

INITIAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

I-57 and US Route 45/52 Interchange Kankakee County, Illinois

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this meeting is to present the alternatives for safety and mobility improvements for the I-57 and US Route 45/52 interchange. This public involvement will also give the community an opportunity to provide input to the Project Study team on the project, so that the Team understands the public's concerns. The Project Study Team will be answering questions and addressing the public's concerns via the project website. Included on this site is a comment form that can be submitted electronically or there are other ways to submit comments listed at the end of this handout. We hope that you will take the time to express your comments and concerns on improvements to the I-57 and US Route 45/52 interchange.

PROJECT NEED

The purpose of this project is to consider improvements to the I-57 and US Route 45/52 interchange. The existing interchange bridge was constructed in 1962 and the structural deficiencies require attention. A recent 2017 Bridge Condition Report recommends the replacement of the structure carrying US Route 45/52 over I-57. A 2018 geometric review detailed the improvements needed to address the existing ramp interchange geometry, which does not meet the current design policies.

In order to satisfy the safety and mobility needs of the corridor, this project will also accommodate the planned future expansion of I-57 from a 4-lane facility to a 6-lane facility.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project limits extend approximately 1 mile to the east and west of the US 45/52 overpass along I-57, and approximately 1/3 of a mile to the north and south along US Route 45/52. The project includes the intersection of US Route 45/52 with Riverstone Parkway to the north of the interchange, and the northern entrance of the Love's Travel store and Peerbottle Ave to the south of the interchange.

Interchange Type Study (ITS) recommended a Compressed Diamond Interchange Type. The proposed improvements include reconstructing the existing interchange using a Compressed Diamond Interchange that will be compatible with the future expansion of I-57 to six lanes and include a new alignment and structure on US 45/52.

The proposed improvements will include reconstruction of Interstate 57 pavement. US Route 45/52 will be reconstructed on a modified alignment and will provide the necessary turn lanes at the interchange. The existing traffic signals will be upgraded as part of this project. Safety and drainage will be improved as needed. The bridge carrying US route 45/52 over I-57 is to be replaced. Temporary closure of some local streets and entrances will be necessary to accommodate the new interchange and maintain traffic flow.

HISTORY

The original design plans for the I-57 at US Route 45/52 interchange were prepared in 1961 and constructed in 1962. From 1976 to 2019 various repairs have been made to the US Route 45/52 overpass, including adjustment of expansion joints, concrete overlays on the deck, joint repair, and cleaning and painting of the girders.

In 2007 the I-57 Six-Lane Feasibility Study was conducted to determine the requirements needed to satisfy the safety and mobility needs of future traffic along the majority of the I-57 corridor. The I-57 Six-Lane Feasibility Study recommended that improvements along the I-57 corridor from mm 307.5 to mm 327 be consistent with the future widening of I-57 to six-lanes.

This project was initiated as a result of the findings of a Bridge Conditions Report (BCR), in which IDOT concurred with the recommendation for complete replacement of the existing overpass bridge.

A 2018 geometric review found that the ramp layout of the existing interchange does not meet current standards.

In Summer of 2021, an Interchange Type Study was performed for the I-57 and US Route 45/52 Interchange. The ITS evaluated several interchange configurations to determine the design that would best address the safety and mobility needs of the area while also addressing the deficiencies of the current interchange. The ITS analyzed three interchange types that included a Conventional Diamond Interchange, a Compressed Diamond Interchange, and a Single-Point Urban Interchange (SPUI). The Interchange Type Study reviewed the three types of interchanges to determine which interchange was a best-fit solution for this area. This included review of several design factors including mobility, safety, constructability, and right-of-way requirements, as well as consideration of impacts to adjacent properties. The Interchange Type Study recommended the Compressed Diamond Interchange to be studied further through a Location and Environment (Phase I) Study. To see a drawing of each alternative reviewed in the Type Study please visit the project website at: https://idot.illinois.gov/projects/i-57-at-us-45-52-interchange.html

WHAT'S NEXT?

The I-57 and US Route 45/52 interchange project is currently beginning the Location and Environment Study (Phase I) phase of the project. This phase includes evaluation of potential alignments to address mobility and safety issues within the project area. Potential improvements are being evaluated on how well they improve safety and mobility as well as on their environmental impacts, residential and commercial impacts, and feedback from the public.

It is anticipated that Phase 1 of the project will require approximately 18 to 24 months to complete, and we are approximately 9 months into the project. Additional public involvement will be conducted to solicit input from the public regarding the preferred alternative and any issues to be addressed by the project at a later date.

After Phase I has concluded, Phase II (Detailed Design), Land Acquisition and Contract Plans Preparation can begin which generally takes 24 months. This project is tentatively funded in the FY 2022-2027 Proposed Highway Improvement Program subject to project readiness and funding availability.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Should you have any additional questions, you may contact Mr. Jacob Oyier of IDOT at 815-434-8575 or by e-mail at Jacob.Oyier@illinois.gov

Comments for this project can be submitted electronically, or by mail using the comment sheet found on the project website. Mailed comments should be sent to the address on the comment sheet. Study Team, IDOT District 3, 700 East Norris Drive, Ottawa, Illinois 61350. All comments should be submitted to the Project Study Team by March 31, 2022. For more information on the project or to submit comments visit https://idot.illinois.gov/projects/i-57-at-us-45-52-interchange.html