



# IL 100-106 River Crossing Project Phase I Study Citizens Advisory Group Meeting #1

November 2, 2016





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# Introductions

- ▶ IDOT Region 4/District 6
- ▶ Consultant Team
- ▶ Citizens Advisory Group members

# Agenda

- ▶ Purpose of the Citizens Advisory Group (CAG)
- ▶ Ground Rules
- ▶ Study Coordination and Schedule
- ▶ Community Context Audit
- ▶ Review of previous feasibility study (Lower Illinois River Regional Crossing Study)
- ▶ Purpose and Need draft
- ▶ Alternatives brainstorming
- ▶ Next Steps

# This is a Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Project

CSS is:

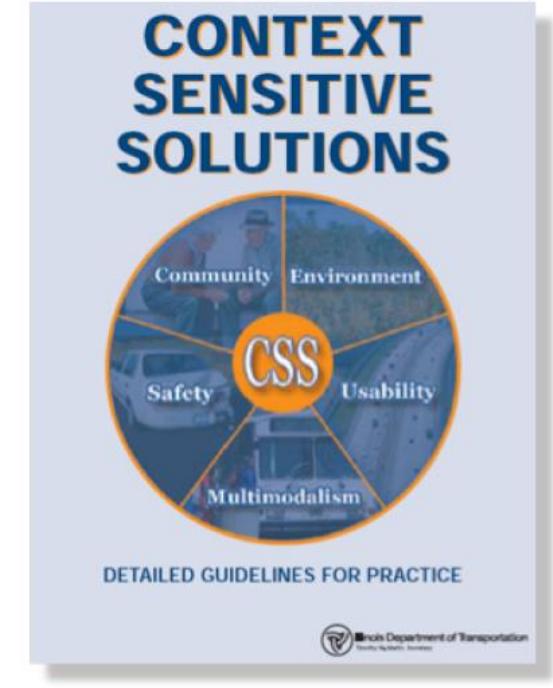
- ▶ Flexible and creative approach to design
- ▶ Promotes frequent communication with stakeholders
- ▶ Addresses all modes of transportation

*Goal is to achieve consensus*

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



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# Stakeholder Involvement Plan



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- ▶ Blueprint for defining public involvement tools and methods
- ▶ Framework for achieving consensus
- ▶ Identifies roles and responsibilities
- ▶ Establishes timing of stakeholder activities
- ▶ Can be modified as needed during course of study

# Role of CAG in the Study Organization?



PROJECT STUDY GROUP (PSG)  
IDOT Region 4 • FHWA IL •  
Consultant Team



## CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)

- Elected Officials
  - Business
  - Agriculture
  - Organizations
  - Private Citizens

- ▶ IDOT and FHWA make final decisions
- ▶ Informed by the CAG, resource agencies, and other stakeholders



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# Ground Rules

## *Principles of PSG*

- ▶ Make ultimate project decisions
- ▶ Provide technical oversight
- ▶ Manage the process
- ▶ Resolve project issues
- ▶ Promote partnerships
- ▶ Work with CAG to develop consensus



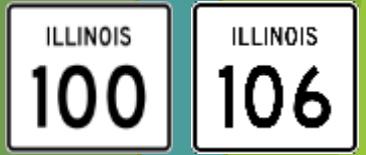
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# Ground Rules

## *Principles of CAG Membership*

- ▶ Commit to meetings
- ▶ Agree to act as a team in a spirit of collaboration
- ▶ Candidly communicate local issues
- ▶ Respect all opinions
- ▶ Contribute to identifying a consensus solution
- ▶ Provide timely reviews of all submittals

# Study Coordination and Schedule



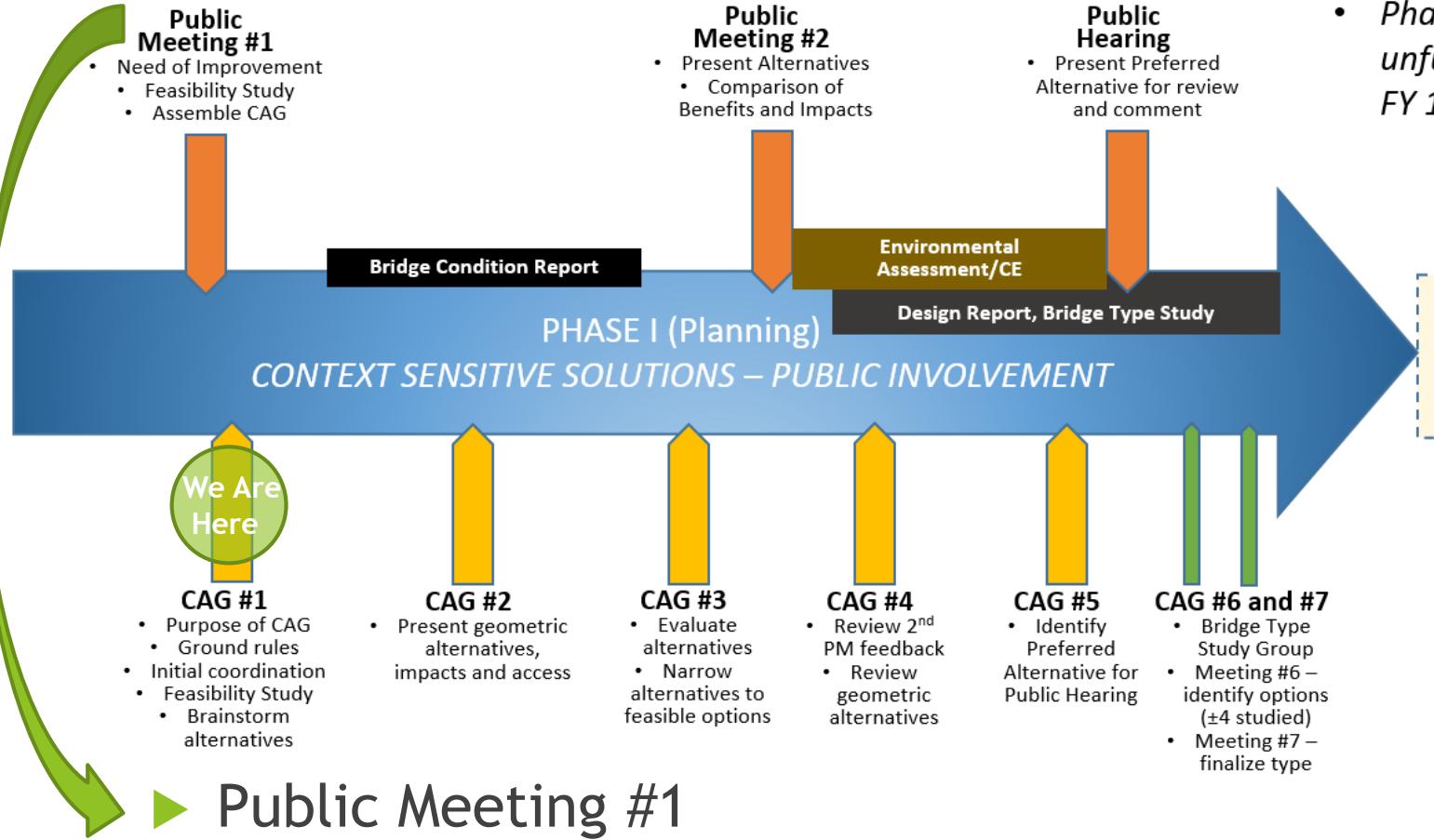
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2016

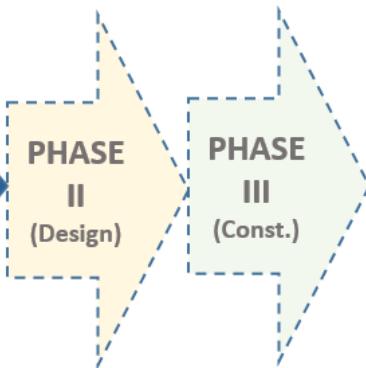
2017

2018

2019



- Phase I is funded
- Phase II and Phase III are unfunded (\$14M bridge rehab FY 18-22)



## ► Public Meeting #1

- 40 attendees
- Six comments received



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# Study Coordination and Schedule

## Contacts

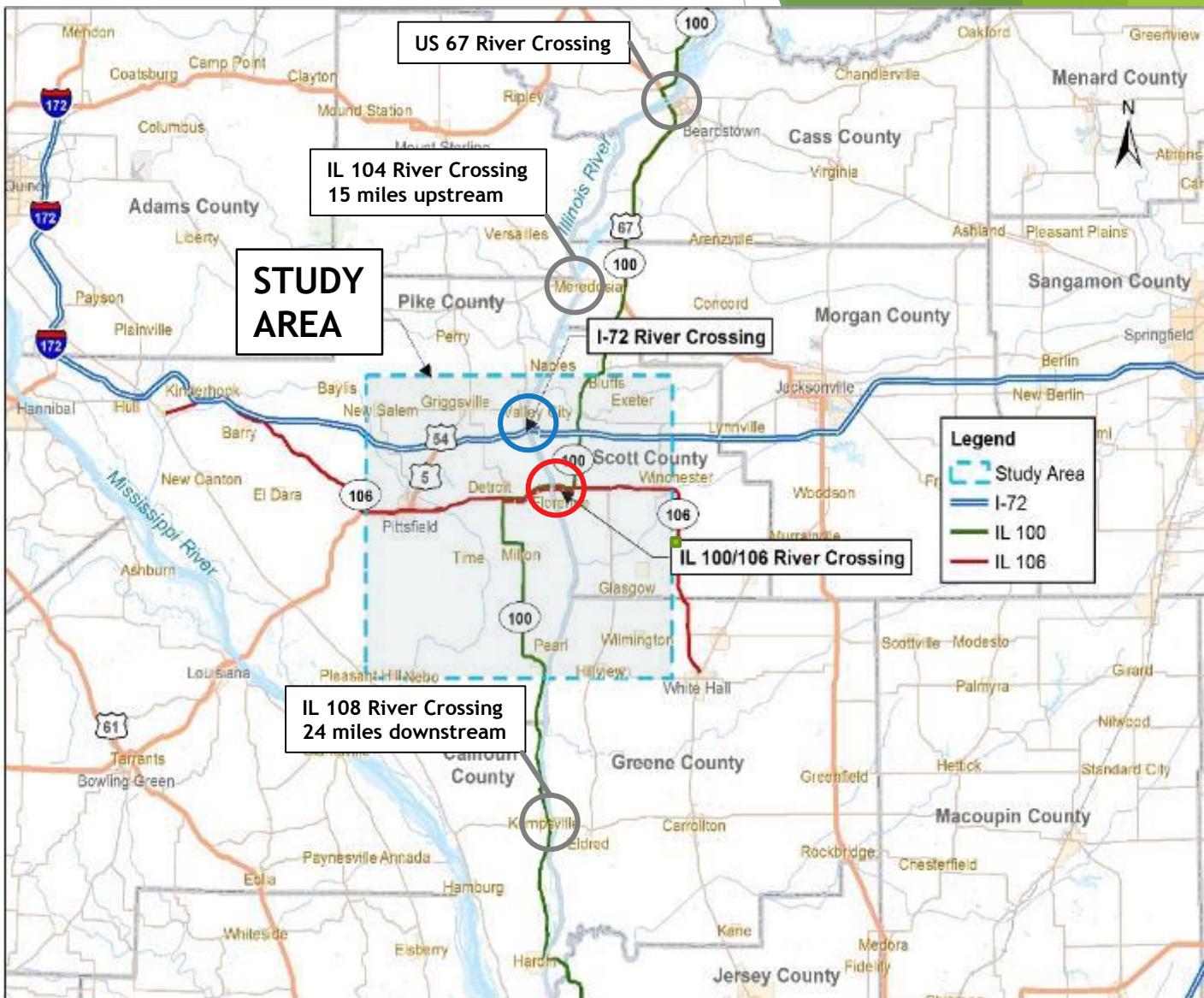
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# Where is the Project located?



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- ▶ The Project is located in west central Illinois
- ▶ There is a nearby river crossing on I-72 to the north
- ▶ Other river crossings are located in Meredosia and Beardstown to the north and Kampserville and Hardin to the south

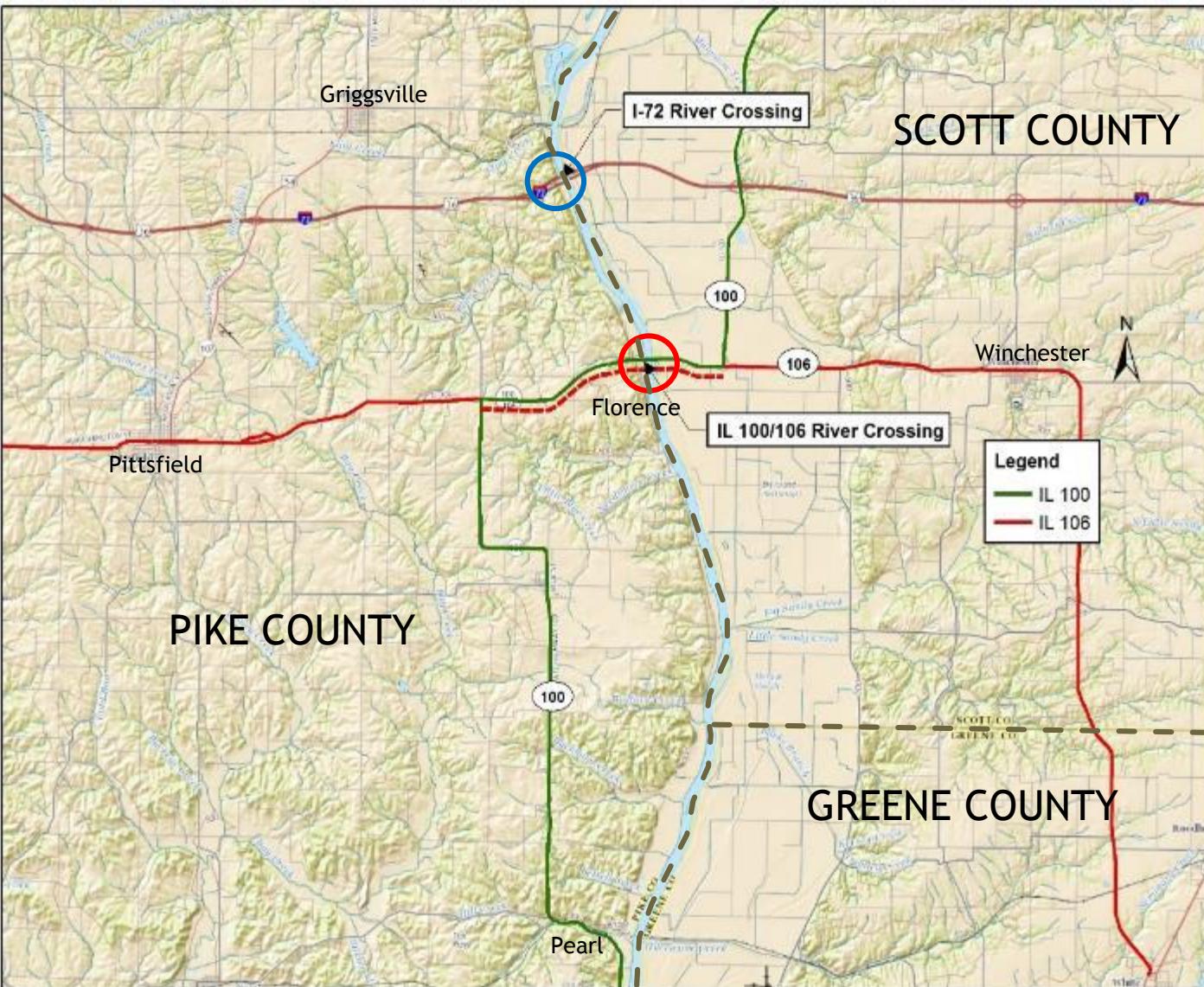


# Where is the Project located?



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- ▶ The Study Area for this project includes:
  - ▶ The river crossing at IL 100/106
  - ▶ The nearby river crossing at I-72
  - ▶ Nearby communities in Scott, Pike and Greene counties



# Phase I Community Context Audit



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- ▶ Provide the CAG with an opportunity to provide important information to the study team.
- ▶ Helps to better understand the factors that are unique to your community, culture and history.
- ▶ Results will be compared to the findings from the LIRRCS feasibility study and shared at second CAG meeting.
- ▶ *CAG#1 Activity A: Please provide completed sheets by the end of today's meeting.*

# LIRRCS Study Overview (2013)



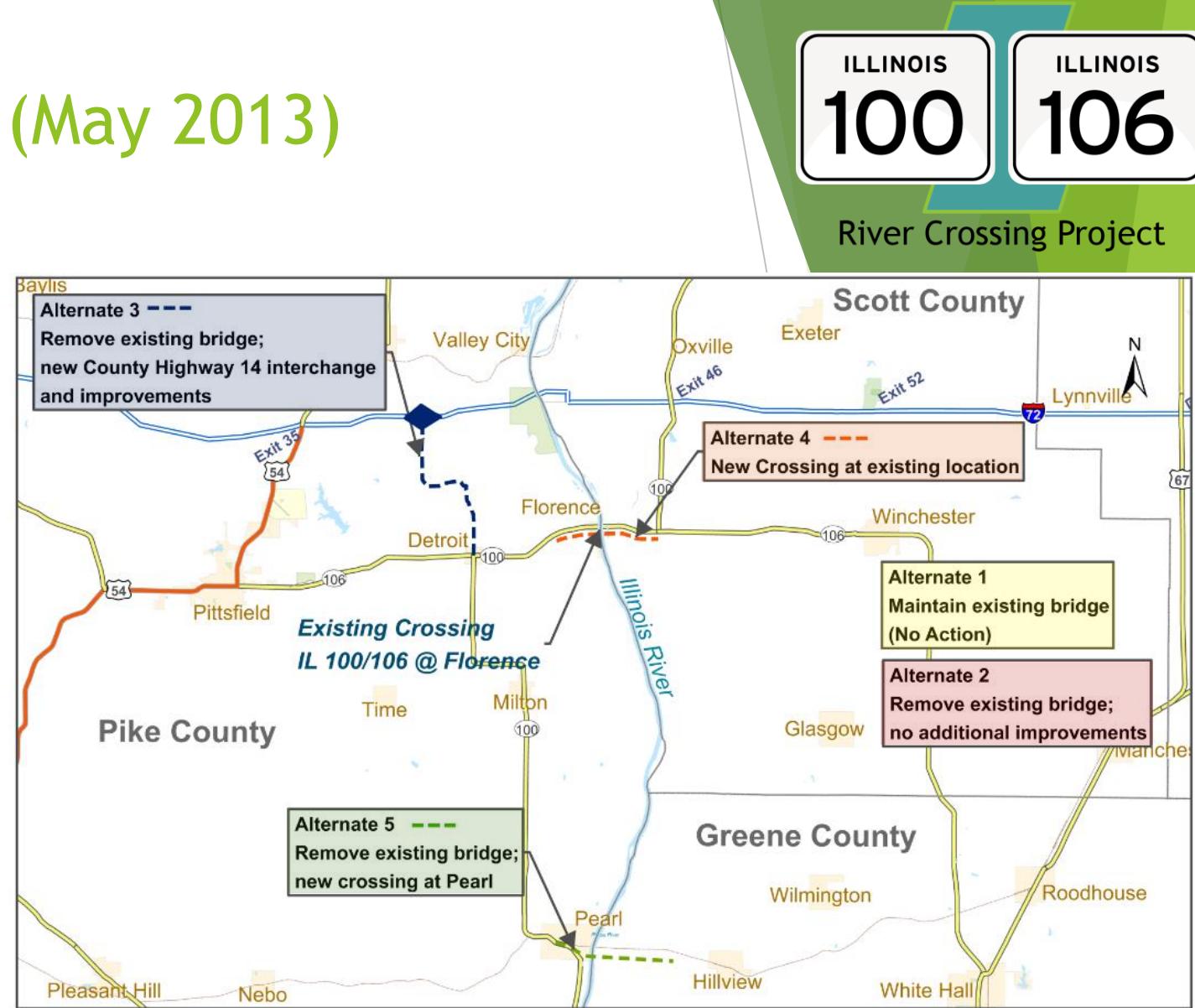
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- ▶ LIRRCS - Lower Illinois River Regional Crossing Study
- ▶ The previous LIRRCS study was initiated to determine the feasibility of river crossing options
- ▶ A Citizens Advisory Group study group of local officials, businesses and interested citizens was formed
- ▶ Five alternatives were studied



# LIRRCS Alternatives (May 2013)

- ▶ Alternate 1 - Maintain existing lift bridge
- ▶ Alternate 2 - Remove existing bridge
- ▶ Alternate 3 - New interchange at I-72 and CH 14, remove existing bridge
- ▶ Alternate 4 - New bridge at/near existing location, remove existing bridge
- ▶ Alternate 5 - New bridge at Pearl, remove existing bridge
- ▶ ***The LIRRCS CAG preferred Alternative 4***
- ▶ ***Alternates 3 and 4 were recommended to be studied further***

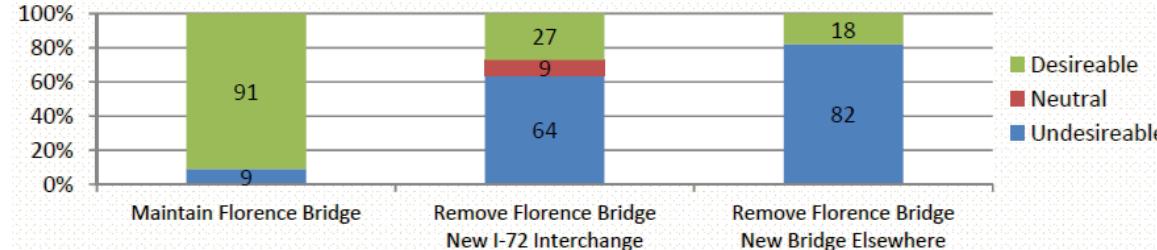


# LIRRCS Community Context Audit

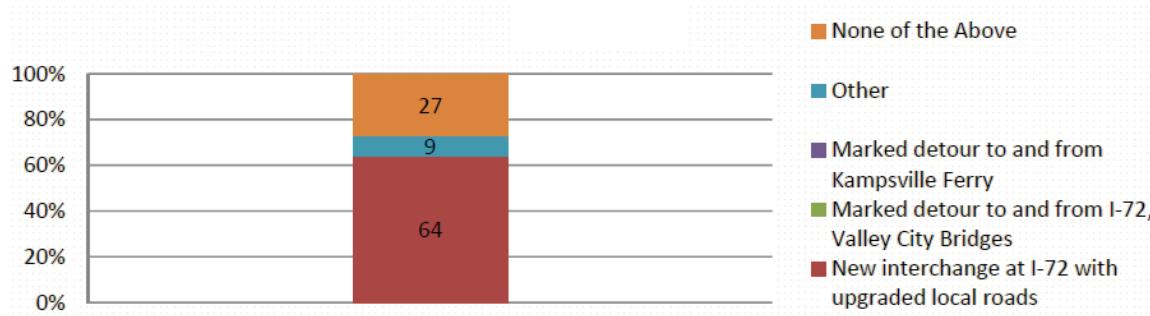


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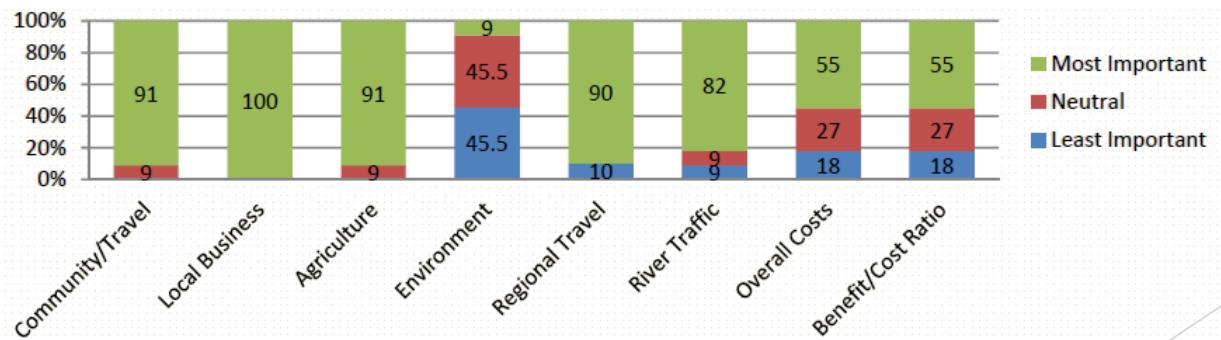
## ► Desirability of alternatives



## ► Which temporary access is most desirable if Florence Bridge is unserviceable for a long period of time?



## ► Importance of factors in making a crossing decision



# IL 100-106 Study vs. LIRRCS

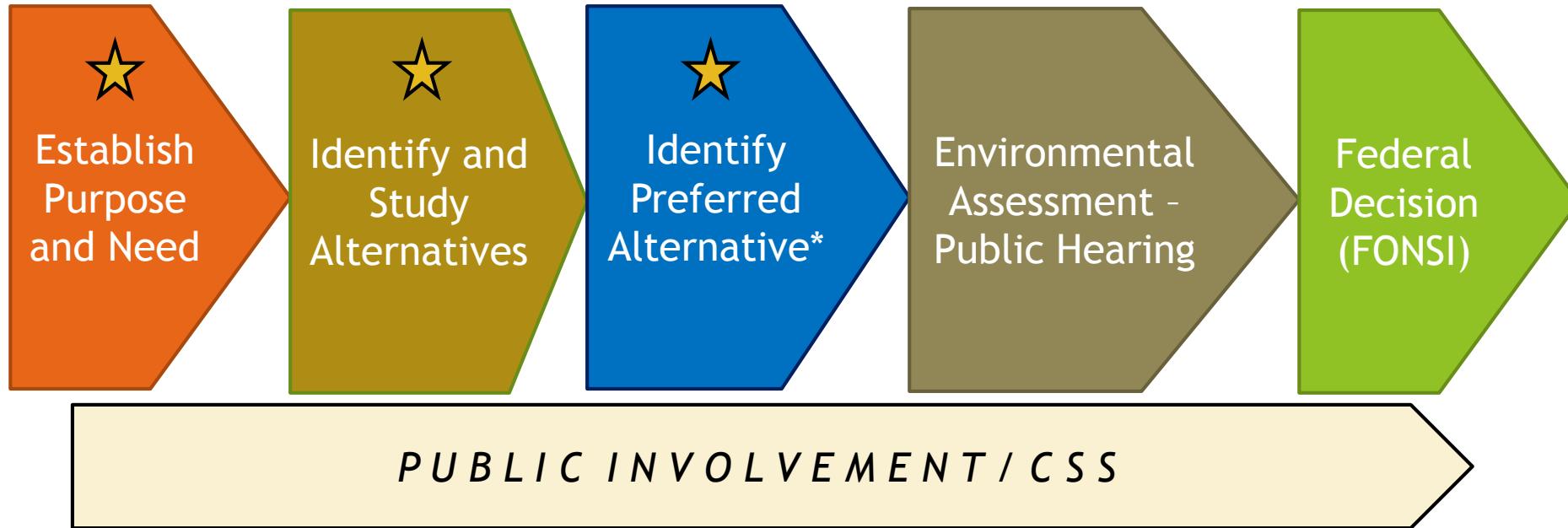
This study:

- ▶ Independent of the LIRRCS
  - ▶ May recommend same or different alternatives to be studied and preferred alternative(s)
- ▶ Recognizes LIRRCS and the opportunity to learn from its results
- ▶ CAG will operate in a similar manner to the LIRRCS CAG
- ▶ Focuses on a smaller Study Area than LIRRCS



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# The NEPA\* Process



- ▶ Benefits as well as impacts of each alternative disclosed
- ▶ Concurrence sought with state and federal resource agencies ★
  - ▶ NEPA “Merger Team” process in Illinois
- ▶ Public Involvement/CSS throughout the process
- ▶ Favorable decision allows federal funding beyond this study

*\*National Environmental Policy Act*

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# Problem Statement (LIRRCS)

“The transportation problem associated with the existing river crossing over the Illinois River at Florence, IL is that the bridge structure is reaching an age and condition that such that the Department has determined making repairs is less cost effective than to consider replacement options.

Alternative bridge crossings are limited in the Lower Illinois River Valley, making the Florence Bridge a critical point for local and regional traffic and economic sustainability. Additionally, the river channel curvature and narrow opening at the bridge crossing results in reduced navigability for barge traffic, and, therefore, an increased risk for barge-bridge collisions.”

# Purpose and Need

- ▶ What is the Purpose and Need?
  - ▶ A statement of why the action is needed and what it should accomplish
    - ▶ Sets the mark for measuring alternatives' ability to meet it
  - ▶ “Serves as the cornerstone for the alternatives analysis, but should not discuss alternatives”
    - ▶ FHWA guidance
  - ▶ “Should be as concise and understandable as possible”
    - ▶ FHWA guidance



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# Purpose and Need

- ▶ Handout of Draft P&N
- ▶ Review for:
  - ▶ Completeness
  - ▶ Conciseness
  - ▶ Correct or missing information
  - ▶ “Setting the mark”
- ▶ *CAG#1 Activity B: Comments due by November 16, 2016*



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# Purpose and Need

- Review of Draft P&N
- Establish Study Area
- Existing bridge at Florence (function, condition)
- Role in transportation system and economy
- How the study will address community concerns (CSS)
- River crossings and navigation issues
- Purpose of the project



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# Purpose and Need

The purpose of the project is to evaluate transportation facilities across the Illinois River that are safe, reliable and meet current design standards. The project shall provide connectivity across the Illinois River for automobile and truck traffic as well as meet the needs of river traffic, and local and regional economic needs.



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# Alternatives Brainstorming

- ▶ Review previous LIRRCS Alternatives, Aerial Maps
- ▶ Previously Considered Alternatives
- ▶ New Alternatives
- ▶ Variations on Alternatives

- ▶ *CAG#1 Activity C: Comments this evening or by November 16, 2016*



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# Next Steps

- ▶ NEPA Merger Team Meeting (February 2017)
  - ▶ Purpose and Need Concurrence
- ▶ CAG Meeting #2 (Q1-Q2 2017)
  - ▶ Present Geometric Alternatives, Impacts and Access
- ▶ Study Activities
  - ▶ Refine Purpose and Need
  - ▶ Develop Alternatives, Geometry, Initial Impact Assessment, Fatal Flaw analysis



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# Open Discussion