

WELCOME!

OPEN HOUSE

BUSINESS ROUTE 51

Water & Main Street
From Eldorado Street to Pershing Road
Decatur, Illinois

(OPEN FORUM MEETING FROM 4:00-7:00PM: NO FORMAL PRESENTATION)

You may come and go at any time during the scheduled meeting hours, examine the exhibits, and speak with the Study Team.



PURPOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING #3

IDOT is proposing improvements to Water and Main Street (Business Route 51) from Eldorado Street to Pershing Road

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Explain and show what alternatives were studied
- Present the preferred alternative for Water and Main Streets
- Explain how IDOT is addressing the public's concerns and comments
- Inform the public of the overall project schedule
- Receive comments from the public

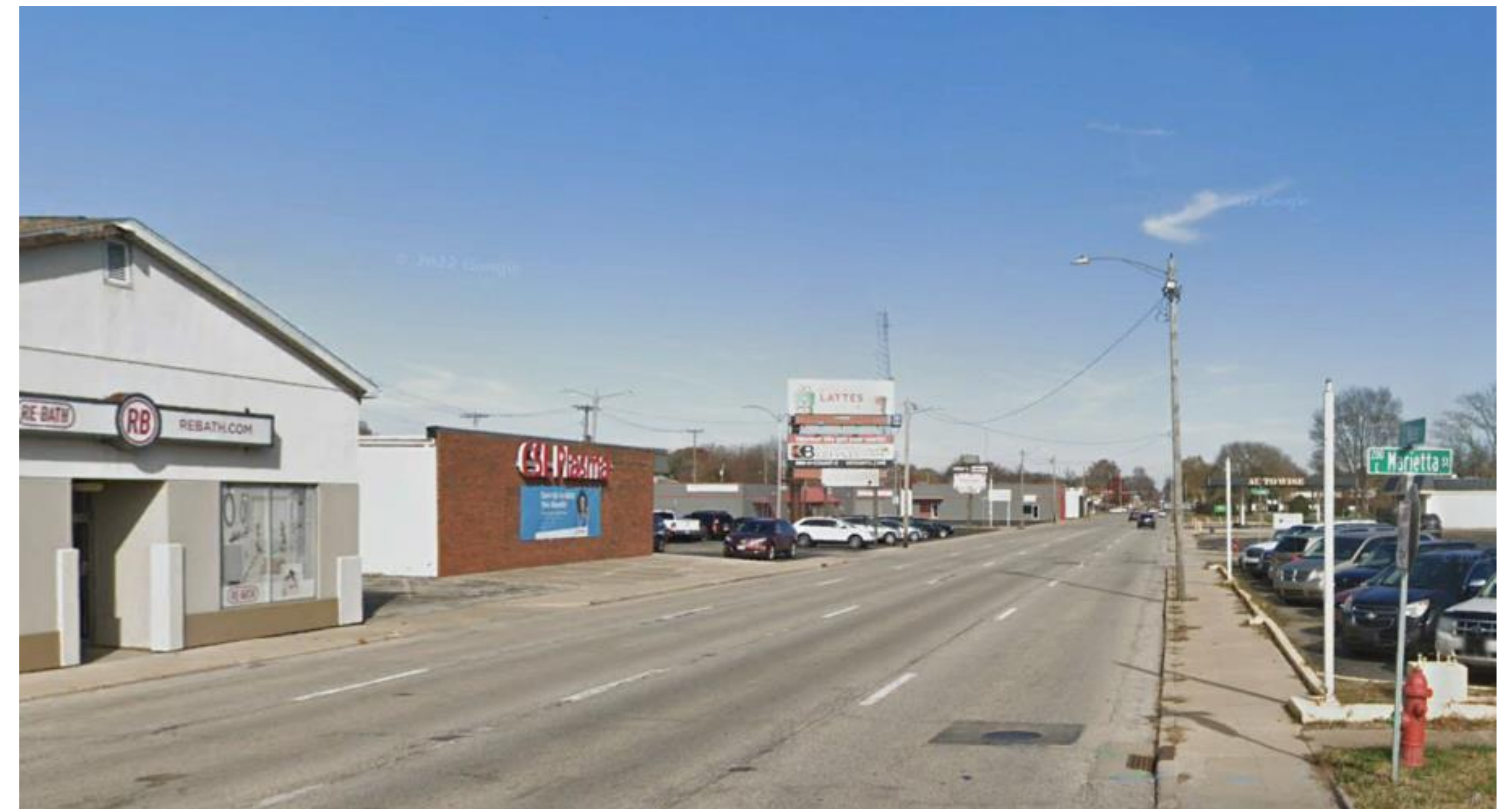


WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE IDOT STUDY

Business
ROUTE 51

This study is taking a detailed look at options for:

- Resurfacing of the roadway
- Reconstruction of the sidewalk ramps and curb ramps to be ADA compliant
- Addition of a secured shared-use path along the east side of Water Street by eliminating the fourth lane
- Traffic signal & intersection modifications
- Roadway lighting updates
- Drainage Improvements



PURPOSE & NEED FOR THE PROJECT

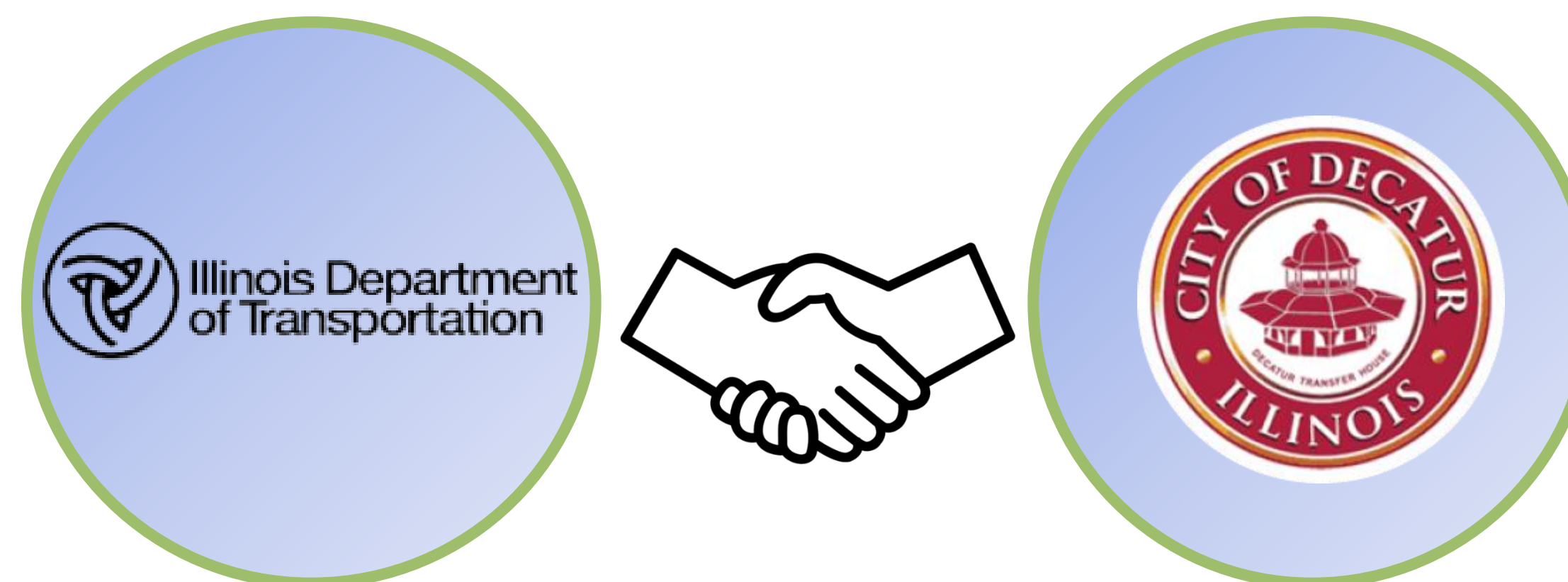
The purpose and need for improvements along Water & Main Streets within the project limits are due to:

- Condition of the roadway, sidewalks, and drainage system
- Lack of pedestrian & biking mobility
- Enhance safety throughout the study area



IDOT & CITY OF DECATUR WORKING TOGETHER *Business* ROUTE 51

- The limits of the IDOT Business Route 51 Study and the City's Bike/Walkway Study overlap.
- The goals of both studies complement each other:
 - Enhancing the safety of the route and providing better connection to key destination along the project corridor.
 - Repurposing of right-of-way along Business Route 51 to include a shared-use path.
- The focus of IDOT's study, as the state agency, is how best to improve the state route, which is Business Route 51, locally known as Main and Water Streets, and the associated intersection and sidewalk ramps in addition to adding a secured shared-use path along the project route.
- The focus of City's study, as the local agency, is how to use vacated properties along the route and provide a direct and positive impact on the adjoining neighborhoods by improving walkability by repairing the sidewalks and beautifying with trees and vegetation.



<https://idot.click/route-51-study>

What is considered during a Phase I Study in the Development of Alternatives?

Engineering Feasibility

- Traffic Flow
- Geometrics
- Safety
- Access
- Mobility

Community Characteristics

- Displacements
- Business Impacts
- Schools
- Shared-Use Paths
- Parks

Environmental Impacts

- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Noise
- Special Waste

Economic Development

- Does the project promote economic development opportunities?
- Is the project compatible with local projects?

**PUBLIC
INPUT**



IDOT THREE-PHASE PROJECT PROCESS



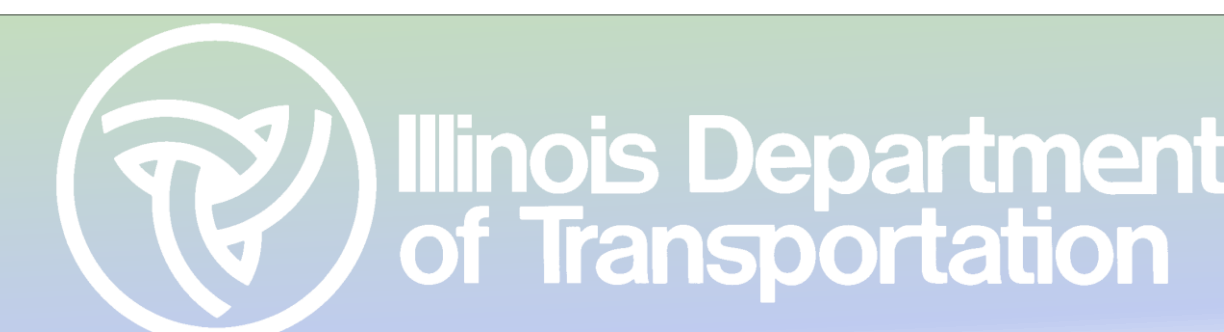
IDOT has a three-phase project development process, as shown on the timeline graphic below. The Business Route 51 Study includes funds to conduct Phase I, which provides the support for determining a preferred option. During this phase the proposed geometry, environmental concerns, and proposed right-of-way are identified.



**All three phases are currently included in IDOT'S FY 2024-2029 Proposed Highway Improvement Program*



<https://idot.click/route-51-study>



SCHEDULE



IDOT will be splitting up the overall project into two separate projects for Phase II Design and Phase III Construction.

The project will be split up into a Main Street project and a Water Street project.

EARLY 2025
PHASE I COMPLETE FOR
OVERALL PROJECT

LATE 2025
MAIN STREET
PHASE II COMPLETE

2026
WATER STREET
PHASE II COMPLETE

2026
MAIN STREET
CONSTRUCTION

2027
WATER STREET
CONSTRUCTION



SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING #1

- March 30, 2023
- Decatur Civic Center
- 121 people attended
- 43 people made comments
 - ✓ 75% of those that made comments were in favor of the overall proposed improvements
 - ✓ 11% of those that made comments were not in favor of the overall proposed improvements
 - ✓ 14% of those that made comments it was unclear on their position.



COMMENT SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING #1



| COMMENT | HOW BEING ADDRESSED? |
|--|--|
| Cars driving way too fast on Water Street | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed limit signs will be added to the entire length of the project. IDOT to possibly add these signs in the near future. Reduction in both the number and width of lanes will help reduce speeds of the NB vehicles. |
| Add stop light at McKinley & Water Streets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDOT is currently conducting an engineering study called a “traffic signal warrant study” to determine if a traffic signal is warranted at this intersection. |
| Marietta and Water Street is a dangerous intersection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been communication between the City of Decatur and IDOT regarding options at this intersection due to the poor sight distance. |
| Signage is important | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signing from the beginning to the end of the shared use path will be provided. Speed limit signs will be added on Main Street & Water Street. IDOT to possibly add these signs in the near future. After construction, the use of changeable message boards will be placed along the routes to inform the traveling public of the changes in lane usage. |
| Backup of traffic due to the stalling of trains is a problem. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The congestion is due to the railroad. The project will not affect the number of through lanes in this area as it is currently three lanes. The project does not include addressing the congestion associated with the railroads due to time and cost. |
| Resurfacing of the roadway is a major need | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resurfacing of Water and Main Street will take place along the entire length of the project corridor. |
| Street parking is an issue along Business Route 51 because of the low visibility to motorists. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current parking on Water Street from Division St to Johnson Ave will be eliminated. On-street parking on Main Street is still being evaluated. |
| Pedestrians are walking in the street because of the lack of sidewalks in the area. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The shared-use path will provide an area for pedestrians to walk. Along Water Street and Main Street, the sidewalk ramps will be upgraded as part of this project. Currently, IDOT is working with the city of Decatur on upgrades to the sidewalks on Water Street and Main Street. |
| Comments addressed to the city Decatur – zoning is important, beautify this area, add lighting, native plants. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The focus of City’s study, as the local agency, is how to use vacated properties along the route and provide a direct and positive impact on the adjoining neighborhoods by improving walkability by repairing the sidewalks and beautifying with trees and vegetation. IDOT is currently working with the City on lighting upgrades. |
| Add a crosswalk at Damon & Water | The existing pedestrian crosswalk, which does not meet current standards, is still being evaluated. |
| Add a crosswalk at Pershing & main | There are currently no plans to add crossings where there currently are none. |
| Add sidewalk between Pershing & Van Buren | There are currently no plans to add sidewalks where there currently are none |
| Add sidewalk between Pershing & Damon | There are currently no plans to add sidewalks where there currently are none |



<https://idot.click/route-51-study>

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING #2

- November 2, 2023
- Main Street of the Living God
- 106 people attended
- A majority of the public meeting attendees either through making comments on the forms or in conversation:
 - ✓ Are in favor of the overall project.
 - ✓ Regarding the intersection of E. Marietta and Water Street, stated this intersection is unsafe and wish to see a traffic signal at this intersection.
 - ✓ Wish to have the on-street parking remain on Main Street.
 - ✓ Wish to see a stoplight at McKinley and Water Street.



COMMENT SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING #2 *Business* ROUTE 51

| COMMENT | HOW BEING ADDRESSED? |
|--|--|
| Add stop light at the intersection of McKinley & Water Streets | A traffic signal will be added at this intersection. |
| E. Marietta and Water Street is a dangerous intersection | The section of E. Marietta between Main St. and Water St. will be open for westbound traffic only. |
| On-Street Parking On Main Street | On-street parking on Main Street will remain |

AERIAL MAPS

STICKER KEY

MAIN STEET

Please place a sticker(s) along Main Street where you believe on-street parking should be removed or retained

Red – Remove On-Street Parking

Yellow – Retain On-Street Parking



AERIAL MAPS

STICKER KEY

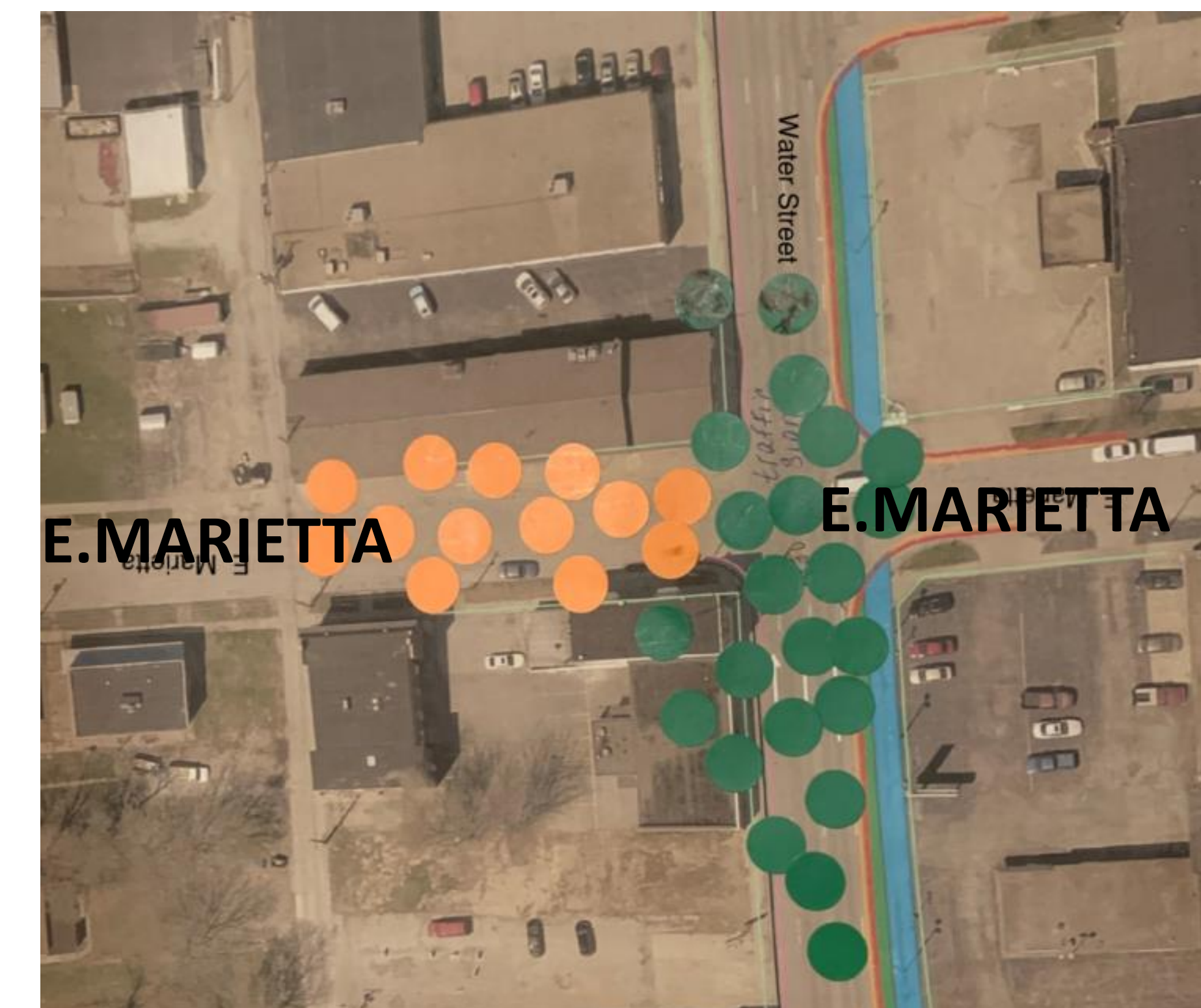
E. MARIETTA AVENUE

BETWEEN MAIN STREET & WATER STREET

Orange – West bound only

Blue – Close

Green – Would like a different option



<https://idot.click/route-51-study>

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS *Business* ROUTE 51

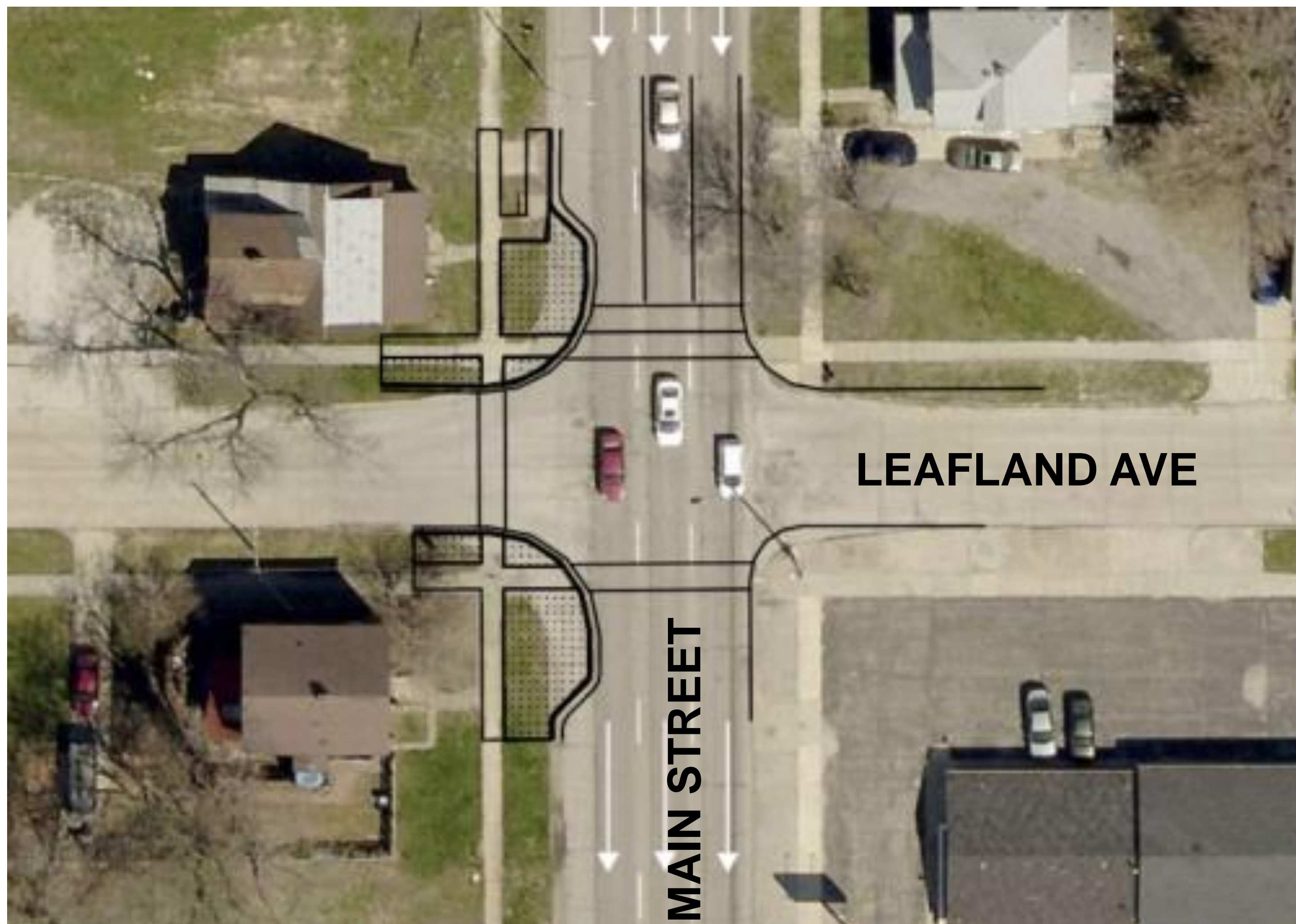
Proposed improvements along the entire project corridor (both Water & Main Streets)

- Resurfacing of the roadway
- Reconstruction of the sidewalk ramps and curb ramps
- Traffic signal & intersection modifications
- Roadway lighting updates
- Improvements to the drainage system



INTERSECTION BUMPOUTS

Bumpouts effectively make the pedestrian crossing shorter by extending the curb into the street at those crossings



Bumpouts are proposed for:

- Water Street @ E Grand Ave
- E Marietta St @ Water Street
- W Johnson Ave @ Main Street
- W Division St @ Main Street
- W Leafland Ave @ Main Street
- W Green St @ Main Street

Please see the aerial exhibits for these locations



SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS

The existing traffic signals at the following intersections are proposed to be replaced with new traffic signals:

- Pershing Road @ Water Street and @ Main Street
- McKinley Avenue @ Main Street
- Garfield Avenue @ Water Steet and @ Main Street
- Grand Avenue @ Water Street and @ Main Street
- Marietta Street @ Main Street
- Green Street @ Main Street



Addition of a traffic signal at McKinley Avenue & Water Street

Please see the aerial exhibits for these locations



SHARED-USE PATH ONLY ON WATER STREET

- Proposed to replace the eastern most lane along Water Street
- Reduces the lanes on Water Street from four lanes to three lanes
- 10-foot shared-use path
- 7-foot buffer between the shared-use path and the edge of the traffic lane that consists of a barrier curb and landscaped area.
- City of Decatur will be maintaining the shared-use path



- Existing Right-of-Way
- Existing Curb & Gutter
- Existing Edge of Pavement
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Proposed Curb & Gutter
- Proposed Edge of Pavement
- Buffer
- Proposed Multi-Use Path

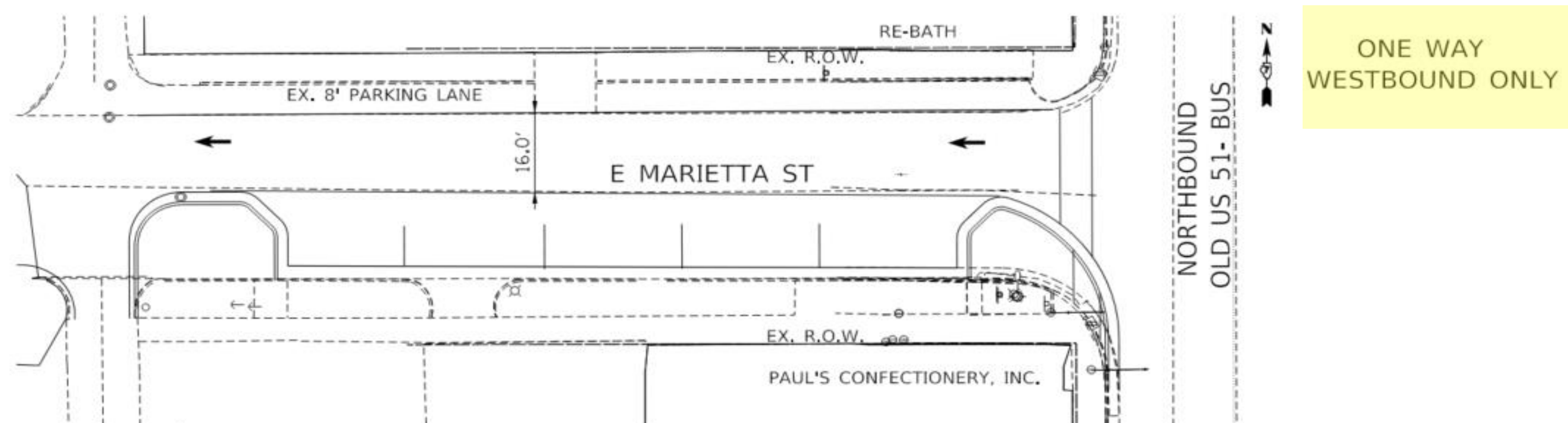


RENDERING OF SHARED-USE PATH

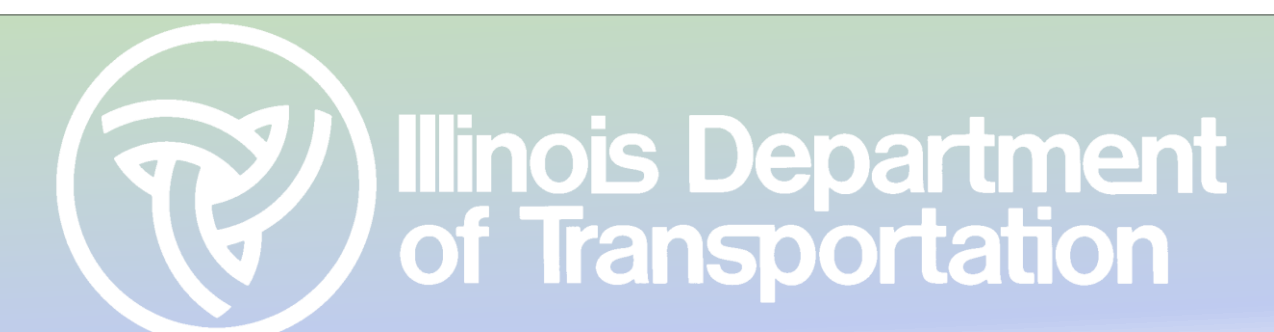


E. MARIETTA & WATER STREET INTERSECTION

In order to alleviate the sight distance issue, E. Marietta will be **one way westbound only** between Water Street and Main Street



- Complete a comment form and return it to IDOT by October 30th
- Share your ideas with the study team tonight
- Comment through the study website: <https://idot.click/route-51-study>
- Use the study website:
 - View the public meeting displays
 - Complete a comment form



NEXT STEPS

- The project team will take the public's input and use to refine the preferred alternative.
- The project team will continue to work with the City of Decatur to ensure the preferred alternative addresses the identified transportation issues and public's concerns & complements the City's Bike/Walkway Study Plan.
- The project team will develop and receive approval from the Federal Highway Administration of a Project Report, which is an IDOT document that outlines the study process and how the preferred alternative was selected.
- Begin Phase II Design of the project.



***THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENDANCE
AND YOUR
INPUT!!!!!!***

