



# PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

## IL ROUTE 4/15 OVER THE KASKASKIA RIVER BRIDGE STUDY

St. Liborius Parish Center, 911 Sparta St., St. Libory, IL  
March 19, 2025



### WELCOME!

Welcome to the third Public Informational Meeting for the IL Route 4/15 Kaskaskia River Bridge project near Fayetteville in St. Clair County, Illinois.

The purpose of this public meeting is to: provide an overview of the project, including the proposed preferred bridge replacement alternative, inform the public of the project schedule, and to receive public input.

Your input, along with the engineering and environmental studies that have been performed, have aided IDOT in determining the preferred alternative for the new bridge carrying IL Route 4/15 over the Kaskaskia River. Please submit your questions and comments this evening, mail in the provided comment form, or submit online via the project website. Comments can be submitted until April 2, 2025.

The meeting format is informal; no presentation will be made. Please browse the available materials at your leisure. Representatives of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and IDOT's consultant team, Horner & Shifrin and Quigg Engineering, are available to answer any questions that you may have.

### Project History

The existing bridge was constructed in 1946 and carries two lanes of traffic. Because the bridge is nearing the end of its design life, rising maintenance costs, and age of the bridge, IDOT has determined this bridge needs to be replaced.

### Public Meeting #1 Summary

The study's first Public Meeting was on June 15, 2022. Approximately 132 people attended this Public Meeting, and 38 comments were received. Most of the comments requested that the bridge that carries IL Route 4/15 over the Kaskaskia River not be closed during construction, and the new bridge needs to accommodate farm equipment.



### Public Meeting #2 Summary

The study's second Public Meeting was on March 13, 2024. Approximately 73 people attended this Public Meeting, and 12 comments were received. Most of the comments stated approval of the overall project and preferred the northern alignment. Comments from the first public meeting were reiterated: the need for the bridge not to be closed during construction and the new bridge needs to accommodate farm equipment.



### Proposed Preferred Alternative

Fourteen alternatives were studied and 12 were eliminated because these alternatives did not meet the Problem Statement or had engineering flaws, for example: extended closure time during construction, non-policy geometry, and/or negative impacts to river hydraulics.

Two alternatives moved forward for further study; one to the north and one to the south of the existing bridge. The north alternative is the proposed preferred alternative to replace the bridge due to: minimal displacements and impacts to the environment; the bridge will remain open (with short closures), accommodates farm equipment. A potential 10-foot-wide separate shared use path, sidewalks, and is being proposed as part of the preferred alternative.



### IDOT Project Process

IDOT has a three-phase project development process. All three phases are currently identified in IDOT's FY 2025-2030 Proposed Highway & Multimodal Improvement Program (MYP).

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Will the bridge be closed during construction?

The bridge will not be closed for long periods of time. There is a potential that short-term closures, such as weekends, may be required to tie back into the existing IL Route 4/15 alignment. IDOT will notify the surrounding communities, schools, and Emergency Management Services if closures are required.

### Will the new bridge accommodate farm equipment?

Yes. The new bridge will be wide enough to accommodate modern farm equipment. The proposed structure will be approximately 22 feet wider than the existing structure.

### Will there be displacements?

The preferred alternative does have potential displacements. IDOT has sent letters to those who could possibly be displaced.

### When will construction start? How long will construction last?

The construction start date has not been determined. Construction is expected to take one to two construction seasons.

### How much will the project cost?

The cost for the construction of the bridge is approximately \$70 million.

**What will the new bridge look like?** It is anticipated that this bridge will be a traditional girder structure. The bridge type will be confirmed once the Phase II design plans have been completed.

### What will happen to the old bridge and roadway, will it be removed?

The old bridge and roadway will be completely removed.

### When will land acquisition start?

It is anticipated that IDOT will start land acquisition in late 2025.

### Is the shared-use path guaranteed to be constructed?

Providing this path is contingent upon a local agency agreeing to take over maintenance of the path. If no agency agrees to, the path will only be on the bridges.

## IL 4/15 KASKASKIA RIVER BRIDGE STUDY PROBLEM STATEMENT

The members of the CAG helped in developing the project problem statement. A problem statement identifies the problems within a project study area that need to be addressed.

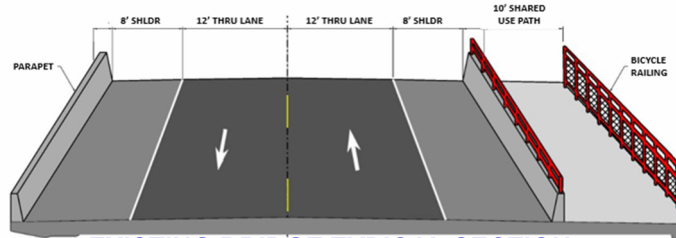
*"The existing bridge carrying IL Route 4/15 over the Kaskaskia River is aging and in need of continual repairs. There is a need to provide a cost-effective, long-term improvement to provide reliable access across the Kaskaskia River for farm equipment, Emergency Management Services, school buses, and everyday users of the bridge and to reduce the need for continual repairs, while demonstrating respect for our environment."*

\*The **new bridge** is proposed to be widened from 31-feet-9-inches to 54 feet.\*

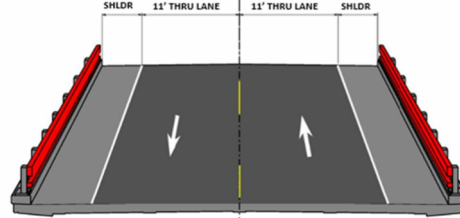
The **new bridge** is proposed to have:

- Two 12-foot-wide thru lanes,
- Eight-foot-wide shoulders, and,
- A 10-foot wide separate shared-use path

### PROPOSED BRIDGE TYPICAL SECTION



### EXISTING BRIDGE TYPICAL SECTION



## HOW TO STAY INFORMED?

### ✓ Visit the project website

[www.idot.illinois.gov/projects/IL-4-Kaskaskia-River-Bridge-Study.html](http://www.idot.illinois.gov/projects/IL-4-Kaskaskia-River-Bridge-Study.html)

Scan QR Code to take you directly to the project website



### ✓ Contact IDOT Directly

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