

MEETING SUMMARY

Date: January 9, 2023

Time: 2 PM

Meeting: Environmental Justice (EJ) Working Group Meeting #1

Location: Switzerland County Technology and Education Center, Vevay, Indiana and Microsoft Teams

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Andy Dietrick	INDOT
Kyanna Wheeler	INDOT
Laura Hilden	INDOT
Kari Carmany-George	FHWA
Patrick Carpenter	FHWA
Pam Acton	Vevay – Switzerland County Foundation
Paula Brooks	Hoosier Environmental Group
Erin Thomas	LifeTime Resources
Arrell Thompson	Parsons
Berry Craig IV	Parsons
Cory Grayburn	Parsons
Dan Prevost	Parsons
Mindy Peterson	Parsons
Marshall Lachecki	CMT
Nick Batta	CMT
JoAnn Schutte	Rasor
Libby Esterle	Rasor
Mimi Rasor	Rasor

ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSION
1	A copy of the meeting's PowerPoint presentation is attached to this meeting summary.
2	Mindy Peterson (Parsons) discussed the purpose of the EJ Meeting and welcomed the group.
3	Mindy (Parsons) discussed the role of EJ members.
4	It was requested that future meetings maintain a hybrid option. Most attendees favored morning meetings.
5	Mindy (Parsons) provided an overview of the Link 101 project, noting it is an Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) project examining an improved SR 101 connection between the Markland Dam and US 50. The SR 101 extension is expected to provide more direct access to I-71 and US 50. The project area includes portions of Switzerland, Ohio, Dearborn and Ripley counties. Environmental analysis and

	preliminary design work are underway. The project will determine the Purpose and Need – the “why” – for the project. The process of identifying a selected alternative is expected to take about three years.
6	Mindy (Parsons) discussed that the Project Team is holding meetings with stakeholder committees, launching the project website, holding a public meeting and opening the project office. Gathering input to help identify project needs is an important part of public involvement. Selecting an alternative is a prescribed, iterative process that starts with very general routes. After broad routes are developed, alternatives will emerge to be studied in greater detail. A preferred alternative that meets the Purpose and Need comes from detailed analysis. Environmental Justice (EJ) is an important part of the project process. Environmental Justice seeks to ensure the fair treatment of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development of projects and investment of resources.
8	Dan (Parsons) outlined a set of questions designed to initiate discussion.
9	Mindy (Parsons) discussed next steps. The draft environmental document is expected in fall 2024. A public hearing and formal comment period will be held. Two public meetings will be held next week. The in-person meeting is January 18 at Dillsboro Elementary, 5:30 to 7 pm with a 6 pm presentation. A virtual meeting is planned for January 19 at 6 pm. A registration link was provided. CAC members were encouraged to share the public meeting information with their groups and interested parties. Meeting fliers were shared electronically with CAC members and printed copies were available at the meeting.
10	Mindy (Parsons) shared that project social media channels and the website will launch January 18. The project website, Link101Corridor.com has project information, FAQs, maps and more. CAC and public meeting materials will be posted there. Sign up for project updates via email (on the project website or text (text “INDOT LINK101” to 468311). Project contact channels are used with all feedback shared with the Project Team. The Project Office is in the Switzerland County Technology and Education Center, 2nd floor. The office opens Monday, January 23 and will be open Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment. Visit Link101Corridor.com to learn more, call 844-LINK101 (546-5101) or email Info@Link101Corridor.com.
11	The presentation was collaborative with discussion with members throughout.
12	Erin Thomas (LifeTime Resources) made the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch a Ride is a rural public transportation system in six counties. • The majority of current travel with Catch a Ride is for work and the elderly going to medical appointments and to get groceries. • Pay particular attention to the relocation of elderly adults and the disruption to their lives. • Most LifeTime Resources trips are 10 miles or less. • There is a Park and Ride facility in Decatur County. • LifeTime Resources is looking for options to connect people to Cincinnati. • Check with large employers in the area to get a better sense of who is using Park and Ride facilities and to establish a connection point with these drivers. • Consider farming areas. • Consider Amish populations in relation to both property and transportation needs.
13	Paula Brooks (Hoosier Environmental Group) asked if bicycle lanes would be considered and noted adequate shoulders should be included for cyclists. Safety is currently an issue. Andy Dietrick (INDOT)

	indicated the Project Team will look at communities in the area, existing trails and plans for trails. Promoting healthy choices is important.
14	Erin (LifeTime Resources) asked if electric vehicles and future charging stations are being considered. Dan (Parsons) noted EV stations in the project area are not part of this project.
15	Erin (LifeTime Resources) noted with a trip from Vevay to Dillsboro, there's no good way to get there. It's also not a good road for transit because it's curvy, etc.
16	Erin (LifeTime Resources) said work is underway on a regional plan for connectivity to Cincinnati.
17	Paula (Hoosier Environmental Group) asked if there were a lot of seasonal workers at farms. Erin (LifeTime Resources) said no.
18	Paula (Hoosier Environmental Group) asked whether a road offering better connections to I-71 and I-74 will result in traffic bypassing Vevay. Dan (Parsons) noted routes have not yet been determined.
19	Erin (LifeTime Resources) suggested signage for attractions and meeting with tourism directors.
20	It was noted there was concern about bypassing Vevay with a new roadway – signage could mitigate those issues.
21	It was noted there is often no single destination for drivers in the area – often travel to Lawrenceburg, Batesville, etc.
22	It was noted the Swiss Wine Festival brings a crowd from the region.
23	<p>Pam Acton (Vevay – Switzerland County Foundation) made the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's important that SE Indiana feel acknowledged and see this investment to better connect with the state. • The local radio station has local programming in the morning and is an opportunity for outreach. Adam Griffin is the contact. • Social media is also a great resource. Local tourism sites have a strong following. • Reach out to high schools. Buses and parents traveling winding roads in the dark, especially for sports. • The United Way is now in Jefferson County but doesn't appear to be active in the area.
24	Kari Carmany-George (FHWA) asked about internet connectivity in the area. Pam (Vevay – Switzerland County Foundation) indicated connectivity is improving and broadband is being run. REMC will install if requested. Verizon cell connectivity is the strongest.
25	<p>Pam (Vevay – Switzerland County Foundation) suggested several contacts for community outreach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Griffin at local radio station (Froggy 95.9), local programming in the morning. • Pat Lanman owns Vevay newspapers. He's also the minister at Olive Branch Baptist Church, which has a large congregation. • Cody McNeely, Jeff Craig Fire Department, coordination with emergency responders • Purdue Extension office regarding farmland and water issues • Tye Sullivan for Lions Club, other groups and regular e-blast to non-profits. • Eggleston Club, Contact: Andrea Kappes

LINK 101

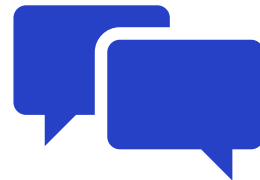
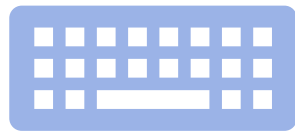
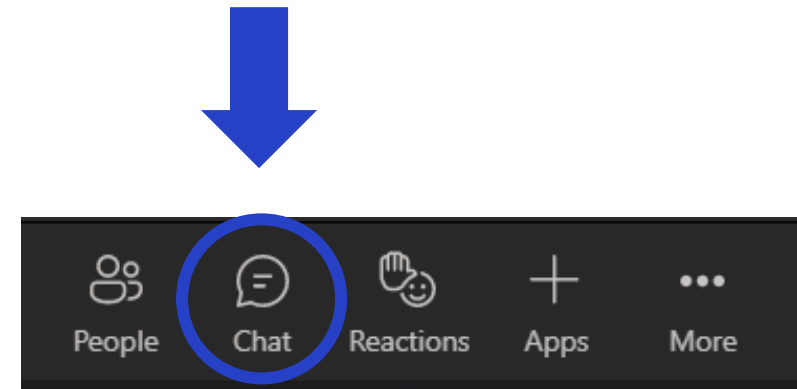
SR 101 CORRIDOR PROJECT | SOUTHEAST INDIANA

26	Erin (LifeTime Resources) to review the list of EJ groups. Berry Craig (Parsons) to send the EJ list for review and possible additions.
27	Andy (INDOT) suggested connecting with the County Farm Bureaus, Purdue Extension, and Soil and Water Districts.



WELCOME

- Attendees are welcome to **keep cameras and mics** on, but please mute mic unless sharing feedback or asking a question
- **Use the chat function** to submit a question or make a comment
- Questions or comments can be shared **at any time during the presentation**





Environmental Justice (EJ) Working Group

January 9, 2023

PRESENTERS



Dan Prevost

Project Manager, Parsons



Mindy Peterson

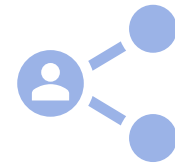
Public Involvement Director, Parsons

AGENDA TOPICS

1. **Project Overview**
2. **Project Process**
3. **Discussion**
4. **Next Steps**
5. **Follow Our Progress**
6. **Contact Us**

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WORKING GROUP

- **Discuss** issues with the potential to impact low-income or minority populations
- **Serve** as liaison between community or organization and Project Team
- **Share** views and identify local concerns in two-way communications with Project Team
- **Act** as an advisor and share project information with others



FOR DISCUSSION

- **Meeting format preference?** Virtual? In-person?
- **Meeting time preference?** Morning? Lunch? Evening?
- **Contact preference?** Email? Phone?
- **Do you know of others interested in joining our EJ Working Group?**



EJ WORKING GROUP MEMBER BENEFITS

- Consistent communication
- Better understanding of project issues
- Detailed discussion of key issues
- Opportunity to hear differing views
- Opportunity for collaborative problem solving
- Opportunity to build understanding and support throughout the project



WE'RE LISTENING

- Community Advisory Committee
- Environmental Justice Working Group
- Resource Agency Committee
- Section 106 Consulting Parties
- Small group presentations
- Public meetings at milestones
- Social media and project website
- Project office in Vevay



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING



- **Learn** more about Link 101
- **Review** maps, boards and information
- **Ask** questions and share feedback
- **Share input** on maps and boards
- **Complete** a comment form
- **Sign up** for text and email updates





PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROJECT AREA

- Link 101 is an Indiana Department of Transportation project in southeast Indiana.
- It's examining an improved SR 101 connection between the Markland Dam and US 50.
- A SR 101 extension is expected to provide more direct access to I-71 and US 50.
- The project area includes portions of Switzerland, Ohio, Dearborn and Ripley counties.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

- The project is in the environmental and preliminary design stage.
- The project will determine the Purpose and Need – “the why” – for the project.
- It will analyze the benefits, impacts and costs of alternatives developed by the Project Team.
- The process of identifying a selected alternative is expected to take about three years.



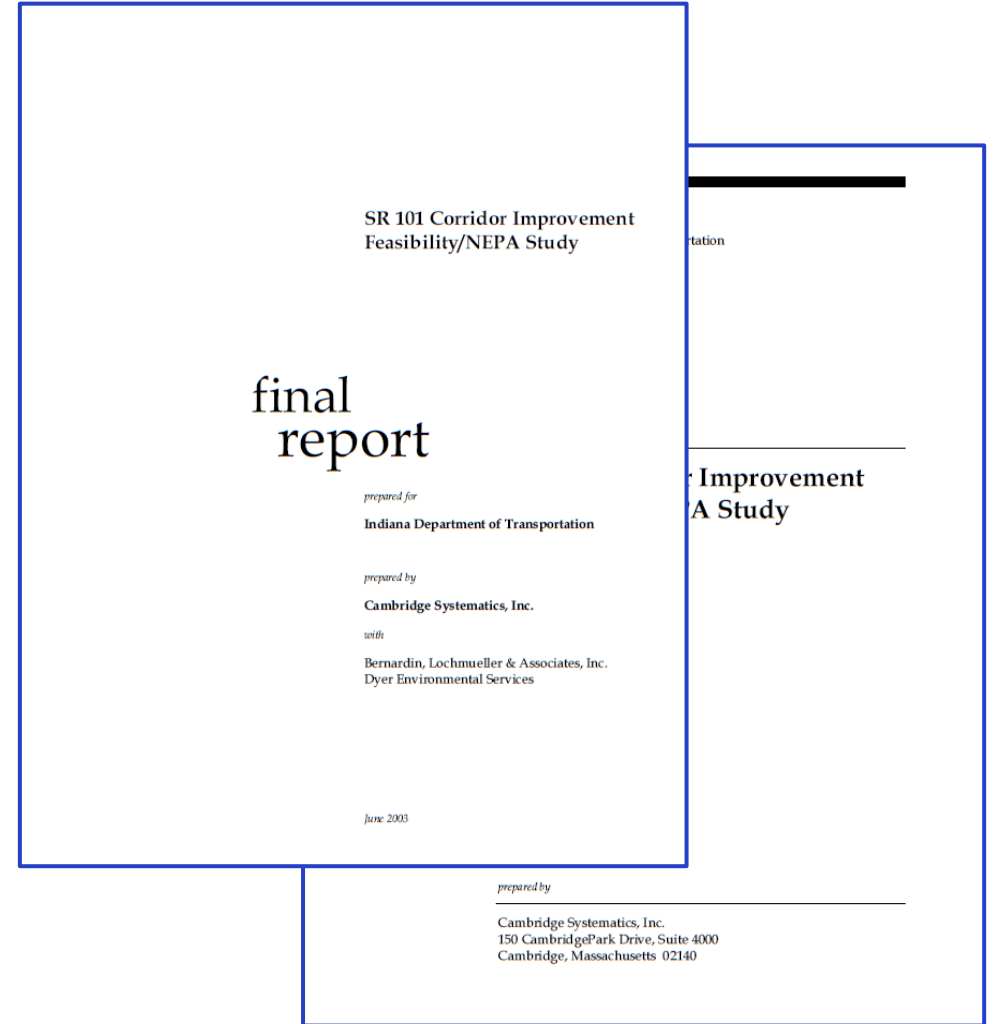
THE BIG PICTURE

- There's still a lot of work to do.
- The Project Team is coordinating with local, state and federal officials.
- Input from the public is an important part of developing the project.
- Governor Holcomb announced \$200 million in funding for the project in 2021 to move construction forward.
- A timeline for construction will be determined at the end of the environmental study.



PROJECT HISTORY

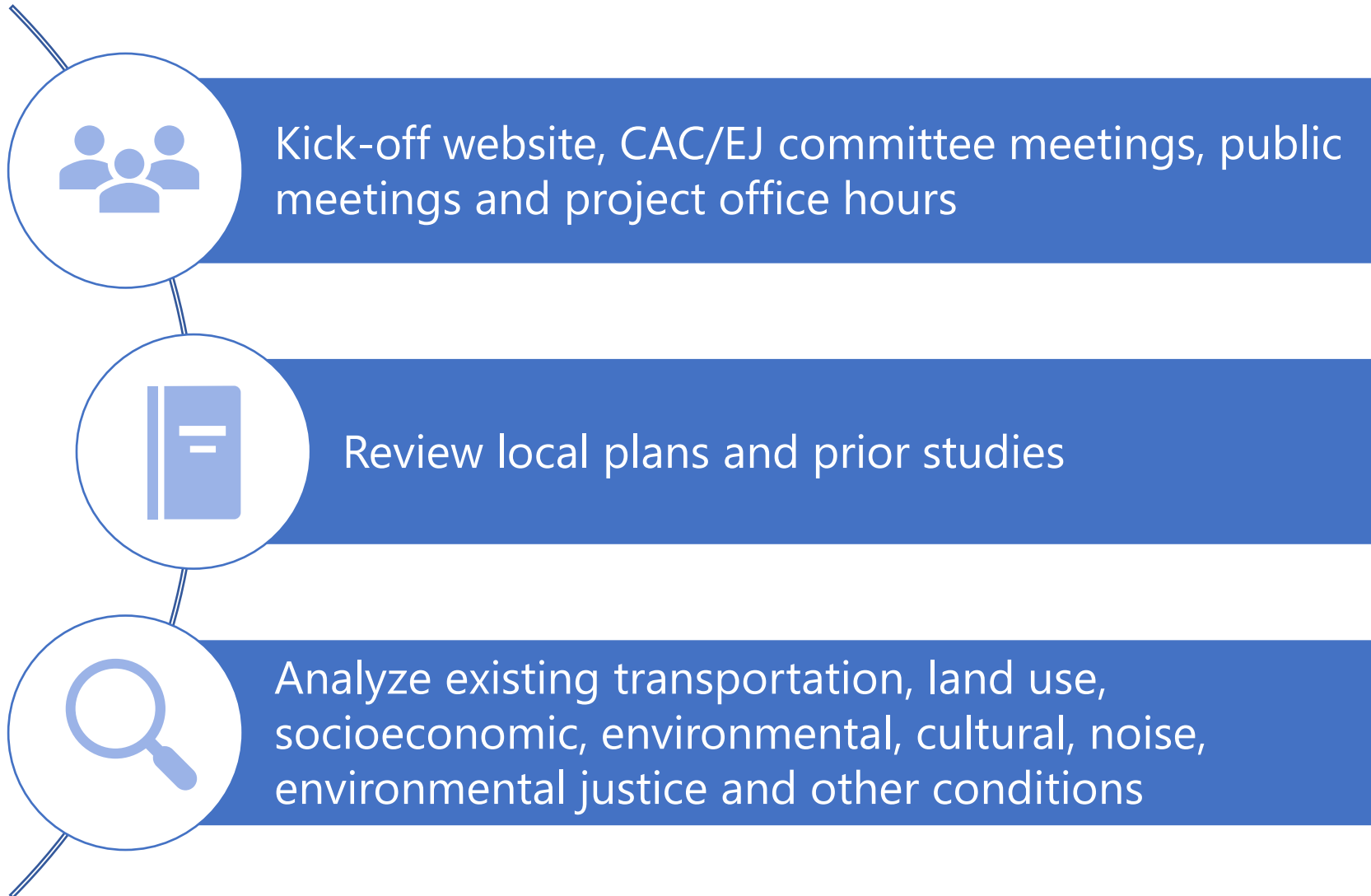
- INDOT studied SR 101 in 2003 to assess limited north-south access and identify feasible improvement alternatives
- Improving safety, reducing crashes, and improving regional accessibility and connectivity were key transportation study needs





PROJECT PROCESS

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW

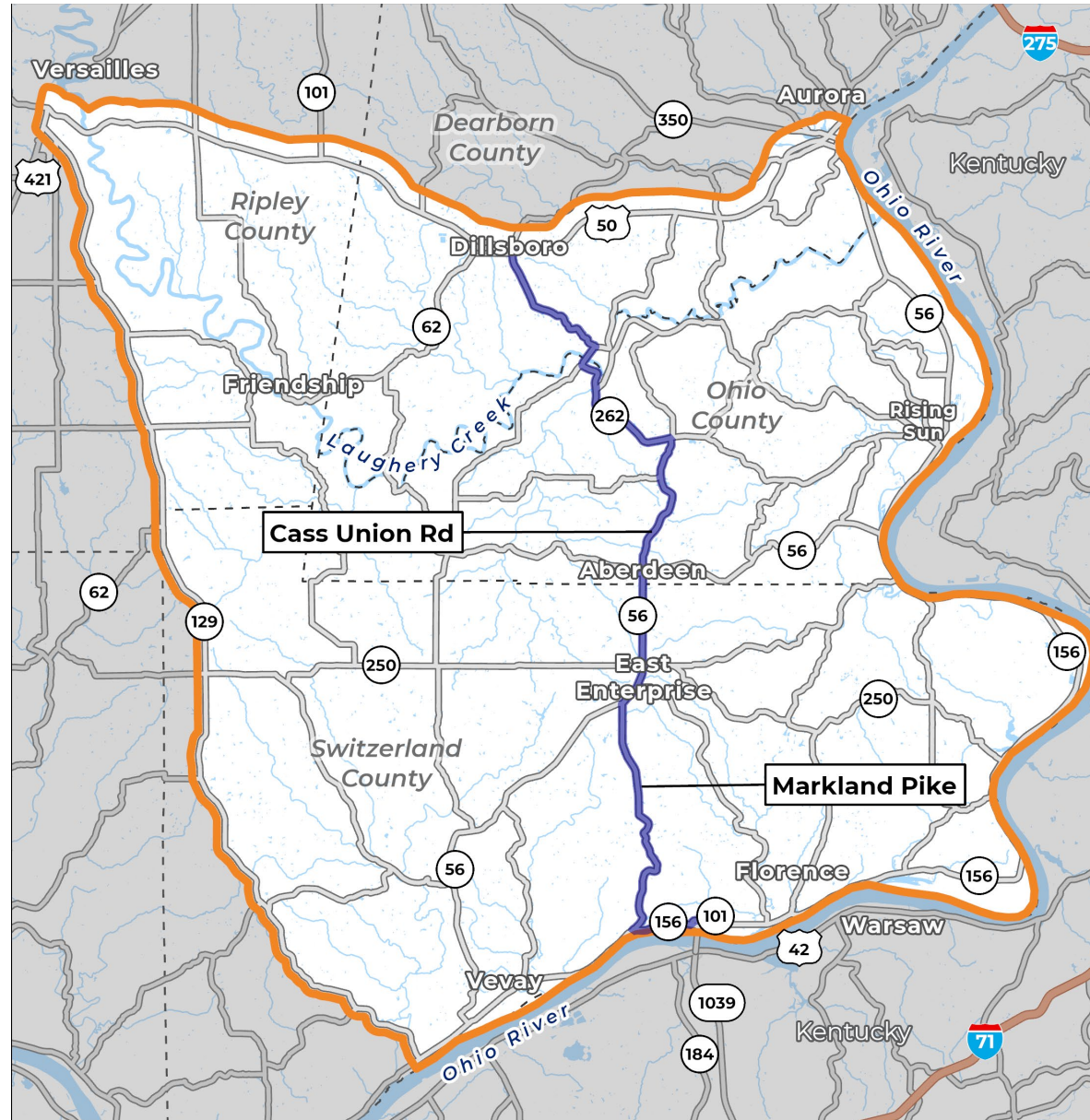


PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

- Project *will determine* the *Purpose and Need*
- It's the **WHY**
 - Tells *why* the study is being conducted
 - Provides the *general vision* of the study
 - States the intended or *desired outcomes*
 - Expresses the *transportation issues* and *problems*
 - *Foundation* of decision-making process and project design



EXISTING FASTEST & SHORTEST ROUTE



PRELIMINARY PROJECT NEED

- Travel time and distance between the Markland Dam and US 50
- High crash locations
- Geometric deficiencies of existing routes
- Flooding of Laughery Creek crossings create access and safety issues
- Existing roadways located in slide-prone areas create access and safety issues



ROUTE TO A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE



Develop broad routes based on community feedback and analysis

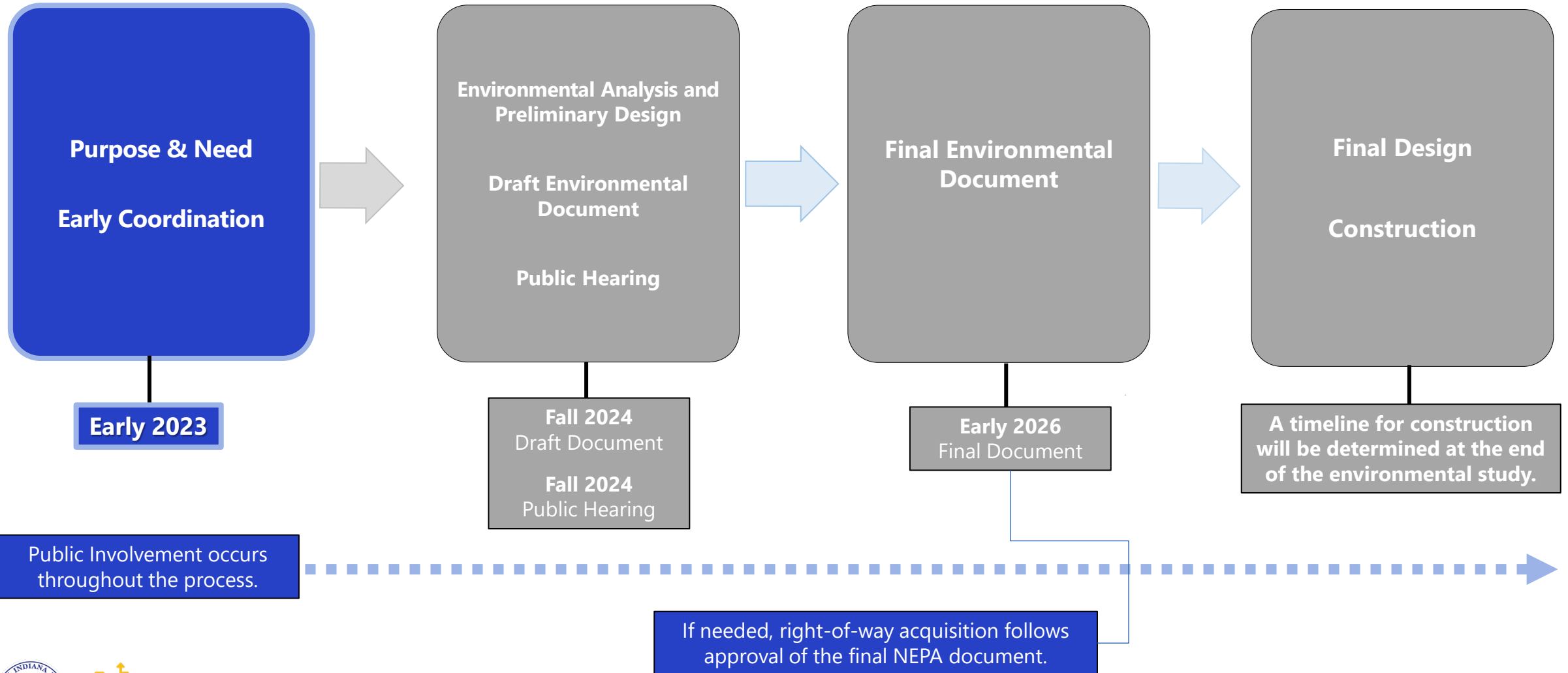


Alternatives emerge from broad routes to be studied in greater detail

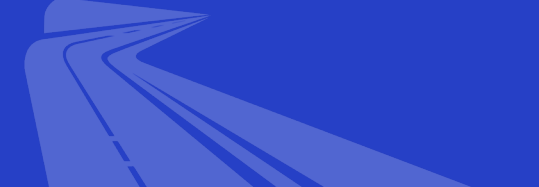


Preferred alternative that meets Purpose and Need and comes from detailed analysis

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS PROCESS



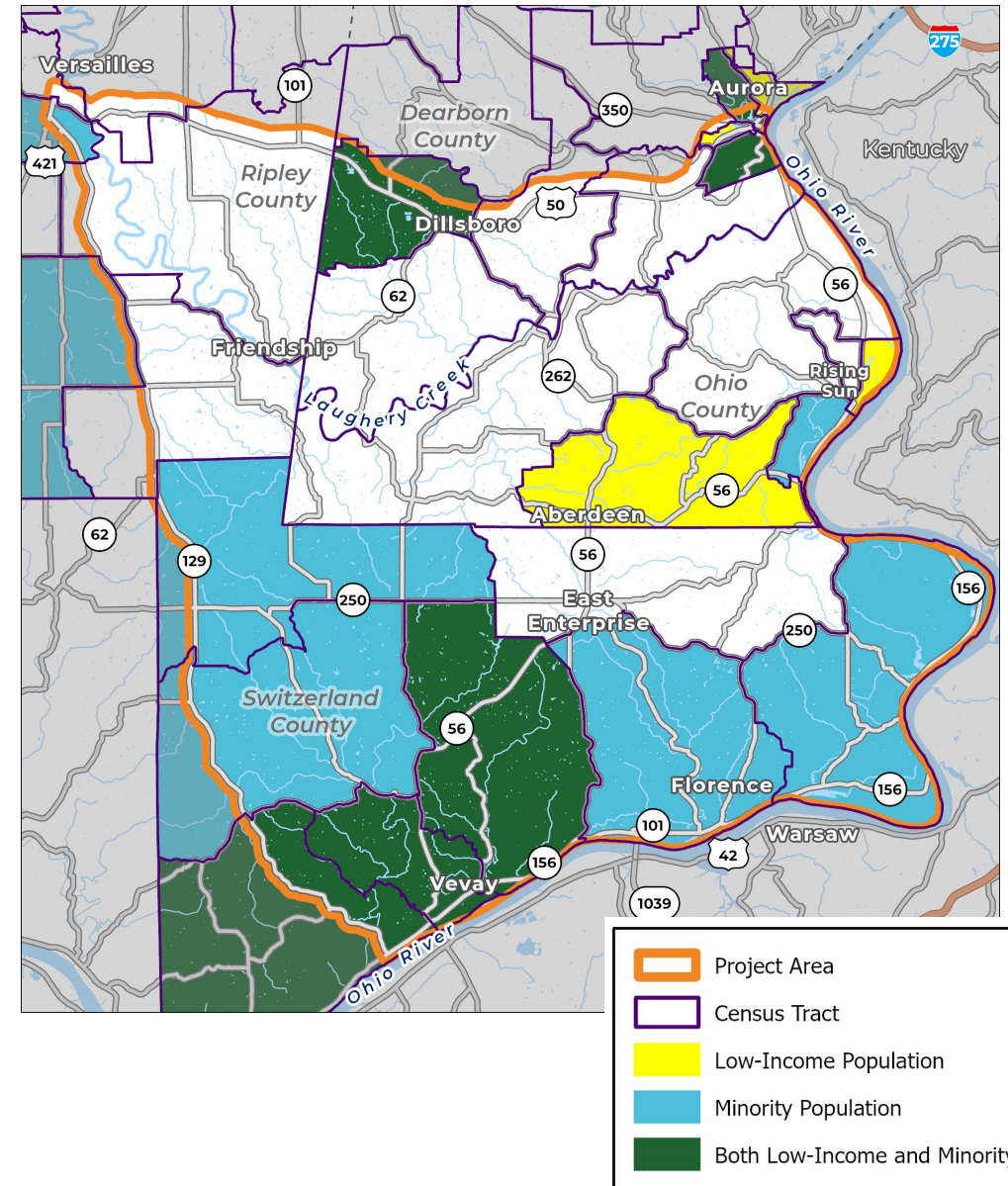
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)



- EJ outreach seeks fairness in mobility and accessibility to meet the needs of everyone:
 - Low income
 - Race or ethnicity
 - Elderly
 - Children
 - Limited English proficiency
 - Persons with disabilities

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)

- The study team is identifying environmental justice communities, examining data from:
 - US Census
 - US Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - White House's Justice40 Initiative
- Do you know of other possible environmental justice communities in the area? Let us know.



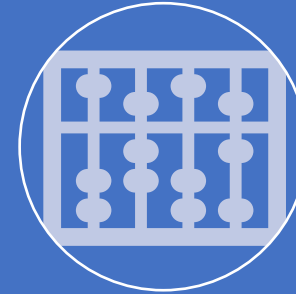
HOW WE WILL USE WHAT WE LEARN



Understand
local needs



Identify
opportunities,
concerns and
areas of conflict



Clearly **describe**
potential options,
constraints and
tradeoffs



Use feedback to
inform project
outcomes

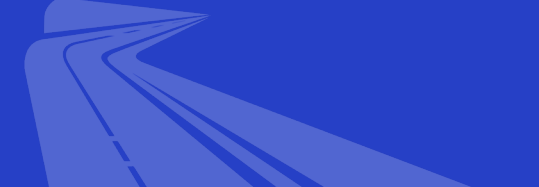




SHARE
YOUR
FEEDBACK



GET INVOLVED



- We want to know **what you think**.
- It's a **collaborative process** between community and Project Team.
- You **live, work and travel the roads** in the area regularly.
- Engagement **across the project area** is important
- Help us **identify communities** and **people** in your area – we want them **involved in the process**.

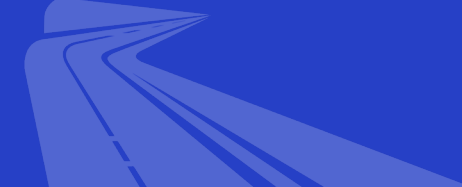


TRANSPORTATION DISCUSSION

- **What is your biggest concern traveling within the project area?**
 - Connectivity (ability to get from Point A to Point B)
 - Roadway conditions (narrow lanes, sharp curves, steep grade, etc.)
 - Safety (crashes, pedestrian safety, bicyclists)
 - Traffic congestion
 - Other concerns



CONNECTIVITY DISCUSSION



- **What are the services you need better connections to?**

- Work/employment
- Entertainment
- Shopping
- Medical
- Recreation
- Other

- **Where is your commute to work?**

- Within the project area
- From the project area to outside the project area
- From outside the project area to the project area
- Through the project area

TRAVEL DISCUSSION

- **When you travel in the project area, where do you go?**
 - Local travel
 - Regional travel
- **What improvements do you want to see in the project area?**



FUNCTION AND FIT

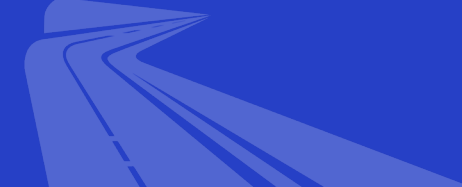
- What *function* do you want from the roadway?
 - Improved safety
 - Improved travel times
 - Walkability access
 - Multimodal access
- How do you want the roadway to *fit* within your community?





NEXT STEPS

WHAT TO EXPECT



LINK 101

PROJECT TIMELINE

EARLY 2023

Project Introduction
Public Information Meeting

FALL 2024

Draft Environmental Document
Public Hearing

EARLY 2026

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

2023

2024

2025

2026

SUMMER 2023

Alternatives Development
Public Information Meeting

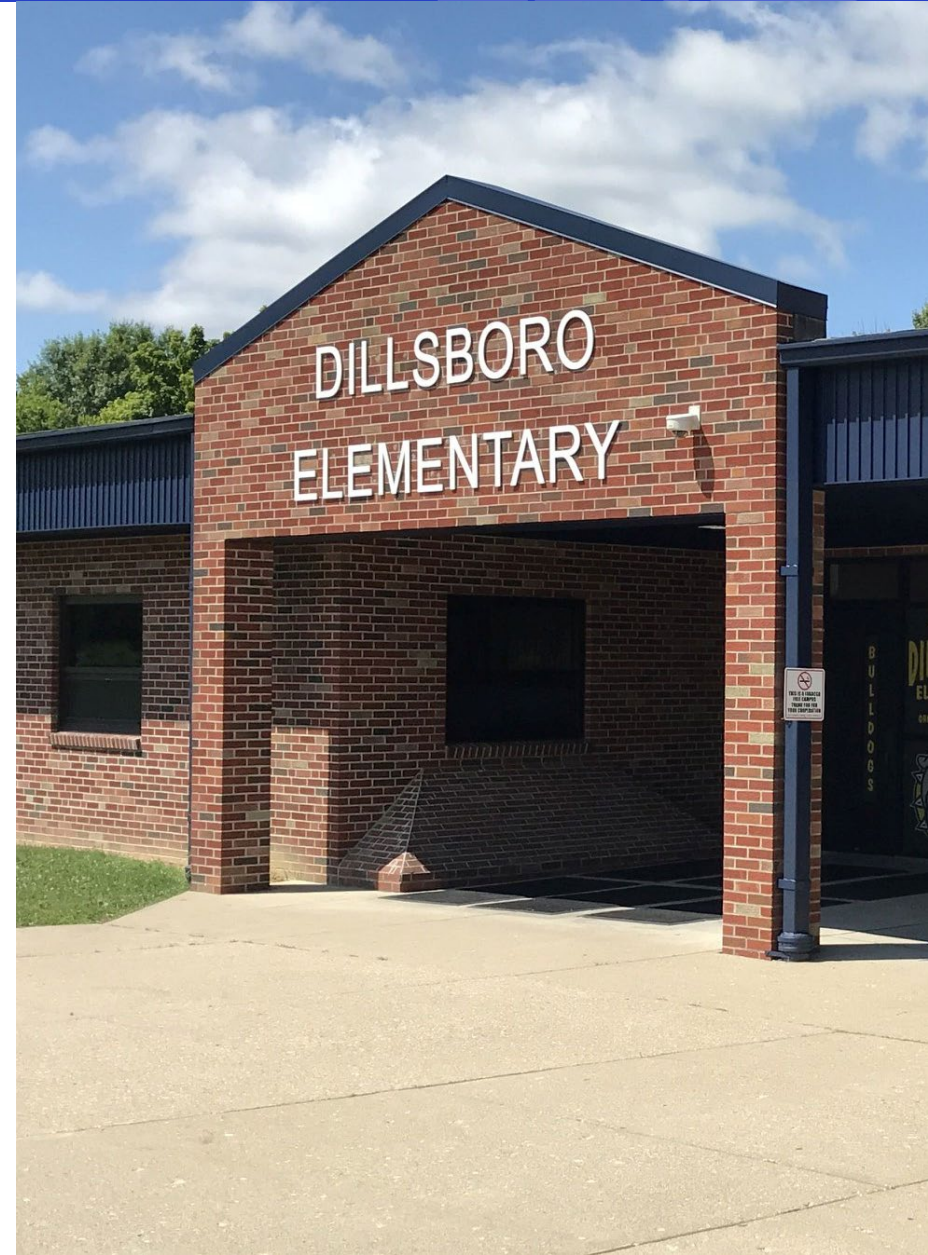
SUMMER 2024

Preferred Alternative Identified



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

- Public meetings **coming soon**
- **Dillsboro Elementary School**
 - Wednesday, Jan. 18, 5:30 to 7 p.m.
 - 6 p.m. presentation
- Virtual meeting **Thursday, Jan. 19** at **6 p.m.** via Microsoft Teams
- Register at **bit.ly/Link101VirtualMeeting**



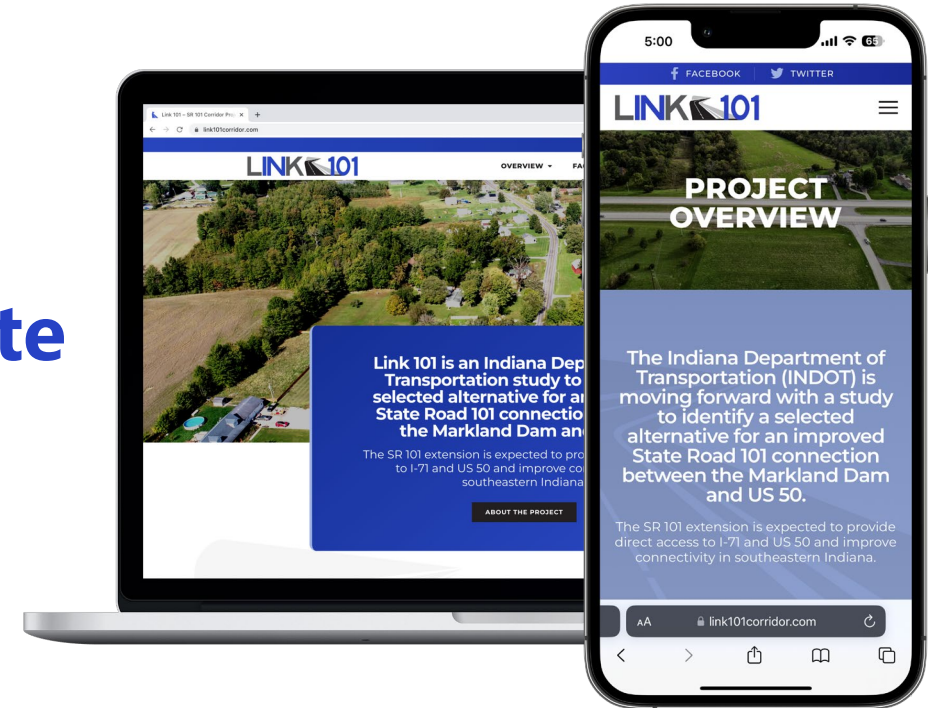


FOLLOW
OUR
PROGRESS



FOLLOW OUR PROGRESS

- Link101Corridor.com
- Text “**INDOT LINK101**” to **468311**
- Sign up for **email updates** on **website**
- Social Media
 - **Facebook:** Link 101 Corridor
 - **Twitter:** @Link101Corridor



PROJECT OFFICE

- **Link 101 Project Office**
Switzerland County Technology
and Education Center, 2nd floor



844-Link101 (844-546-5101)



Link101Corridor.com



info@Link101Corridor.com

We're open **Monday** and **Wednesday** from
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment.

The Project Office **opens Monday, January 23.**





THANK YOU

January 9, 2023

IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY IN SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA

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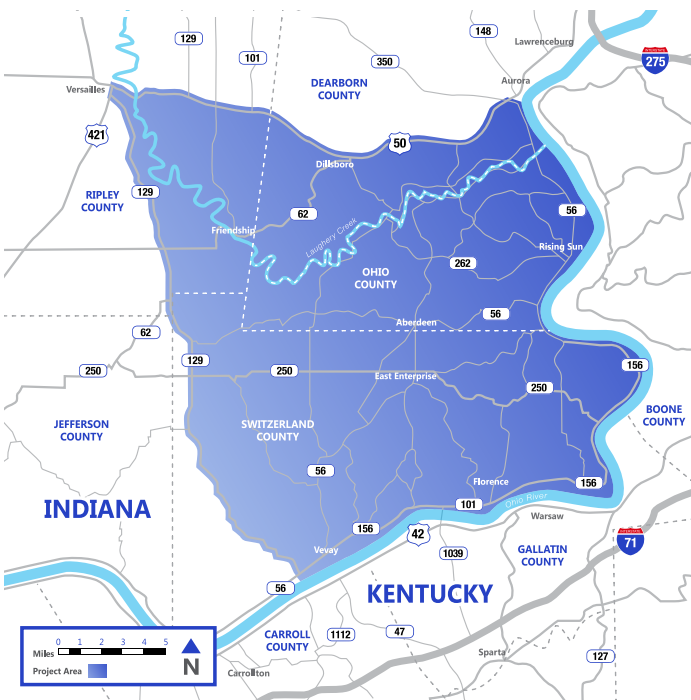


- The project is in the environmental and preliminary design stage.
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- The Project Team is coordinating with local, state and federal officials.
- Input from the public is an important part of developing the project.
- Any required right-of-way acquisition will not occur for several years.
- The construction timeline depends on available funding at the end of the environmental study.

PROJECT AREA



WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

The Project Team is gathering information and analyzing data to define transportation and community needs in the project area.



With the needs defined, potential alternatives will be developed and evaluated.

IN-PERSON MEETING

Wednesday, Jan. 18 | 5:30 - 7 p.m. | 6 p.m. presentation
Dillsboro Elementary School | 13200 North St., Dillsboro, IN

VIRTUAL MEETING

Thursday, Jan. 19 | 6 p.m.
Meeting via Microsoft Teams | bit.ly/Link101VirtualMeeting

PROJECT OFFICE



Link 101 Project Office

Switzerland County Technology and Education Center
708 W. Seminary St., 2nd Floor
Vevay, IN 47043



Review project information, **talk** to a Project Team member and share **your** feedback.

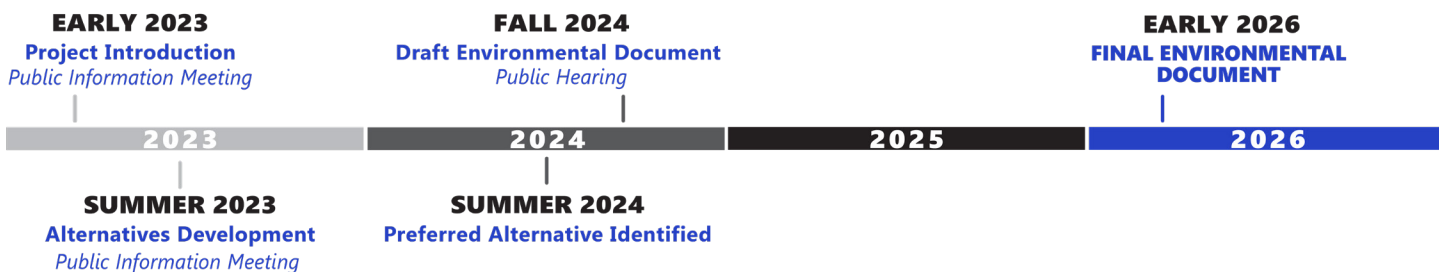
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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Input from the public is an important part of the project.
- It's a collaborative process between the community and Project Team.
- Public touchpoints include a project website, social media channels, project text and e-mail alerts.
- Touchpoints at key project milestones will include stakeholder meetings and public meetings.
- A public hearing and comment period will follow publication of the preferred alternative.

PROJECT TIMELINE



CONTACT US

☎ 844-LINK101 (546-5101)

💻 Link101Corridor.com

✉ info@Link101Corridor.com

🏢 Project Office

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📱 Text "INDOT LINK101" to 468311 for mobile updates.

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PARA PREGUNTAS EN ESPAÑOL

Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios o le gustaria más información sobre este proyecto en Español, contacta al señor Robert Walker, al teléfono **801-553-3347** o correo electrónico **robert.walker@parsons.com**.

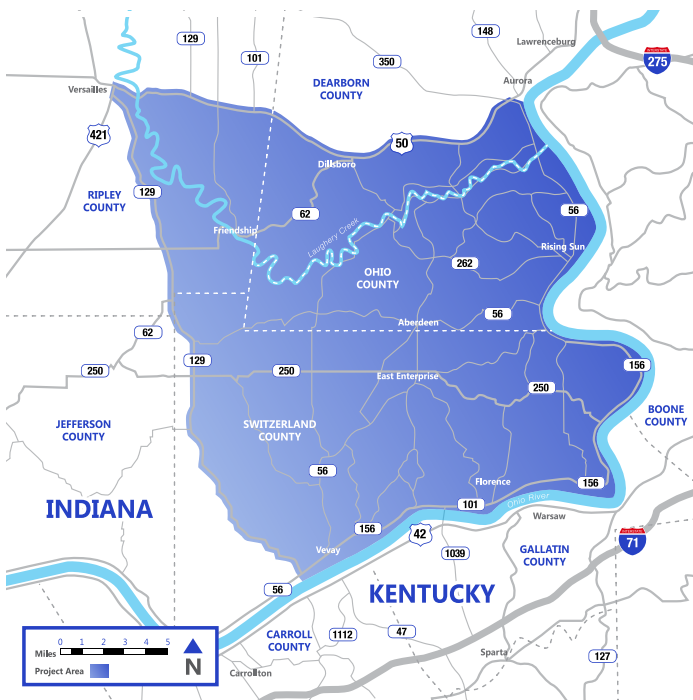
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PROJECT AREA



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ) WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

- Discuss issues with the potential to affect low-income or minority populations
- Serve as a liaison between the community or organization and Project Team
- Learn more about the project, share views and identify local concerns
- Engage in two-way communications with Project Team
- Serve in an advisory role and share project information with others
- Take part in up to four EJ Working Group meetings during the project

PROJECT OFFICE



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Vevay, IN 47043



Review project information, **talk** to a Project Team member and share **your** feedback.

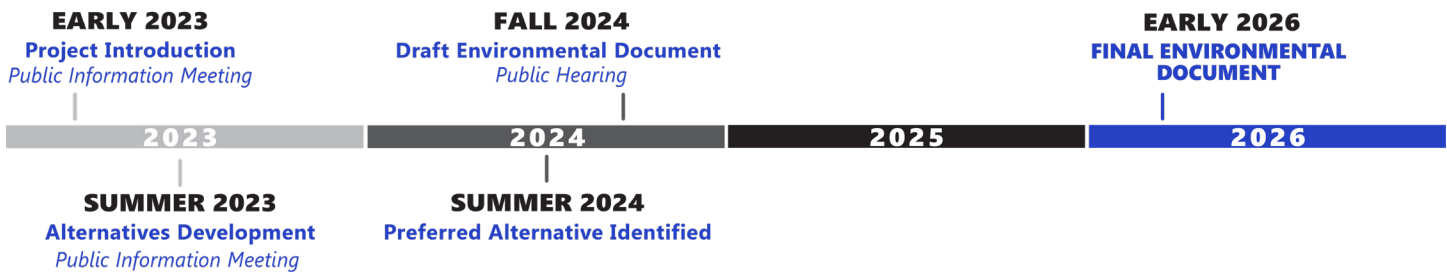
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PROJECT TIMELINE



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- 🏢 Project Office

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PUBLIC MEETINGS JANUARY 18 AND 19

In-person and virtual meeting options available

IN-PERSON MEETING

Wednesday, January 18, 5:30 - 7 p.m.

6 p.m. project presentation
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VIRTUAL MEETING

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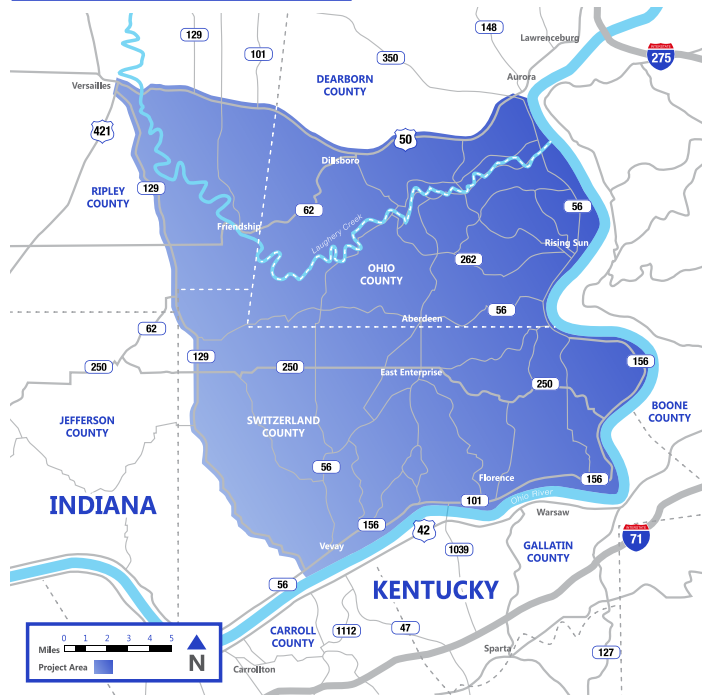
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PROJECT AREA



Special Accommodations: With advance notice, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) can provide special accommodation for persons with disabilities and/or limited English speaking ability and persons needing auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters, signers, readers or large print. Should special accommodation be needed, please call 844-Link101 (844-546-5101) or email info@Link101Corridor.com.

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