

# **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.*



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

# PURPOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING #2



**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 are being studied
- Explain how IDOT is addressing the public's concerns and comments
- Inform the public of the overall project schedule
- Receive comments from the public



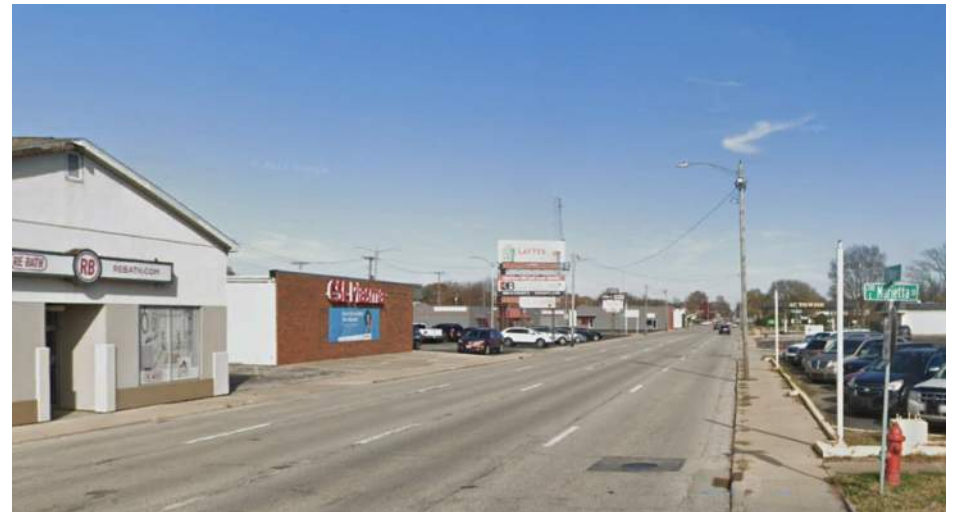
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# WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE IDOT STUDY



**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



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# PURPOSE & NEED FOR THE PROJECT



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

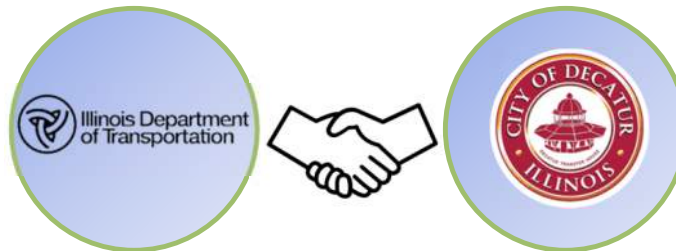
- Condition of the roadway, sidewalks, and drainage system
- Lack of pedestrian & biking mobility
- Enhance safety throughout the study area



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# IDOT & CITY OF DECATUR WORKING TOGETHER

- 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.



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## 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

**PUBLIC  
INPUT**

### 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?



# SCHEDULE



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 2023-2028 Proposed Highway Improvement Program*



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



# 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"> <li>Speed limit signs will be added to the entire length of the project. IDOT to possibly add these signs in the near future.</li> <li>Reduction in both the number and width of lanes will help reduce speeds of the NB vehicles.</li> </ul>
Add stop light at McKinley & Water Streets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IDOT is currently conducting an engineering study called a "traffic signal warrant study" to determine if a traffic signal is warranted at this intersection.</li> </ul>
Marietta and Water Street is a dangerous intersection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There has been communication between the City of Decatur and IDOT regarding options at this intersection due to the poor sight distance.</li> </ul>
Signage is important	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signing from the beginning to the end of the shared use path will be provided.</li> <li>Speed limit signs will be added on Main Street &amp; Water Street. IDOT to possibly add these signs in the near future.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Backup of traffic due to the stalling of trains is a problem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The congestion is due to the railroad.</li> <li>The project will not affect the number of through lanes in this area as it is currently three lanes.</li> <li>The project does not include addressing the congestion associated with the railroads due to time and cost.</li> </ul>
Resurfacing of the roadway is a major need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resurfacing of Water and Main Street will take place along the entire length of the project corridor.</li> </ul>
Street parking is an issue along Business Route 51 because of the low visibility to motorists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current parking on Water Street from Division St to Johnson Ave will be eliminated.</li> <li>On-street parking on Main Street is still being evaluated.</li> </ul>
Pedestrians are walking in the street because of the lack of sidewalks in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The shared-use path will provide an area for pedestrians to walk.</li> <li>Along Water Street and Main Street, the sidewalk ramps will be upgraded as part of this project.</li> <li>Currently, IDOT is working with the city of Decatur on upgrades to the sidewalks on Water Street and Main Street.</li> </ul>
Comments addressed to the city Decatur – zoning is important, beautify this area, add lighting, native plants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>IDOT is currently working with the City on lighting upgrades.</li> </ul>
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>



# DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS *Business* ROUTE 51

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

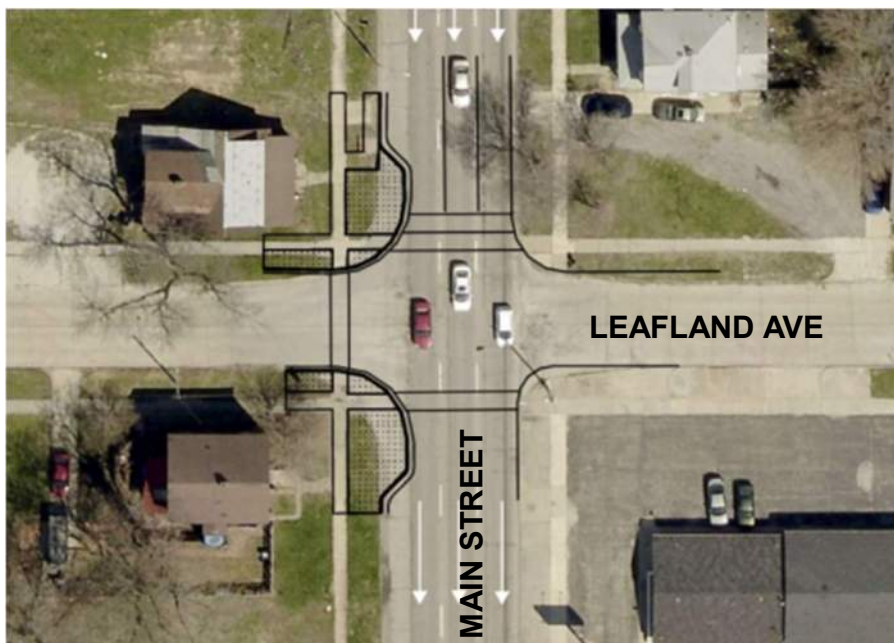
- Resurfacing of the roadway
- Reconstruction of the sidewalk ramps and curb ramps
- Traffic signal & intersection modifications
- Roadway lighting updates
- Improvements to the drainage system



# DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS *Business* ROUTE 51

## 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*



# DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS *Business* ROUTE 51

## 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

*Please see the aerial exhibits for these locations*



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

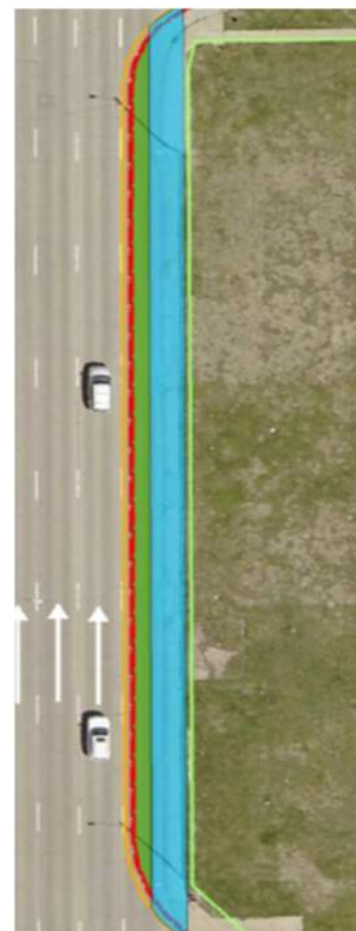


# DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

*Business*  
**ROUTE 51**

## 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
- At the south end of the project on Water Street, **three alignments** for a shared-use path are being considered.



- 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



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



# SHARED-USE PATH ALTERNATIVES

At the south end of the project, *three alignments* for a shared-use path are being considered.



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

# RENDERING OF SHARED-USE PATH

*Business*  
**ROUTE 51**

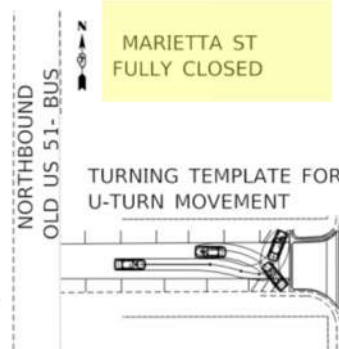
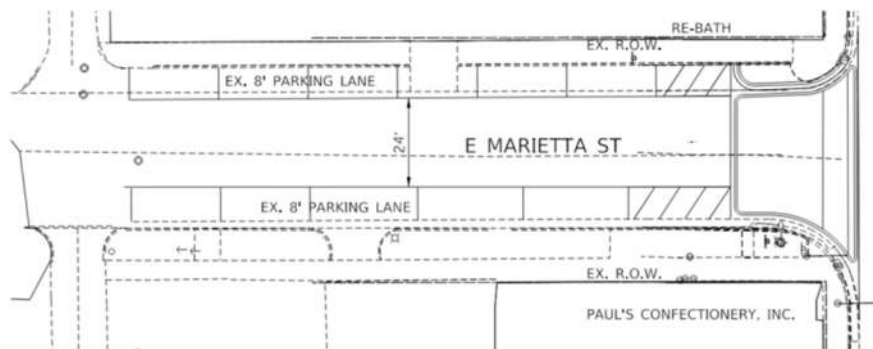
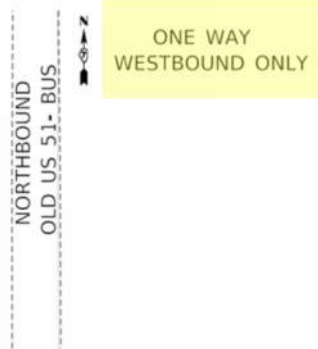


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## E. MARIETTA ALTERNATIVES

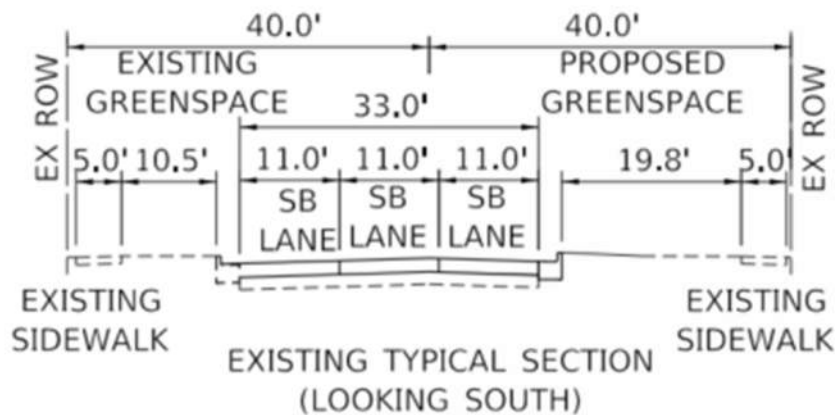
IDOT and the City are discussing the possibility of closing or partially closing Marietta at Water St to alleviate the sight distance issues.



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

# MAIN STREET ALTERNATIVES

IDOT and the City are discussing whether to retain or eliminate the on-street parking on Main Street from Pershing Avenue to Eldorado Street.





# WE NEED YOUR INPUT!



**Your input will be used to understand how the project route is used by the community and what concerns you may have regarding the design and construction. You can help us by:**

- Complete a comment form and return it to IDOT by November 16th
- 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



## PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

### PLEASE PRINT

Business Route 51 Study  
Water & Main Street  
From Eldorado Street to Pershing Road  
Decatur, Macon County, IL  
Public Informational Meeting #2  
November 2, 2023

We encourage you to provide your input on the proposed improvements for Water & Main Streets from Eldorado Street to Pershing Road in Decatur, IL. We are providing this form so your comments will be directed to the project team for evaluation and consideration in proceeding with improvement options. You may either leave the form with us today, mail to IDOT at the address provided on the reverse side of this form, submit a comment via the project website <https://idot.click/route-51-study>, or email your comments to [Matthew.Bower@illinois.gov](mailto:Matthew.Bower@illinois.gov). Your comments should be submitted within 14 days of this meeting to provide timely consideration. Please note if you are affected as a homeowner, property owner, business owner, and/or commuter.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you prefer to be contacted: U.S. Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you use Water Street and/or Main Street within the project limits? Daily? Weekly? Monthly?

For what purpose do you use Water Street and/or Main Street within the project limits? Resident? Work? School? Other? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about this meeting? \_\_\_\_\_

MY COMMENTS ARE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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# NEXT STEPS



- The project team will take the public's input and use to refine the alternatives.
- The result of the study will be a preferred alternative that addresses the identified transportation issues and public's concerns & complement the City's Bike/Walkway Study Plan.
- The preferred alternative will be presented at a future public meeting.



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

