET, BELVIDERE WINNEBAGO AND BOONE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS	
Cooperating Agencies	
U.S. Army Corps of Magineers	
August 21, 1986 Date	Lemmes Mula
The following persons may be contacted for information on this document:	
Mr. Jay W. Miller Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration 320 Wess Washington Street Springfield, Illinois 62701 Phone: 217-492-4600	William D. Oet District Engineer, District 2 Illinois Department of Transportation 819 Depot Avenue Dixon, Illinois 61021 Phone: 815-284-2271
The proposed project will provide for improving the existing two-lane roadway to a four-lane facility, along the existing corridor, in three phases. Phase I consists of constructing four lanes from Lyford Road to a point approximately 0.4 mile cast of Shaw Road (1.8 miles); from there the existing roadway will be reconditioned and resurfaced into Belvidere. Phase II consists of constructing four lanes from Town Hall Road to High Line Street (0.9 mile). Phase III consists of the four-lane construction of that length of the project between Phase I and II (2.5 miles). One structure, over Beaver Creek, will be built in conjunction with Phase III of the project.	
The FHWA has determined that this project will not have any significant impact on the human environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based on the attached environmental assessment which has been independently evaluated by the FHWA and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the environmental issues and impacts of the proposed action. It provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an environmental impact statement is not required. The FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope and	

attached environmental assessment



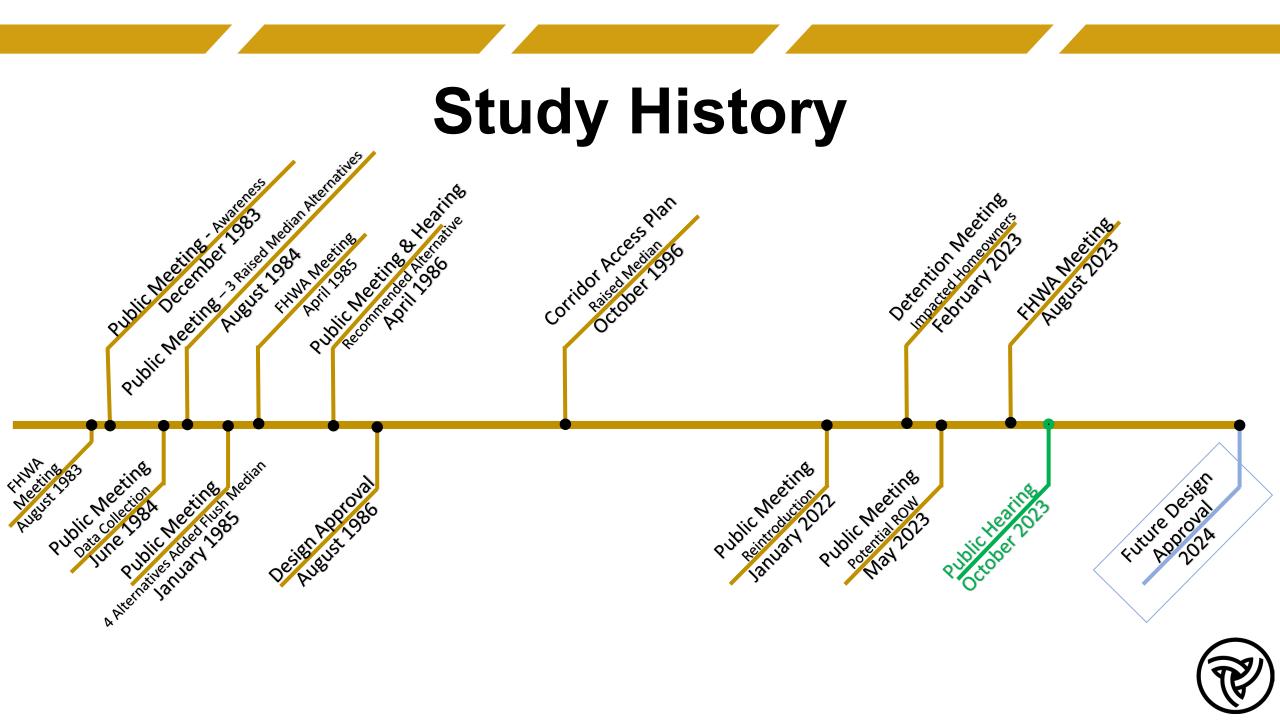
## **Original EA Findings**

- > 1 residential displacement
- ➢ 37 acres permanent ROW
  - 30 ac. farmland, 2.5 ac. residential, 4.5 ac. commercial
- Cultural resources
  - Several potential historic structures but no impacts
  - Commitment to investigate potential archaeological sites in Design
- Section 4(f) (public parks) BCCD property present but no impact
- Wetlands none present but based on NWI mapping
- Streams bridge replacement at Beaver Creek
- Floodplain Beaver Creek crossing
- Biological tree removal; bald eagle and Indiana bat mentioned but no impacts

## **Original EA Findings (cont.)**

- ➢ Noise
  - Study concluded overall reduced noise due to lower traffic speeds
  - Three noise impacts; barriers considered but not cost effective
- Special waste general discussion in EA
- Public involvement
  - Public Awareness Meeting and Data Collection Meeting
  - 2 Public Informational Meetings
  - Public Hearing
  - Public overwhelmingly in favor of Alternative 4 (preferred)



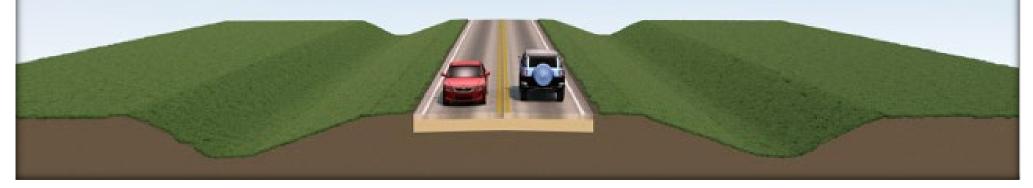


# Proposed Improvements



### **Roadway Improvements**

Existing Conditions (Rural West End) – 2-lane roadway, typically



Proposed Improvements (Rural West End) – Widening to 4-lane roadway



## **Roadway Improvements**

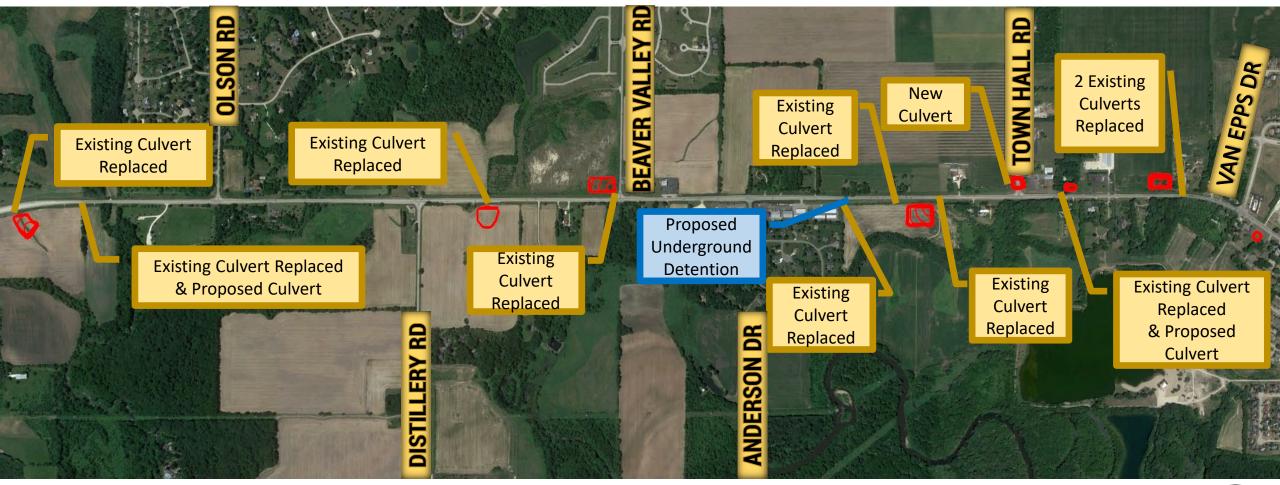


# **Roadway Improvements** Existing Conditions (Urban East End) – 5-Lane Roadway





### **Detention Locations**





### What's Changed?

Signal Proposed



# Land Acquisition

#### TWO TYPES OF LAND ACQUISITION

#### 1. PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) (Fee Simple)

Acquisition of all rights and interest

#### 2. TEMPORARY EASEMENTS

- Ownership is retained by current property owner
- IDOT and Contractors are allowed temporary access to property for construction
- Generally, for grading or driveway construction

PROPOSED ROW

EXISTING ROW

TEMPORARY EASEMENT



# Proposed Improvements Overview



Environmental Assessment (EA)**Re-evaluation** 



### **Environmental Assessment Re-evaluation**

#### Items Considered – In Draft Stage

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES** 

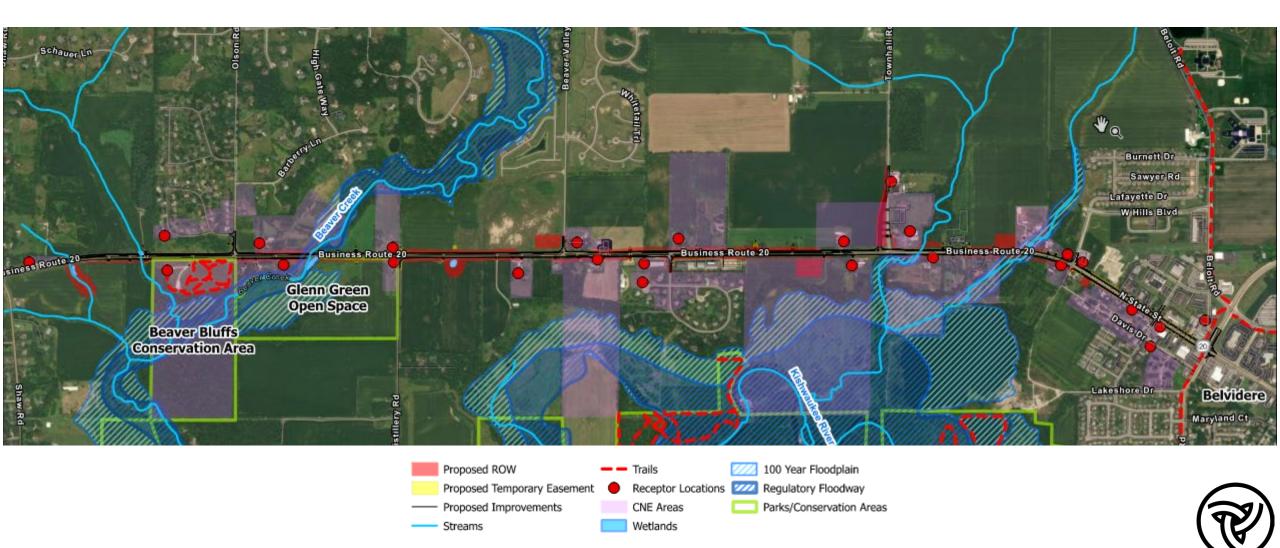
- Wildlife and Vegetation
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Special Waste
- Agricultural Resources
- Floodplains
- Wetlands and Streams
- Parks and Natural Areas

#### **SOCIAL/ECONOMIC RESOURCES**

- Age, Income, and Race
- Minority and Low-Income Populations
- Evidence of Past Human Occupancy
- Historic Structures
- Community Facilities
- Land Use
- Noise
- Water and Air Quality
- Section 106



### **Environmental Inventory**



## **Re-evaluation Impact Summary**

- No displacements
- > 23.23 acres of permanent ROW; 2.60 acres of temporary easements
- Design includes a bike lane along widened shoulders
- Town Hall Road to be realigned at intersection with US BR 20
- Design includes 8 detention basins
- Parking space loss at 1 business
- 15.3 acres of farmland conversion
- > Cultural resources: 16 structures being evaluated for historic eligibility
- Section 4(f) uses: Beaver Bluffs Conservation Area and Glenn H. Open Space Area
- > 0.28 acres of wetland impacts; detention areas being surveyed for wetlands
- In-stream work at Beaver Creek, 2 tributaries of Beaver Creek, 2 tributaries of the Kishwaukee River

## **Re-evaluation Impact Summary (cont.)**

- Floodplain crossing at Beaver Creek and two tributaries to Kishwaukee River
- ➤ ~600 trees to be removed
- Threatened and endangered species results are pending
  - Likely seasonal tree removal restrictions for bat species
  - Rusty patched bumble bee being reviewed
- Traffic Noise Analysis completed
- Special Waste surveys Recognized Environmental Conditions (RECs) present
- Permits needed
  - Section 404 permit and Section 401 water quality certification
  - Construction in the Floodway permit
  - NPDES permit for storm water discharges from construction



## **Re-evaluation Impact Summary (cont.)** Traffic Noise Analysis



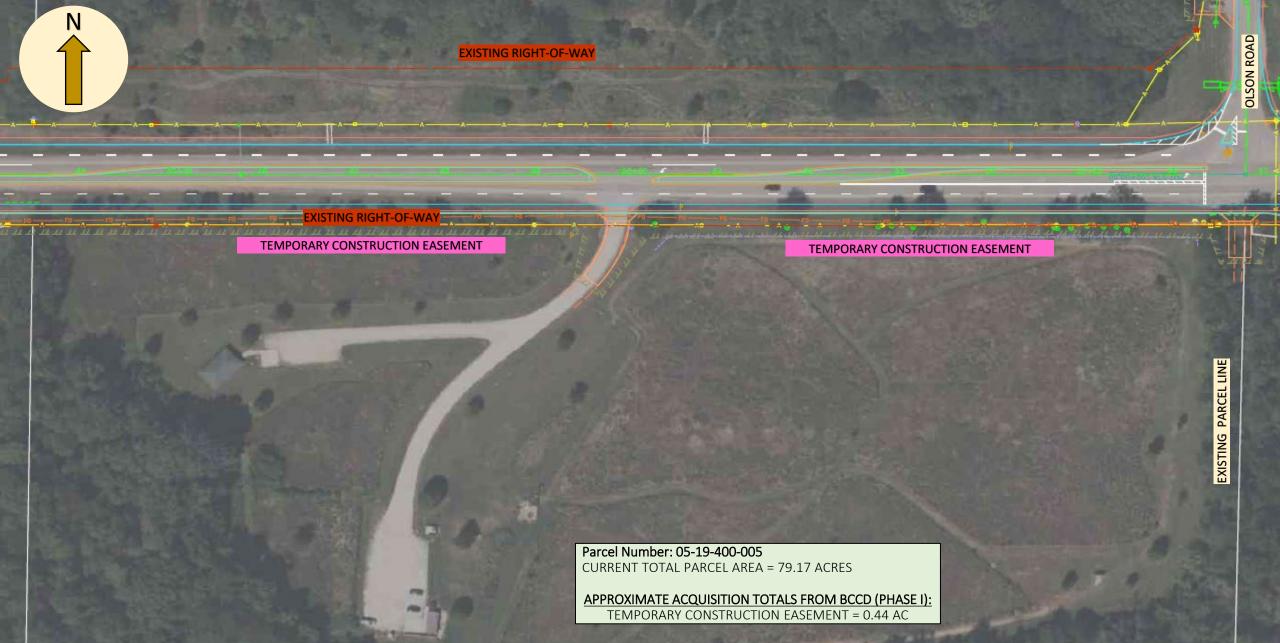
- Evaluated 25 receptor locations for existing (2025), no-build (2045) and build (2045)
- Noise levels ranged from -1 to 3 dB(A) from existing to build
- 6 receptors approached, met or exceeded the NAC
- Noise abatement (barriers) was considered
  - 4 receptors would not be feasible (only 1 receptor each)
  - 1 receptor not reasonable (did not meet noise reduction design goal)
  - 1 receptor not reasonable (not cost effective)



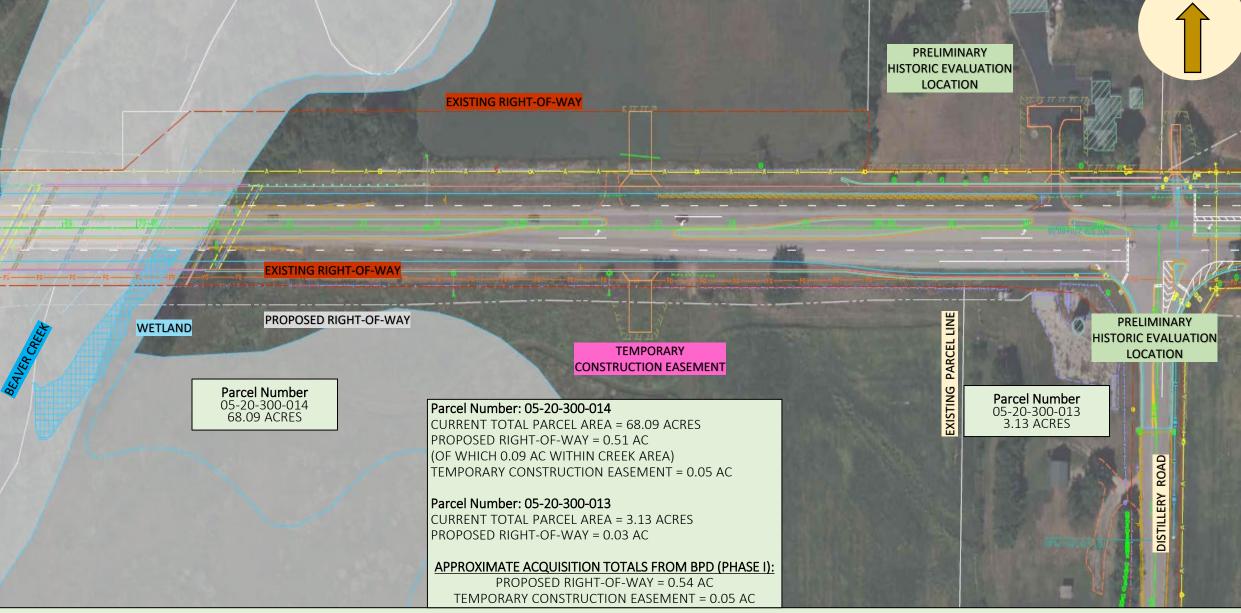
## **Re-evaluation Impact Summary (cont.)** Section 4(f) Uses

- U.S. Department of Transportation Action of 1966
- Protections for publicly owned parks, recreation areas, wildlife or waterfowl refuges, and historic sites
- Temporary easement needed from Beaver Bluffs Conservation Area
- Permanent ROW and temporary easement needed from Glenn H. Green Open Space Area
- FHWA intends to make a *de minimis* (minor) impact finding





### **Beaver Bluffs Conservation Area Summary**



Ν

### **Glenn H Green Open Space Area Summary**

### **Public Involvement**

- Virtual Public Meeting #1
  - January 12, 2022
- Stakeholder Meeting (drainage basin related)
  - February 15, 2023
- Virtual Public Meeting #2
  - May 11, 2023
- Public Hearing (today)







### **Re-evaluation Next Steps**

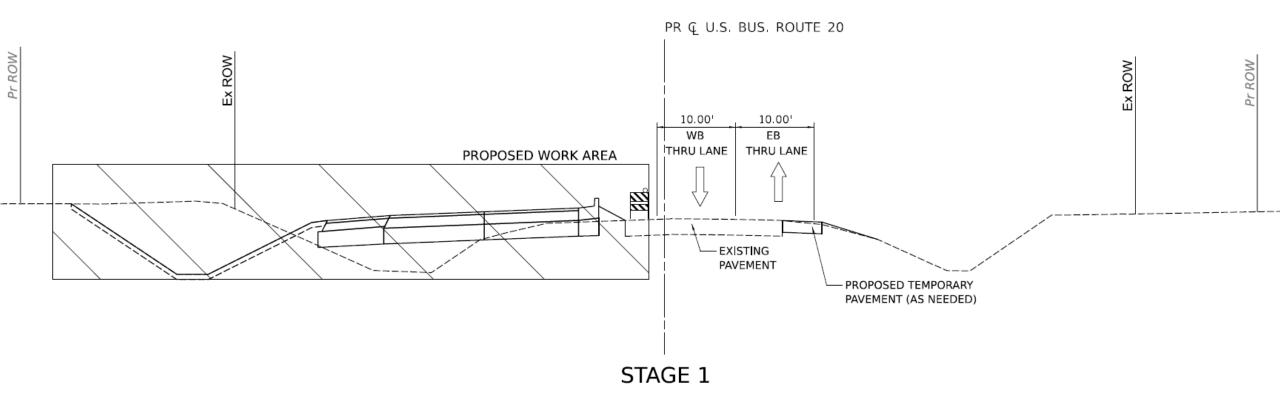
- Public Hearing comment period
- Pending environmental survey results to document
  - Biological resources (threatened & endangered species; wetlands)
  - Cultural resources (architectural and archaeological)
- de minimis Section 4(f) resolution
- Re-evaluation document review and approval by IDOT and FHWA



# Construction

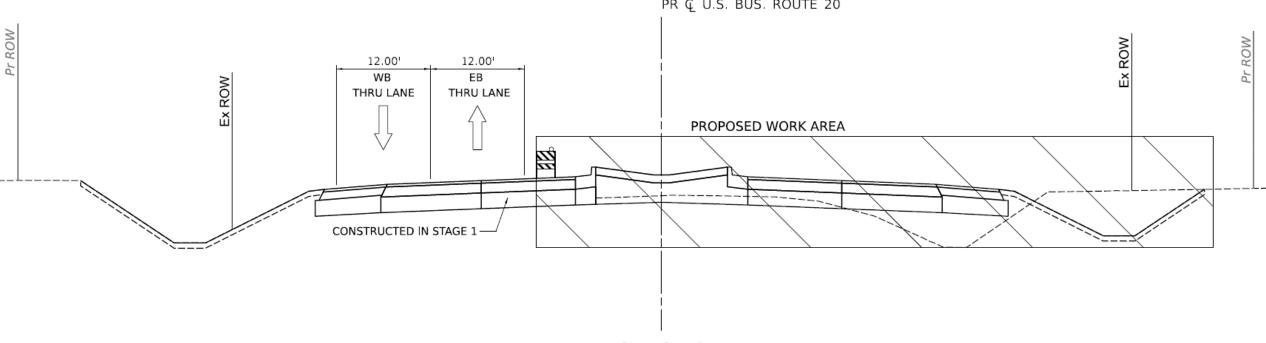


## How will it be built?



R

## How will it be built?



PR Q U.S. BUS. ROUTE 20

STAGE 2





DOCUMENTED COMMENT PERIOD ENDS November 25, 2023

#### How can you provide comments/questions?



#### Via Project Website: <a href="mailto:tinyurl.com/USBusiness20Study">tinyurl.com/USBusiness20Study</a>

Click on "Get Involved" tab and select the link for the "Questions/Comments Submittal" form



Via E-mail: Michael.Kuehn@illinois.gov

Subject: US Business Route 20 from Shaw Road to State Street/Appleton Intersection Via Mail:

Illinois Department of Transportation District 2 Studies and Plans 819 Depot Avenue Dixon, IL 61021-3500 Attn: Michael Kuehn

DOCUMENTED COMMENT PERIOD ENDS November 25, 2023

#### **Added Comments/Questions Opportunity**

### October 30, 2023 from 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Rivers Edge Recreation Center, 1151 W Locust St, Belvidere, IL 61008

- No presentation
- Informal
- In-person
- Department staff member and a court recorder to take comments
- Map of the study area with improvements overlaid





#### Phase I

Spring

- Existing Conditions Analysis
- Environmental Study



• Public Meeting #1: Held Jan 12, 2022

- Design Report
- Structural Review
- Environmental Report



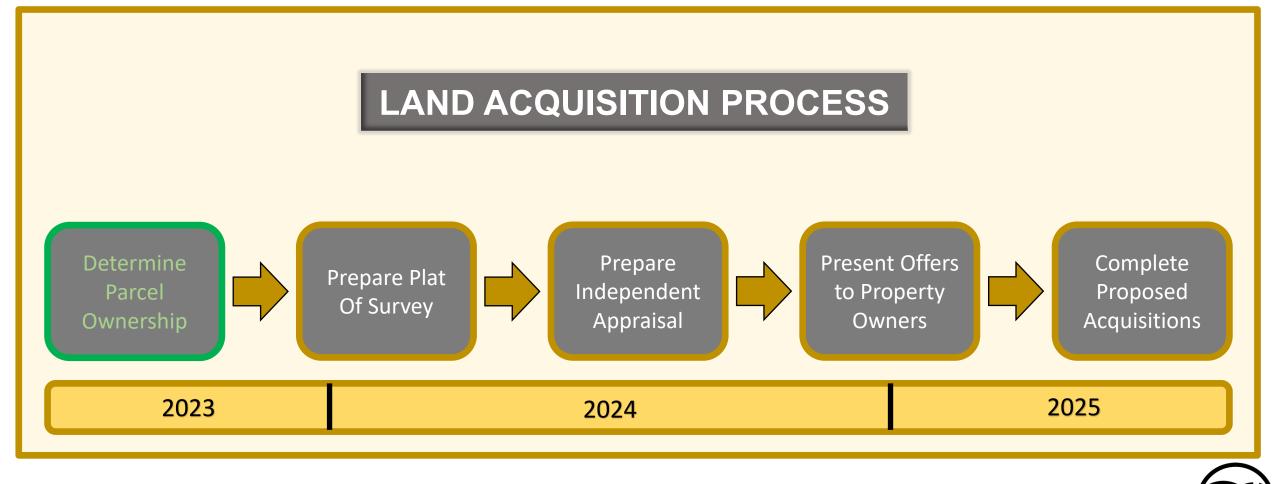
Additional Public Outreach

- Public Meeting #2: May 11, 2023
- · Address Comments & Finalize ROW Needs
- Public Meeting #3:October 25, 2023
- Right of Way Acquisition Commences
- Finalize Design Report

Phase II and Right of Way Acquisition







# Live Q&A



Elli Cosky Public Involvement Coordinator



Michael Kuehn IDOT Studies & Plans Engineer



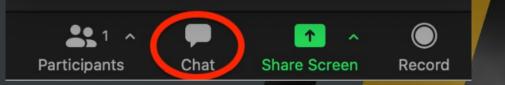
Amber Petkevicius Hanson Project Engineer



**Jeff Bushur** Hanson Environmental Lead



Enter your comments and questions!





#### **PROJECT WEBSITE**

https://tinyurl.com/USBusiness20Study

#### SHARE YOUR INPUT

Comment Form: <u>https://apps1.dot.</u> illinois.gov/WER/?from=1



# THANK YOU!

#### HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT US

GENERAL QUESTIONS/GEOMETRY: Mike Kuehn (Michael.Kuehn@illinois.gov)

LAND ACQUISITION: Jon Estrem (Jon.Estrem@illinois.gov)

PARK LAND/ENVIRONMENTAL: Heath Jordan (Heath.Jordan@illinois.gov)

