

Legal Notice of Planned Improvement
Des. No. 1902707

The City of Hobart is planning to undertake an intersection improvement project funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The project is located at the intersection of 61st Avenue and Marcella Boulevard, in Lake County.

The need for the project is due to congestion and the high rate of accidents at the intersection of 61st Avenue and Marcella Boulevard. The purpose of the project is to improve the Level of Service (LOS) in the design year (2042) to a LOS of C, or better, during peak hours, while also reducing the severity of vehicular crashes at the intersection of 61st Avenue and Marcella Boulevard. The project proposes to construct a roundabout at the intersection of 61st Avenue and Marcella Boulevard. The center of the roundabout will be located approximately 20 feet south of the center of the existing intersection in order to minimize impacts to surrounding properties and avoid any relocations. According to the INDOT 2013 Design Manual (Chapter 51-12), roundabouts reduce the severity of crashes, particularly left-turn head-on and angled crashes. The roundabout will have an overall diameter of 200 feet. The lanes approaching the roundabout will be 12-foot-wide and will vary between 12 feet and 17 feet entering and through the roundabout. The roadway will be bordered on the outside by a curb and gutter. Splitter islands will be located on all approaches of the roundabout. A mountable curb and 10-foot-wide truck apron will be installed inside of the roundabout.

The lane configuration of the roundabout will include two (2) entering and two (2) exiting lanes on the east approach, two (2) entering and two (2) exiting lanes on the west approach, two (2) entering (the western lane being a dedicated left turn lane) and two (2) exiting lanes on the south approach, and one (1) entering and one (1) exiting lane on the north approach.

The approach along Marcella Boulevard to the south of 61st Avenue will consist of four (4) travel lanes: two (2) NB lanes where one (1) lane is a dedicated left turn lane from NB Marcella Boulevard to WB 61st Avenue, and the remaining are two (2) SB lanes. The approach along Marcella Boulevard to the north of 61st Avenue will consist of two (2) travel lanes: one (1) NB and one (1) SB. The approach along 61st Avenue both to the east and west of Marcella Boulevard will consist of four (4) travel lanes: two (2) WB lanes and two (2) EB lanes.

New sidewalk will be installed along both sides of 61st Avenue east of Marcella Boulevard. The sidewalk along the north side of 61st Avenue will extend to the project's eastern terminus where the sidewalk will tie into already existing sidewalk. New sidewalk will be installed east of Marcella Boulevard, along the southside of 61st Avenue until approximately 200 feet east of Marcella Boulevard at the first commercial driveway. New sidewalk will additionally be installed along the west side of Marcella Boulevard south of 61st Avenue for approximately 175 feet. The width of the sidewalks will vary from 5 to 6 feet with a buffer up to 3-foot-wide between the roadway curb and sidewalk. The new sidewalks will comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Additionally, ADA-compliant crosswalks will be installed on the north and east legs of the roundabout to provide for future pedestrian utilization.

Existing lighting will be replaced, and new additional lighting will be installed at the roundabout and throughout the project area. All new lighting will be downward-facing, full cut-off lighting. New lighting will be installed along all legs of the project as required and will be designed per Indiana Design Manual Chapter 502-4.02(09). Curb and gutter will be reconstructed throughout the project area. Storm sewer will be reconstructed to provide storm water runoff for the new intersection improvements by means of an enclosed storm sewer system. An enclosed outfall pipe will be installed to convey stormwater to an existing vegetated swale on the north side of the project area. This vegetated swale will direct storm water to the floodplain of Turkey Creek, where Turkey Creek flows approximately 600 feet north of 61st Avenue. The project will not enter the floodplain. The stormwater system will have a filtration feature installed to remove sediment, floating debris, and free oils.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan will require the closure of the intersection and the institution of a detour, utilizing Mississippi Street, 69th Avenue, and Colorado Street. The detour will be approximately 4.2 miles in length, adding 3.2 miles to a through trip and 6.4 miles to a round trip. No properties will become inaccessible from this MOT plan. The road closure is planned to last for approximately four (4) months.

The project is scheduled to let in winter 2022/2023 with construction anticipated to begin during the spring of 2023. Construction of the project will require approximately 1.05 acres of new permanent right-of-way acquisition and 0.91 acre of temporary right-of-way acquisition. The cost associated with this project is approximately \$6,757,340.00, which includes preliminary engineering, right-of-way, and construction, and will utilize both federal and local funds.

The FHWA and INDOT have agreed this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 2 environmental document with the draft document approved as such on January 28, 2022. Preliminary design plans along with the CE are available for review at the City of Hobart's Clerk-Treasurer's Office, located at 414 Main Street, Hobart, Indiana 46342, (219) 942-1940, and at Butler, Fairman, & Seufert, Inc., 8450 Westfield Blvd., Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240 (317-713-4615). The documents may also be viewed online at www.hobartimprovements.com.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in alternative formats are encouraged to contact the City of Hobart's Office of the ADA Coordinator for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact the City of Hobart ADA Coordinator, Alex Olesker, at 219-942-8271, aolesker@cityofhobart.org or 414 Main Street, Hobart, Indiana 46342. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in another language are encouraged to contact the City of Hobart's Title VI Coordinator, Bob Fulton, at (219) 942-2489, bfulton@cityofhobart.org, or at 414 Main Street, Hobart, Indiana 46342.

Persons with limited internet service and/or access may request a copy of the Draft CE document or project information be mailed to them. Please contact Brittney Layton, Butler, Fairman, & Seufert, Inc., 8450 Westfield Blvd. Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240, or to 317-713-4615, or to blayton@bfsengr.com.

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held, and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Brittney Layton, Butler, Fairman, & Seufert, Inc., 8450 Westfield Blvd. Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240, 317-713-4615, or to blayton@bfsengr.com on or before **February 22, 2022**.

If a hearing is determined to be in the best interest of the public, a notice will be advertised with the date, time, and place. Otherwise, any comments or materials received for the record will be considered in the decision-making process.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1) stating, "Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program."; 2) 23 CFR 450.210(a)(1)(ix) stating, "Provide for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate."; and 3) The *INDOT Project Development Public Involvement Procedures Manual* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.