



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 9
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Virtual Public Information Meeting - June 27th through July 11th, 2022

Welcome to the IL Route 148 Phase I virtual public informational meeting. This meeting presents the preliminary plans to modify the existing signalized intersection at Illinois 148 and Old Illinois 13 into a roundabout and to add pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. In this virtual open house format, exhibits will include aerial photography with proposed improvements, proposed typical sections, and a safety overview. The project is expected to be constructed summer of 2024.

This project will include impacts to the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (CONWR). As such, it is subject to protection under Section 4(f) of the United States Department of Transportation Act of 1966. For this project, IDOT intends to seek a section 4(f) “*de minimis*” impact finding from the Federal Highway Administration based on a determination that the project will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities that qualify CONWR for protection under section 4(f). Effects of the Illinois 148 and Old Illinois 13 project will include taking of land from CONWR near the intersection. Mitigation will include improved access to the park through the proposed roundabout and improved connectivity to bicycle and pedestrian accommodation via the addition of sidewalk/ multi-use path.

Where

The roundabout will be located at the intersection of Illinois 148 and Old Illinois 13 west of Marion. The roundabout limits will extend approximately 500’ north, south and west of the intersection and 1000’ east of the intersection.

What

- Improve bicycle and pedestrian access by constructing a shared use path on all four sides of the project.
- Replace the existing signalized intersection with a roundabout to reduce user delay and improve safety.
- Roundabout will be designed for large vehicles including oversized/overweight vehicles.
- A staging plan will be developed to minimize closure and detours. Ten days of full closure will be allowed on Illinois 148. For the remainder of construction Illinois 148 will remain open.
- The project will be funded through special safety funds allotted by the Federal Highway Administration to be used only at locations that show a higher than expected number of serious injury crashes. The project is estimated to cost \$2,500,000.

Why

Roundabouts reduce 32 conflict points from signalized intersections to only 8 conflict points, lowering the chances of vehicle-to-vehicle crashes. Roundabouts reduce injury crashes by 76% and pedestrian crashes by 30%-40%. They also eliminate wasted time spent at red lights during off-peak hours and reduce road electricity and maintenance costs. The proposed configuration will provide safe access for bicyclists and pedestrians that does not currently exist.

We Want to Hear From You!

Please send us your comments using the public comment forms by July 15th, 2022. Your input is important to the Illinois Department of Transportation!