

Legal Notice of Planned Improvement

The Vigo County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on March 4, 2021, for the proposed bridge project on Vigo County Bridge No. 322 that carries 13th Street over Lost Creek. The public hearing will begin at 5:30 pm. The hearing will be held in the Council Chambers at the Vigo County Annex Building, 650 South 1st Street, Terre Haute, Indiana. The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on the environmental document, Section 106 and Section 4(f) historical effect documentation and preliminary design plans. The Vigo County Commissioners plan to undertake this project funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The need for this project is due to the poor condition of the existing superstructure as outlined in the INDOT Bridge Inspection Report. The purpose of this project is to increase the condition rating of the superstructure and deck and the structural capacity of the bridge. The goals of the project are as follows: Superstructure - Condition Rating of at least a 7 out of 9 (good); Deck – Condition Rating of at least a 7 out of 9 (good); Load Rating of 36 Tons; Clear Roadway Width of 28 ft 2 inches minimum; and a Bridge Railing that has a Test Level 2 compliant system.

Vigo County Bridge No. 322 a two-span adjacent box beam structure originally constructed in 1965 and carries 13th Street over Lost Creek in Terre Haute. This structure is classified as a non-select historic bridge in the Indiana Historic Bridge Inventory. The bridge has been marketed for re-use since February 2019 as required by the Indiana Historic Bridges Programmatic Agreement (PA).

This project proposes rehabilitating Vigo County Bridge 322 (Structure No. 84-00322; NBI No. 8400211), on 13th Street in Harrison Township, Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana. The termini for this project were developed to ensure that the structure and the approach would be able to be constructed with minimal impact to the surrounding environment. The project area is located on 13th Street over Lost Creek, which is 0.33-mile south of Fort Harrison Road. The project area extends 105 ft north of the bridge center by 39 ft south of the bridge center and is approximately 40 ft wide.

The Historic Bridges PA Development Process and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 require the development of various alternatives in an effort to minimize harm and reduce impacts to historic structures. To satisfy this requirement, six alternatives, including the “Do Nothing” alternative were evaluated. The preferred alternative is Rehabilitation of Existing Structure for Continued Vehicular Use NOT Meeting Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation (Two Lane Option). This alternative proposes to rehabilitate the existing structure for continued two-lane vehicular use. The abutments and pier will be repaired, and spalled portions will be patched. Any deteriorated portions of the abutment walls adjacent to the superstructure will also be rebuilt. Riprap will be placed around the pier and along the abutments for scour protection. The existing box beams will be removed and replaced with continuous, composite steel beams. The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan includes temporarily closing 13th Street during construction and providing an official detour utilizing Lafayette Avenue and Fort Harrison Road.

The project will not require additional permanent right of way. The construction cost of the project is estimated to be \$1,230,000.

Prior to the public hearing, the preliminary design plans and the draft environmental document will be available for public review at the following locations:

In person at the Vigo County Engineering office located at the 121 Oak Street, Terre Haute, Indiana 47807
Or online on the Vigo County Website, www.vigocounty.in.gov

Written comments will be accepted before the hearing, during the hearing, and for two weeks following the hearing. The opportunity to present verbal statements for the official hearing transcript will also be offered at the hearing. All written and verbal comments will be considered and evaluated, and formally addressed in the final environmental document. Representatives from HWC Engineering will be available to address questions. The public hearing serves as the opportunity for the public to comment on the Level 4 Categorical Exclusion (CE) environmental document.

Vigo County COVID restrictions will be in place for in person attendance. The in-person meeting attendance will be limited to 25 people per current Vigo County restrictions. The meeting will be broadcast live through Vigo County’s website and recorded. A recording of the meeting will be posted to Vigo County’s website for viewing.

In accordance with the “Americans With Disabilities Act”, if you have a disability and/or limited English-speaking ability for which Vigo County needs to provide accommodations, please contact Tammy York-Allen, ADA coordinator, 812-231-6200 at least 48 hours before the scheduled event for services such as interpreters signers, readers, or large print material.

This notice is published in compliance with Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111 (h) (1) which states: “Each state must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program.” 23 CFR 450.212 (a)(7) states: “Public involvement procedures shall provide for periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all revision of the process necessary” approved by the Federal Highways Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, and Indiana Department of Transportation in August 16, 2012.