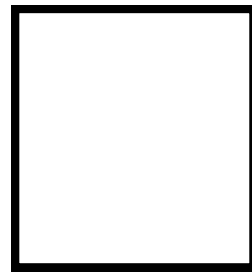


Illinois Dept. of Transportation  
Attn: Matthew Meyer  
1102 Eastport Plaza Drive  
Collinsville, IL 62234



Current Resident  
Address 1  
Address 2  
City, State, ZIP



## Missed IDOT's Public Meeting for the I-64 / IL Route 111 Interchange?

If you were unable to attend the August 9 public informational meeting for the I-64 at IL Route 111 interchange project, we still want to hear from you! Please read this newsletter and/or visit our website at [idot.illinois.gov/projects/I-64-under-IL-111](http://idot.illinois.gov/projects/I-64-under-IL-111) to see what was presented at the public meeting, then give us your feedback. Inside this newsletter is a self-addressed comment form that you can complete and mail to us.

Thank You for helping make this project a success!

## I-64 / IL Route 111 Interchange Project

### Public Meeting

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), recently hosted a public meeting on August 9 for the I-64 / IL Route 111 interchange project at James Avant Elementary School in East St. Louis, IL. The proposed concept for upgrading the interchange was presented as well as information on the presence of the former Douglas-Lawnridge and St. Clair County cemeteries at the project site. The project includes replacing the IL Route 111 bridge and reconfiguring the I-64 and IL Route 111 interchange.

The existing IL Route 111 bridge is old and its condition has deteriorated. Additionally, the crash history in this location shows that the clearance distance between I-64 and the structure that carries IL Route 111 over the interstate is not sufficient, as this structure has been struck by trucks traveling on I-64.

### Cemetery Findings

At the first (August 2019) Public Meeting, an attendee notified IDOT of the presence of former cemeteries at the project location – the Douglas-Lawnridge and St. Clair County cemeteries. IDOT conducted background research and preliminary archaeological work at the project site, and it appears likely that some burials within the interchange's footprint had not been relocated before the interstate's

construction in 1968. To complete its commitment to relocate all burials, IDOT will employ archaeologists to detect and recover remaining burials within the project footprint. IDOT proposes to secure a location in another cemetery for the remains to be reinterred.

You can submit your comments in writing (*see comment form inside*) or online. Mail written comments to the address below.

Thank You!

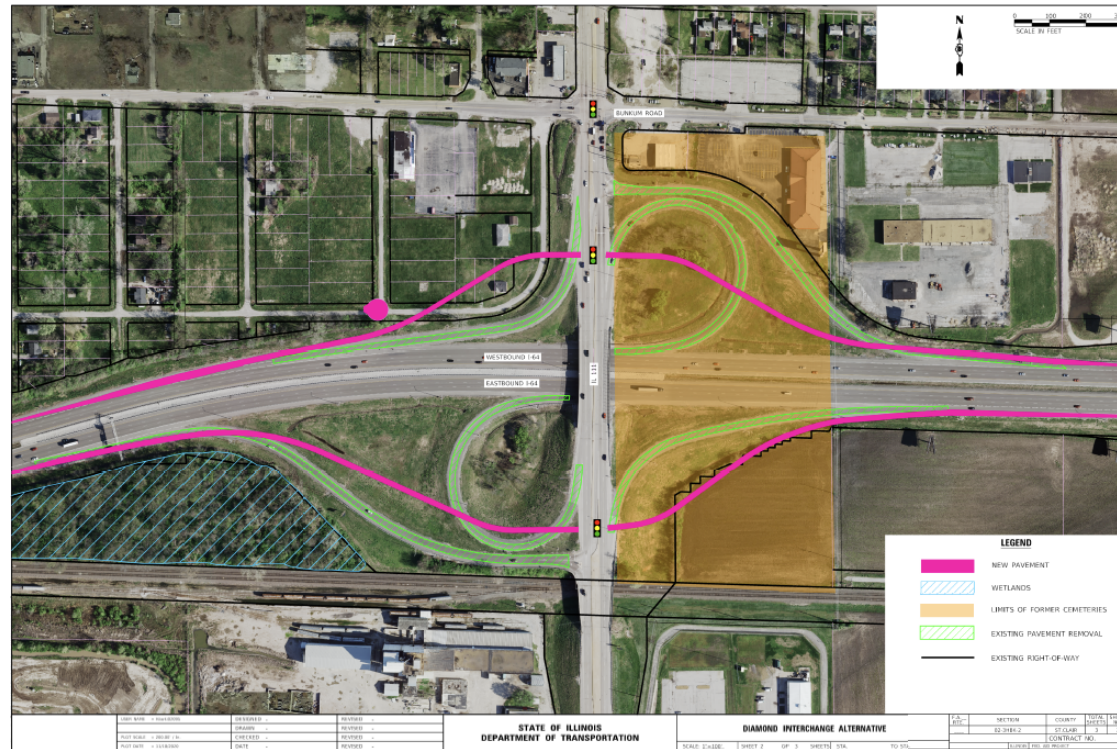
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### We Need Your Input!

How do you think the history of the former cemeteries should be memorialized? Also, where should the former Douglas-Lawnridge and St. Clair County cemeteries be reinterred at? Sunset Gardens of Memory Cemetery where the initial burials were relocated to? Or another location? We would especially like to hear from the families of loved ones who had been previously buried at the Douglas-Lawnridge or St. Clair County cemeteries. You can fill out the comment form that is included in this newsletter and mail to IDOT or you can visit the project website and comment online at [idot.illinois.gov/projects/I-64-under-IL-111](http://idot.illinois.gov/projects/I-64-under-IL-111)

## Proposed Interchange Concept

The proposed interchange concept (shown in pink in the figure below) addresses bridge deficiencies, improves traffic operations and safety, and improves mobility at the interchange. Addressing these problems will allow I-64 to continue to serve as a vital link to the interstate highway system in the St. Louis metropolitan region and improve access to the Village of Washington Park and surrounding communities. This concept as well as other details regarding the project can be viewed by visiting the project website.



## What's Next?

IDOT in cooperation with the FHWA and its consultant team, will consider your comments regarding the proposed interchange design concept, memorializing the former cemeteries and IDOT's proposal to relocate the remaining burials to Sunset Gardens of Memory Cemetery. A future Public Informational Meeting will be held where IDOT will share the proposed interchange design that has been developed in more detail along with the anticipated right-of-way needs. This meeting will also include details for memorializing the former cemeteries and the proposed location for the remaining burials to be relocated. A report will then be written that documents the project and overall process.

If you have questions or comments about the project or public involvement, please contact Matt Meyer, Project Studies Engineer at 618-346-3160 or by email at [Matthew.Meyer@illinois.gov](mailto:Matthew.Meyer@illinois.gov). Or, you can mail: Illinois Department of Transportation  
Attn: Mr. Matthew Meyer  
1102 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Will IL Route 111 or the interchange be closed during construction?

This question cannot be answered at this time since the final design has not been developed yet. However, efforts will be made to keep IL Route 111 open to traffic and minimize inconvenience to the motoring public. IDOT is currently at the early stages of Phase I for this project. As more detailed information becomes available, we will update the community accordingly.

### Is there funding available to build this project?

All engineering and construction costs for this project are included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2022-2027 Proposed Highway Improvement Program (MYP). \$3 million is included in the MYP for Phase II engineering and land acquisition. \$26.5 million is included in the MYP for construction, utility adjustments and construction engineering.

### Will property be acquired for this improvement?

It is too early in the Phase I process to determine if any right-of-way is needed from properties located in the project study area.

### How can the community, families and loved ones of those interred in the cemeteries formerly at the project site provide input to IDOT on how to memorialize the cemeteries?

The community was invited to share their ideas at the public meeting via a written or online comment form. IDOT will accept comments through August 19, 2022. Please complete and return the comment form found in this newsletter or scan the QR code below.

### When does IDOT anticipate the relocation of any burials from the project site?

To complete its commitment to relocate all burials, IDOT will employ professional archaeologists to detect and recover remaining burials within the project footprint. IDOT proposes to secure a location in another cemetery for the remains to be reinterred and expects this process to be completed prior to and during construction activities.

