



MEETING SUMMARY

Date: July 27, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM

Meeting: Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting #2

Location: Switzerland Co. Technology & Education Center, Vevay, Indiana & Microsoft Teams

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Sarah Rubin	INDOT
Laura Hilden	INDOT
Kari Carmany-George	FHWA
Anna Wainscott	Parsons
Berry Craig	Parsons
Cory Grayburn	Parsons
Dan Prevost	Parsons
Mindy Peterson	Parsons
Nick Batta	CMT
JoAnn Schutte	Rasor
Anthony Thomas	Switzerland County Highway Department
Cody Mcneely	Belterra Casino
Don Frey	Belterra Casino
Eric Kranz	Dearborn County Chamber of Commerce
Eric Lowes	South Dearborn Schools
Gary Norman	Ripley County Economic Development
Jeff Stant	Indiana Forest Alliance
John Bond	Switzerland County Economic Development
Justin Smith	Ripley County Chamber of Commerce
Kevin Turner	Town of Dillsboro
Laura Walston	Ohio County EMS Director
Lindsey Simmons	Switzerland County YMCA
Pam Acton	Vevay-Switzerland County Foundation
Peter Chu	Belterra Casino
Todd Listerman	Dearborn County Engineer
Kim Wolfert	Guest
Rhett Dennerline	Guest
Rob Hines	Guest
Tonya George	Guest

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 CAC Meeting and welcomed the group.
3	Mindy (Parsons) discussed the role of CAC 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 evaluating alternatives for an improved State Road 101 connection between the Markland Dam and US 50. The project is expected to improve connectivity in southeastern Indiana. The project area includes portions of Switzerland, Ohio, Dearborn and Ripley counties. Environmental analysis and preliminary design work are underway.
6	Dan Prevost (Parsons) presented the draft Purpose and Need statement for the project. A Purpose and Need statement is the “why” – why the project is being conducted – and is the foundation of the decision-making process and project design. The project Purpose and Need aims to reduce travel time, improve safety, meet current design standards and provide a route above the Laughery Creek flood plain by analyzing travel time and distance, safety and geometric deficiencies. Ten preliminary alternatives were shared. All start at SR 101 at Markland Dam, consider a range of destinations along US 50 and consider areas of challenging terrain. Alternatives are screened based on Purpose and Need. Feedback from the public and agencies and helps guide alternative refinements.
7	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 first in-person meeting is August 2 at South Dearborn High School, 5:30 to 7 pm with a 6 pm presentation. The second in-person meeting is August 3 at Switzerland County Middle School, 5:30 to 7 pm with a 6 pm presentation A virtual meeting is planned for August 8 at 6 pm. A registration link will be provided. Comments associated with public meetings will be accepted through September 8 th . Comments can be shared in person at the comment station, online at Link101Corridor.com , via mail to the project office, or by visiting the project office.
8	Mindy (Parsons) shared Link 101 social media channels and website. The project website, Link101Corridor.com has project information, FAQs, maps and more. EJ/CAC and public meeting materials will be posted there. Sign up for project updates via email or text. Multiple contact channels are available with all feedback shared with the Project Team. The Project Office is in the Switzerland County Technology and Education Center, 2nd floor. The office is 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 .
9	Jeff Stant (Indiana Forest Alliance) asked if the project has looked at feasibility of raising the flood plain of existing roads. Dan (Parsons) said some of the alternatives do look at upgrading existing roads.
10	Kim Wolfert (Guest) asked if the public meeting will allow for guests to ask questions. Mindy (Parsons) noted that Project Team members will be available to answer questions attendees may have at the Public Meeting. The formal comment period with a microphone will be held at the public hearing next year.
11	Kim (Guest) asked how elderly neighbors without access to technology can get involved. She advocated for an opportunity for residents to have an open dialogue about the project. Mindy (Parsons) indicated the public can visit the project office on Mondays and Wednesdays and by appointment. There is also a project office phone line answered every weekday. There are opportunities for discussions with Project Team members at both in-person public meetings and via chat at the virtual meeting. The in-person meetings are open-house format.

12	Jeff (Indiana Forest Alliance) had concerns with the hearing being held long after the Purpose and Need timeframe. Changes can still be made after the public hearing and comments are always being heard by the Project Team.
13	Rhett Dennerline (Guest) asked about the level of service of each alternative. Level of service is a way to measure the performance of a roadway that speaks to the level of congestion. Dan (Parsons) noted that traffic analysis for this project has not been completed yet, but that it is anticipated that a two-lane roadway would provide acceptable level of service for the foreseeable future.
14	Jeff (Indiana Forest Alliance) asked if there is a tabulation of comments from the first public meeting comment period. Dan (Parsons) noted it is included with the public meeting summary posted on the Project Documents page and was shared with CAC and EJ members with this meeting invitation.
15	Rhett (Guest) asked if Alternative D requires a bridge. A new bridge would be needed for this alternative because Alternative D crosses Laughery Creek.
16	Rhett (Guest) noted that Alternative F has a lot of new terrain. Dan (Parsons) explained the route is an option based on comments from the first Public Information Meeting.
17	Don Frey (Belterra Casino) asked if busier areas will get turn lanes. Dan (Parsons) indicated it is too early in the design process to know that. Individual intersections will be evaluated once the alternatives screened down to a smaller number.
18	Todd Listerman (Dearborn County Engineer) noted that specifics such as turn lanes or bridges will be determined by engineering when the actual road is designed.
19	Rhett (Guest) asked Todd (Dearborn County Engineer) if the Proposed Typical Section is a super 2. Todd (Dearborn County Engineer) indicated this is a super-2. It has full shoulders so you can pull completely off the road and there will also be a place for Amish buggies to travel.
20	Gary Norman (Ripley County Economic Development) noted that in the alternative up to Versailles (up 129 to 421 into Versailles) might be something to reach out to Versailles about because they have been wanting to do a 3 rd lane. Traffic is heavy at the intersection. Dan (Parsons) noted the Project Team would reach out.
21	Rhett (Guest) wanted to confirm that when you have new alignment miles the county/state will have to change who maintains them between the state and the county. INDOT is aware of this state law; it is something that must be managed at a statewide level.
22	Dan (Parsons) reported next steps in the project process. There will be a draft environmental document next fall. There will also be a Public Hearing. Comments after the hearing will be examined to determine if changes need to be made to the alternative or if more studies of alternatives need to happen. Early 2026 is when the Final Environmental Document is anticipated. This deliberative process is essential to identify the best alternative.
23	Mindy (Parsons) reminded the group about upcoming events. Public meetings are August 2 and 3. The virtual meeting will be August 8. It will be recorded and available on the website as well as all project materials. Amish community has been notified. The Project Team has posted fliers out in the community and sent a postcard to 13,000 homes about the meetings. The Project Team has also advertised the meetings in the newspapers and social media. After the meetings, there will be numerous opportunities to submit comments. Comments are always welcome, but the official comment period ends Sept. 8. The Project Office will also have a large map on display. The website has a great deal of information, and social media channels share much information as well.

24	Rhett (Guest) noted that in the summary from the last Public Information Meeting, around 240-290 comments were negative toward the project.
25	Jeff (Indiana Forest Alliance) asked if the Project Team would make it clear that people need to submit comments related to the Purpose and Need by September 8. Mindy (Parsons) noted that before Sept. 8 is the best time to submit comments but comments can be submitted and recorded at any time. All comments are documented and summarized. All comments are included in the project record. Comments made after September 8 will not be associated with the specific comment period, but they will still be part of the project record.
26	Kari Carmany-George (FHWA) noted that from FHWA perspective, comments are always taken into consideration. There are certain periods that have specific 30-day periods. INDOT has project development manuals – these can be looked at to know what is expected. From the federal level, there are specific timelines that must be followed. INDOT goes beyond those. The level of documentation for this project has not been identified yet by FHWA.
27	Kim (Guest) requested a public Q&A. She feels it is difficult for the public to know what to comment on when they don't know their neighbors' concerns. Mindy (Parsons) noted her request. (Note: a public comment period was incorporated in the two in-person and virtual meetings.)
28	Todd (Dearborn HWY) asked when the project will look at economic benefits. Dan (Parsons) explained this will happen when the project gets down to a smaller number of alternatives. INDOT has a tool to analyze economic effects and the results will be included in the draft environmental document.
29	Jeff (Indiana Forest Analysis) noted that it is difficult to leave enlightened comments without a cost/benefit analysis. Dan (Parsons) explained the analysis will be done after the project is narrowed down to fewer alternatives. No build is always a baseline option with no improvements and is carried forward throughout the study process.
30	Closing remarks from Mindy (Parsons) and Dan (Parsons) including a call for final questions.



Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

July 27, 2023

PRESENTERS



Dan Prevost

Project Manager, Parsons



Mindy Peterson

Public Involvement Director, Parsons

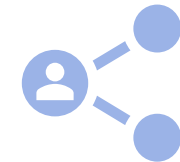
AGENDA TOPICS

1. **Project Overview**
2. **Draft Purpose and Need**
3. **Preliminary Alternatives**
4. **Next Steps**
5. **Follow Our Progress**
6. **Contact Us**

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEMBERS

RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Discuss** project-related issues or concerns
- **Serve** as liaison between community or organization and Project Team
- **Share** views and identify local concerns in two-way communications with Project Team
- **Serve** in an advisory role and share project information with others



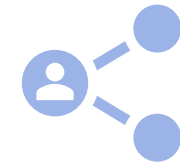
BENEFITS OF BEING A CAC MEMBER

- 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



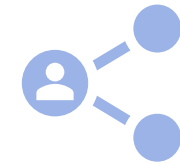
CAC KICK-OFF MEETING

- **Kick-off** meeting held in January
- **Introduced** Link 101 and role of CAC
- **Discussed** connectivity, travel habits, community needs and ways to connect with the community
- **Meeting minutes** shared with the group



TODAY'S MEETING

- **Draft Purpose and Need** to be shared
- **Preliminary alternatives** to be discussed
- **Public meeting** information will be shared
- **Comment channels** and outreach will be discussed
- **CAC feedback** is an important part of the process



FOR DISCUSSION

- **Meeting format preference?** Virtual? In-person?
- **Meeting time preference?** Morning? Midday? Evening?
- **Contact preference?** Email? Phone?



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

- **Open house** and presentation
- **Discussions** at stations continue following presentation
- **Review** draft Purpose and Need
- **Review** preliminary alternatives
- **Talk** with Project Team members
- **Complete** a comment form





PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Link 101 is an Indiana Department of Transportation project in southeast Indiana.
- It's evaluating alternatives for an improved SR 101 connection between the Markland Dam and US 50.
- The project is expected to improve connectivity in southeastern Indiana.
- The project area includes portions of Switzerland, Ohio, Dearborn and Ripley counties.



WHERE WE ARE

- The project is in the environmental and preliminary design stage.
- The draft Purpose and Need (P&N) is available for review.
- The P&N is “the why” for the project.
- Preliminary alternatives have been developed.
- The wide range of alternatives is based on data gathered by the Project Team and input from the public.



THE BIG PICTURE

- The ten preliminary alternatives will go through a screening process.
- A smaller number of alternatives will be carried forward for more detailed analysis.
- Benefits, impacts and costs will help identify a single preferred alternative and a formal comment period will follow.
- The preferred alternative is expected to be identified in the draft environmental document in fall 2024.
- A timeline for construction will be determined at the end of the environmental study.





PURPOSE AND NEED

PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

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

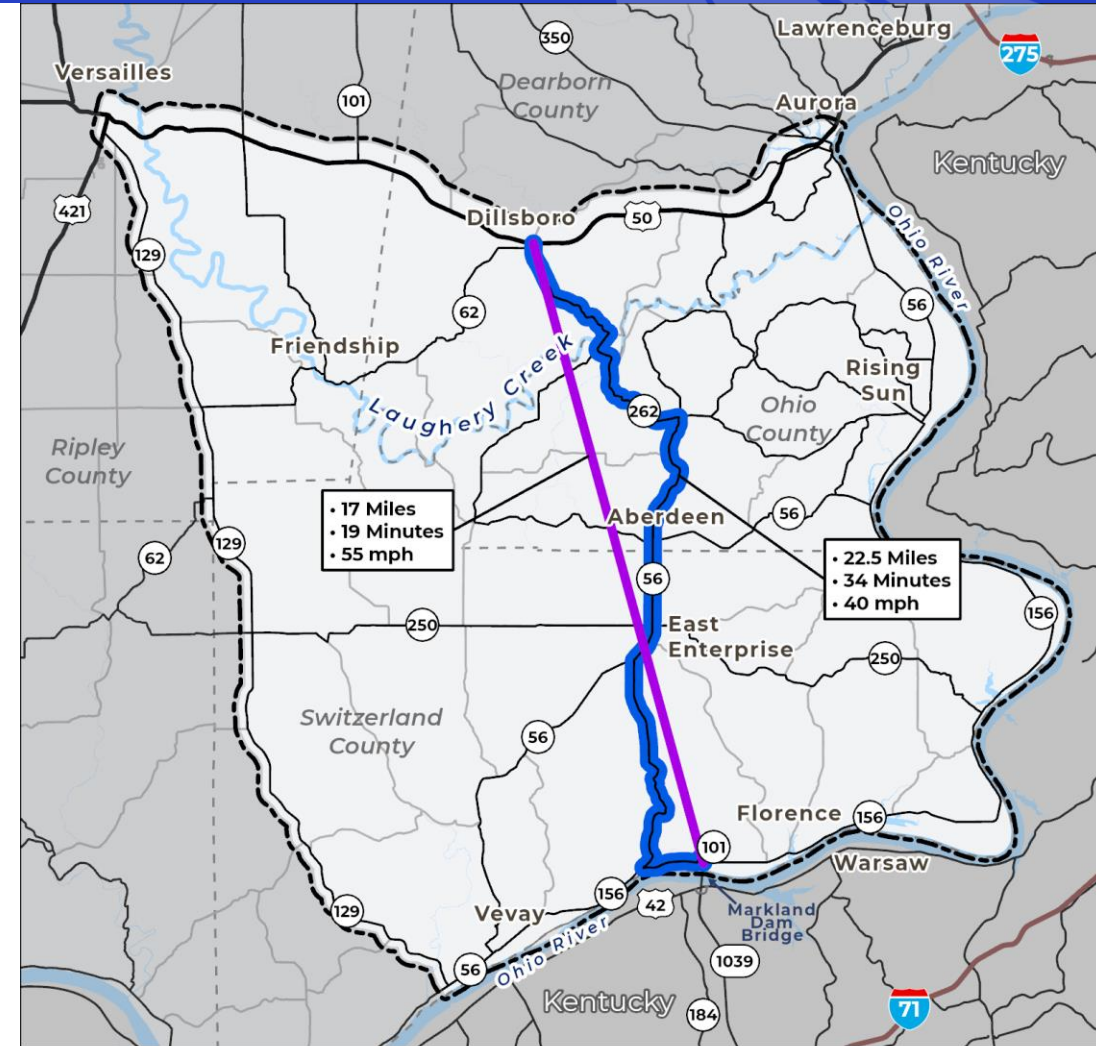


TRAVEL TIME AND DISTANCE

Need

- No direct path from Markland Dam Bridge to US 50
- 15 minutes and 5.5 miles longer than straight line path
- Truck restrictions increase travel times for trucks

Purpose | Reduce travel time within the project area by improving connectivity.



Existing Fastest & Shortest Route

Straight Line Route

Project Area

LINK 101

0 1 2 3 4 5
Miles

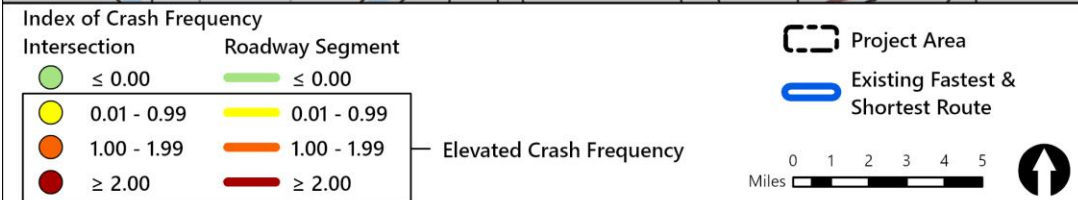
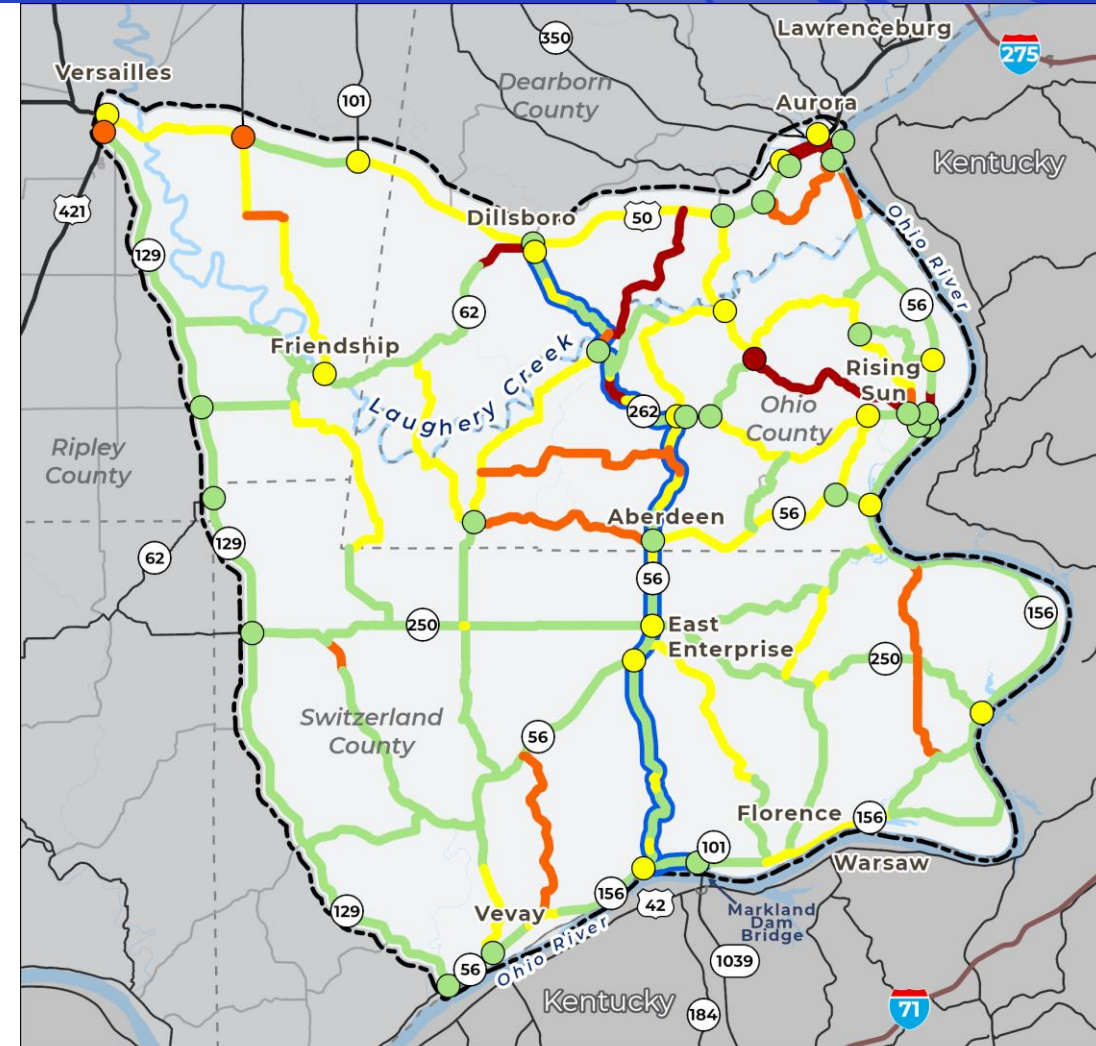


SAFETY

Need

- Elevated crash locations along the existing fastest and shortest route
- Elevated crash locations throughout the project area, with a higher concentration in the northern half

Purpose | Improve safety by reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on roadways with elevated crash locations.

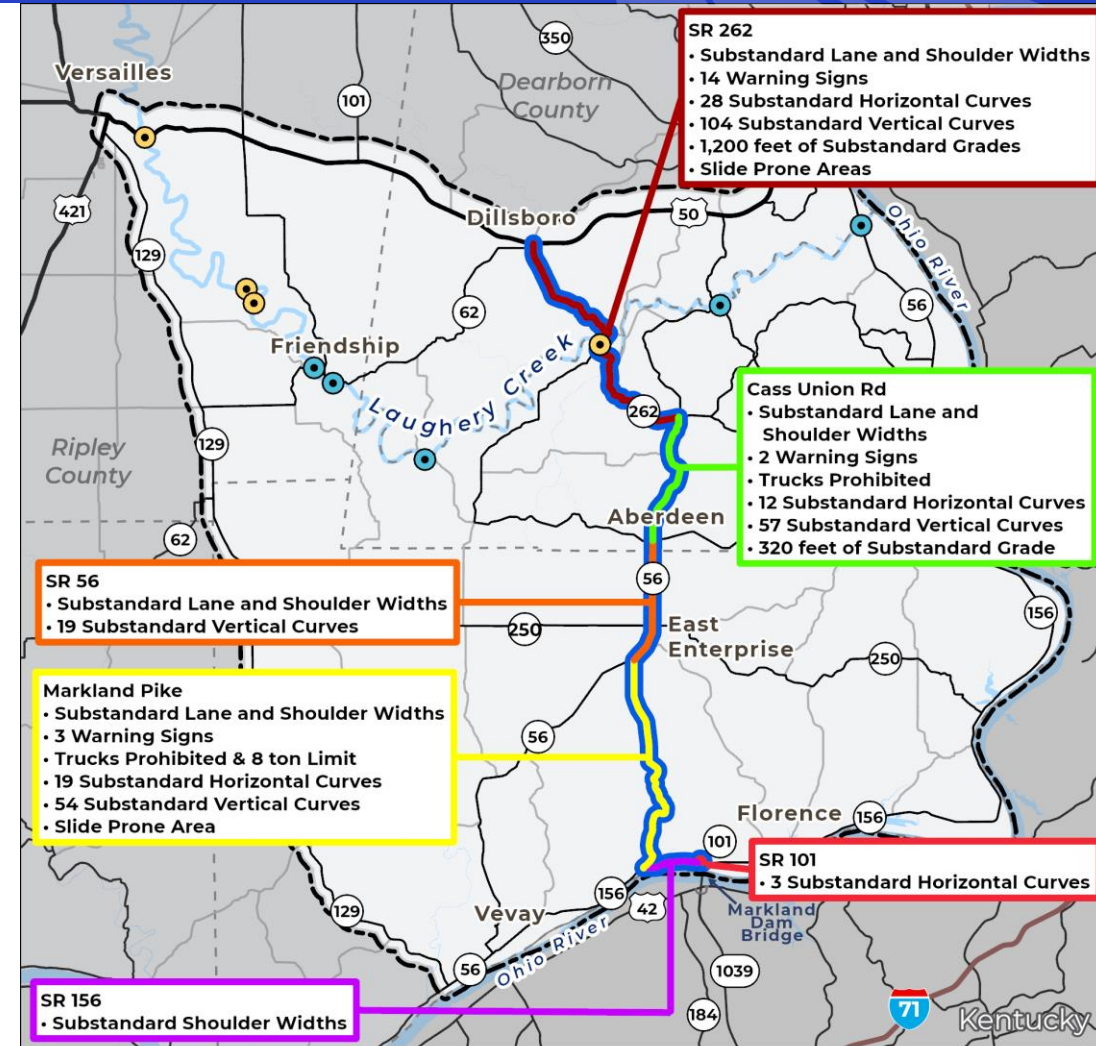


GEOMETRIC DEFICIENCIES

Need

- Existing fastest/shortest route has narrow lanes/shoulders, sharp curves, and poor sight distance.
- Geometric deficiencies contribute to poor safety outcomes, travel times, and connectivity.

Purpose | Provide roadway meeting current design standards



Laughery Creek Crossings Below 100-year Flood Elevation

- Approaches Only
- Bridge and Approaches

Project Area

Existing Fastest & Shortest Route

LINK 101

0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles



GEOMETRIC DEFICIENCIES



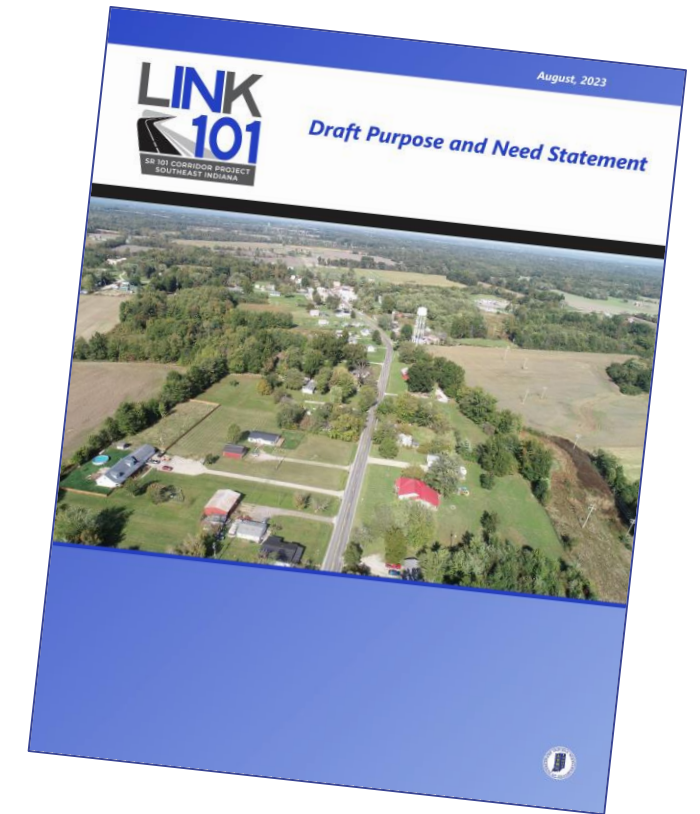
Need

- Laughery Creek crossings in project area have roadway approaches and/or bridges below the 100-year flood elevation, jeopardizing access and safety during flood events.
- Slide-prone areas create potential access and safety issues.

Purpose | Provide a roadway that is above the Laughery Creek 100-year floodplain elevation and minimizes the risk of slides.

PURPOSE AND NEED

- **We want feedback** on the draft Purpose and Need.
- Several ways to share comments:
 - **In-person** at the comment station
 - **Online** at Link101Corridor.com
 - **Via mail** to project office
 - **Project office** visit
- Comments associated with public meetings accepted through **September 8, 2023**.



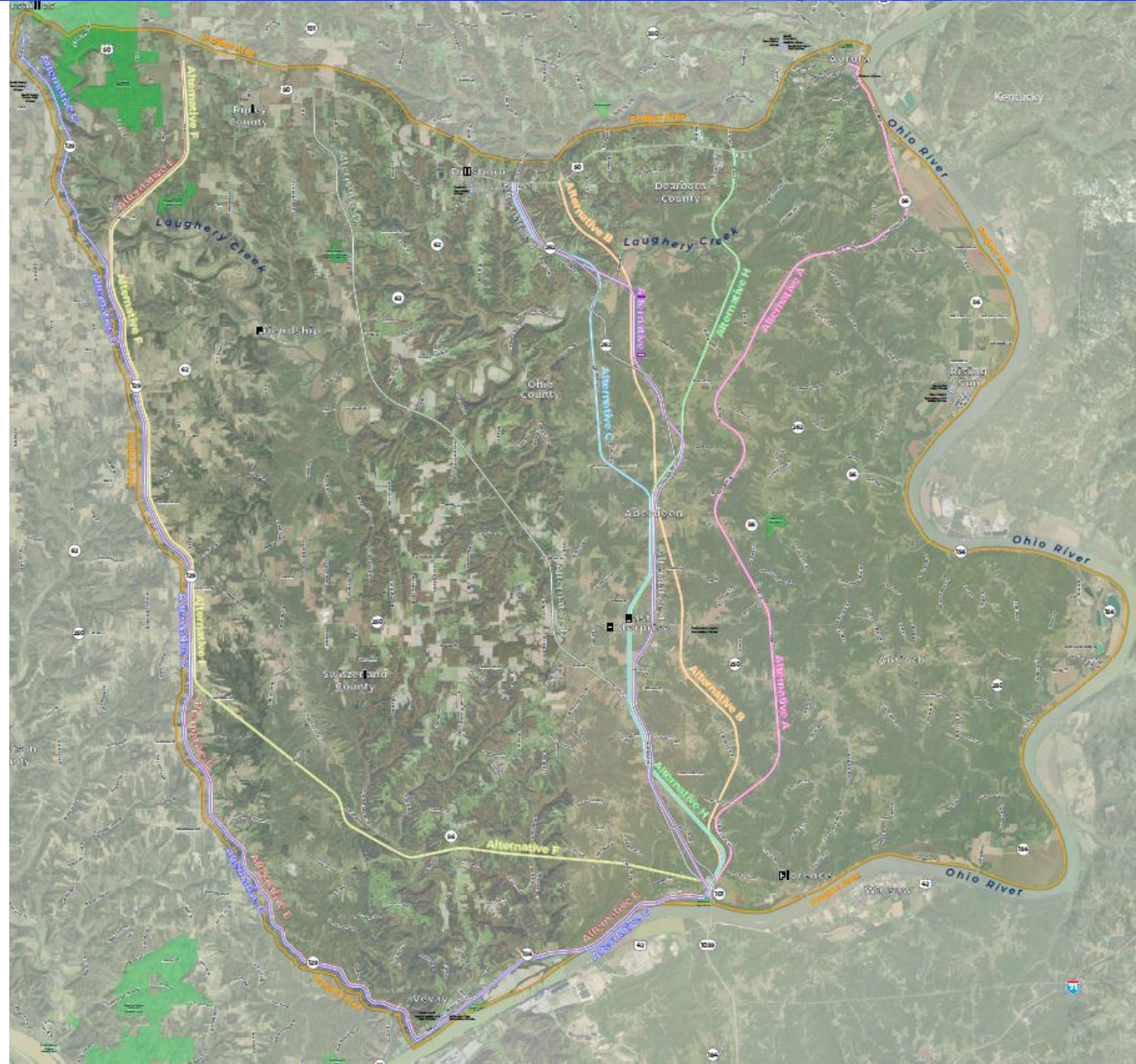


PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES



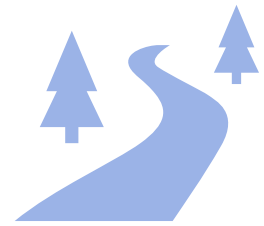
PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

- Alternatives development starts with Purpose and Need
- Data gathered and additional analysis guides alternatives development
- Public and agency feedback also guides development



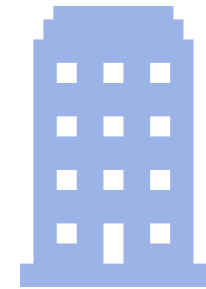
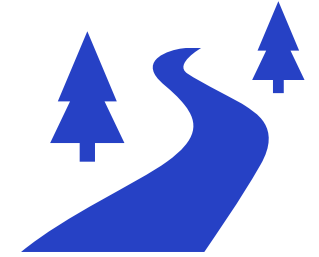
PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

- Key factors in development of general alignment:
 - All start at SR 101 at Markland Dam
 - Considers range of destinations along US 50
 - Considers areas of challenging terrain
 - Ohio River valley
 - Steep ravines
 - Laughery Creek valley



PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

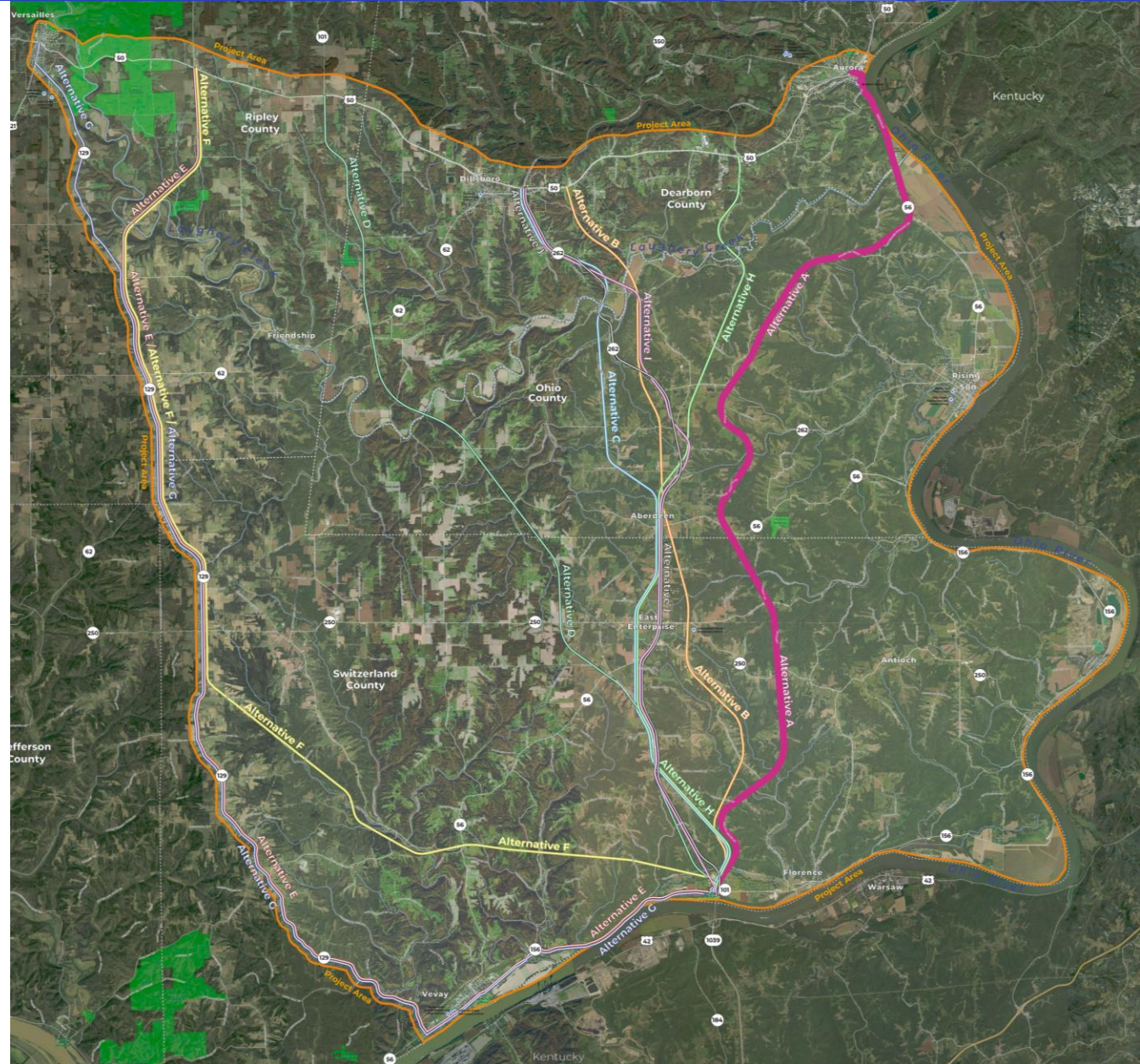
- Avoided impacts to residences, businesses, and environmental resources where possible
- Preliminary alternatives take advantage of existing roadway corridors where possible
- Range of routes help project team better understand the pros and cons of each alternative



PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

Alternative A

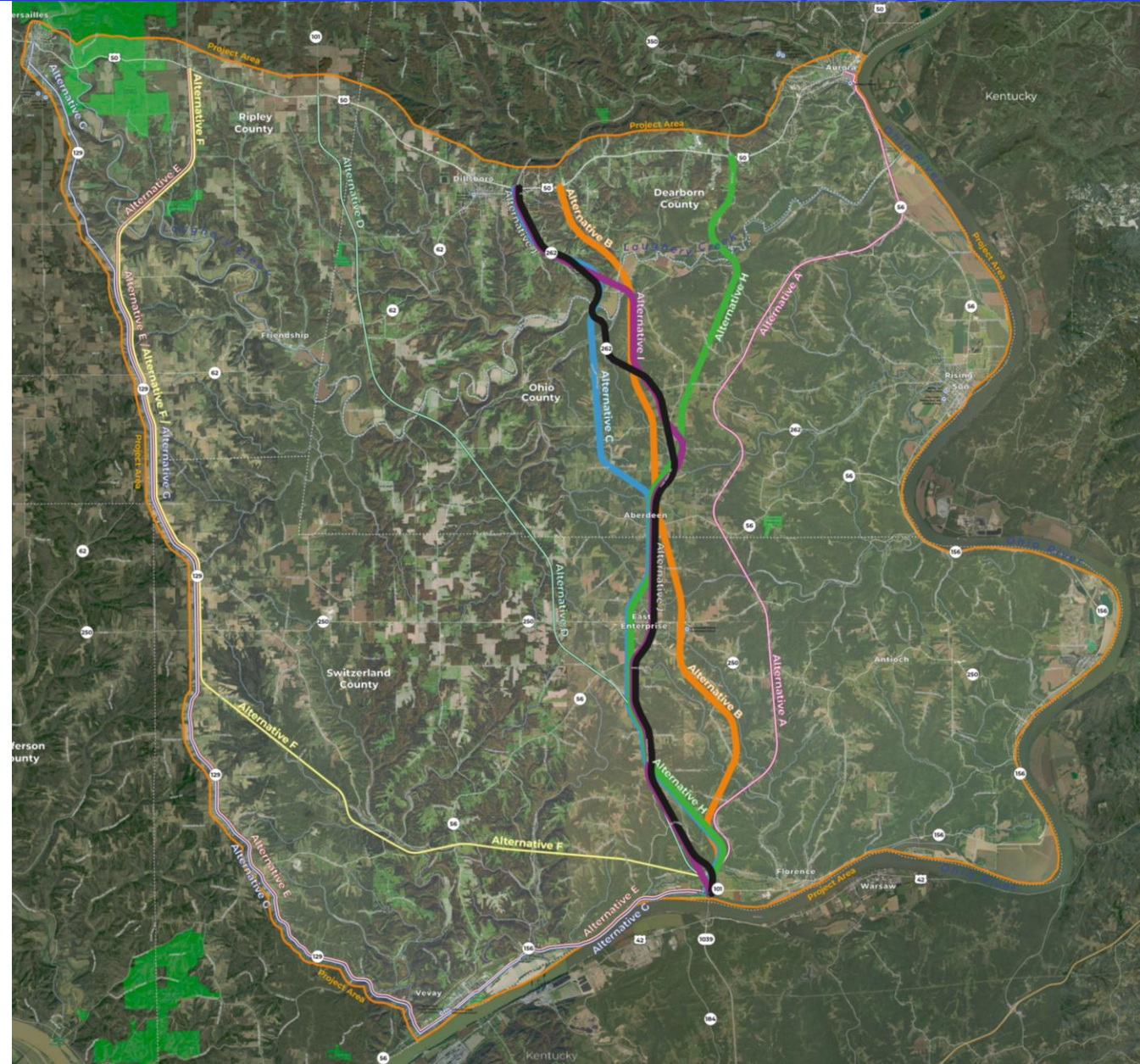
- Connects to Aurora



PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives B/C/H/I/J

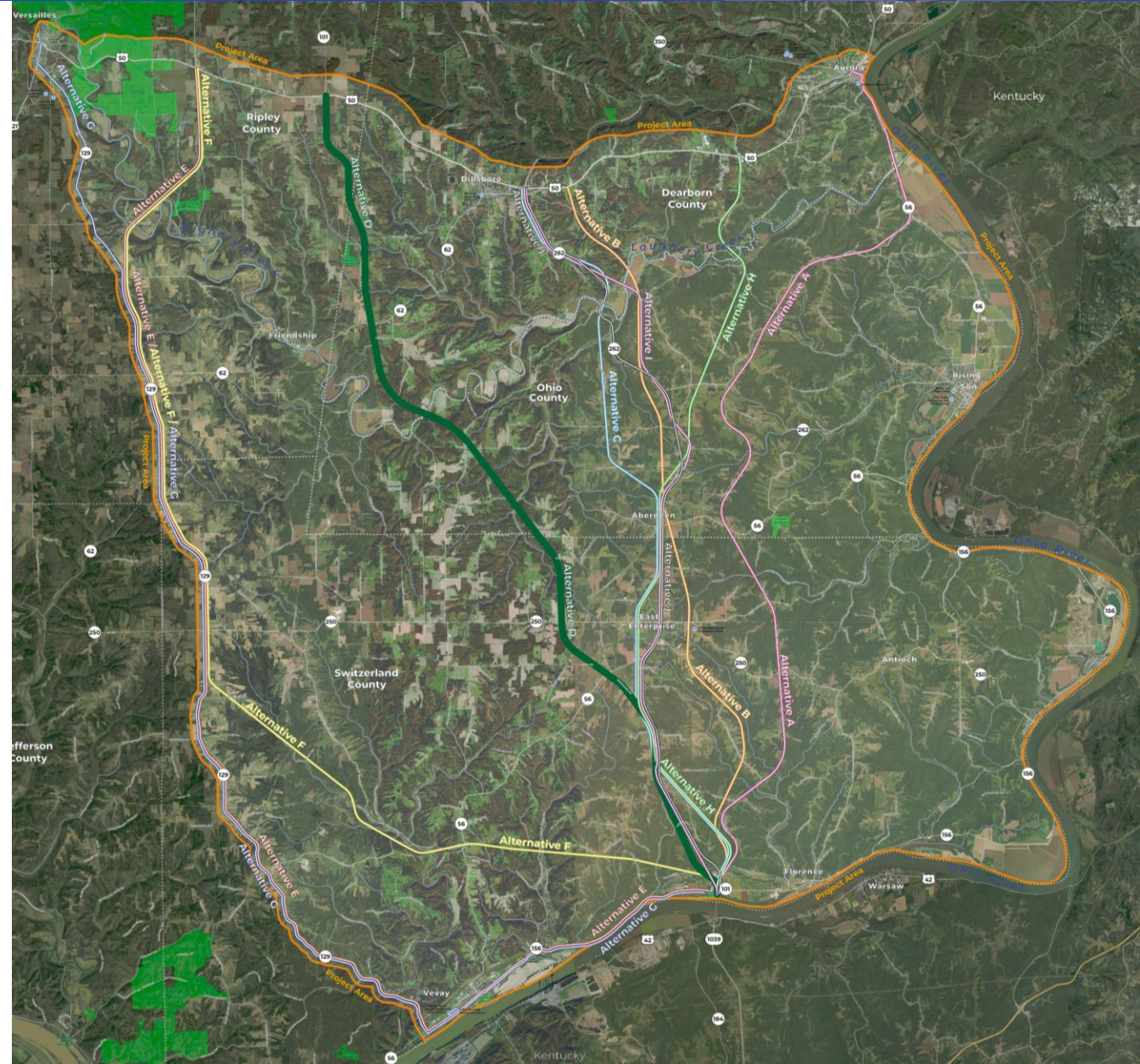
- These alternatives provide Dillsboro connection
- Alternatives C, H, I, and J use a combination of existing roads and new alignment
- Alternative B uses all new alignment (only alternative)
- Laughery Creek crossings are generally in the area of SR 262 or Nelson Road.



PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

Alternative D

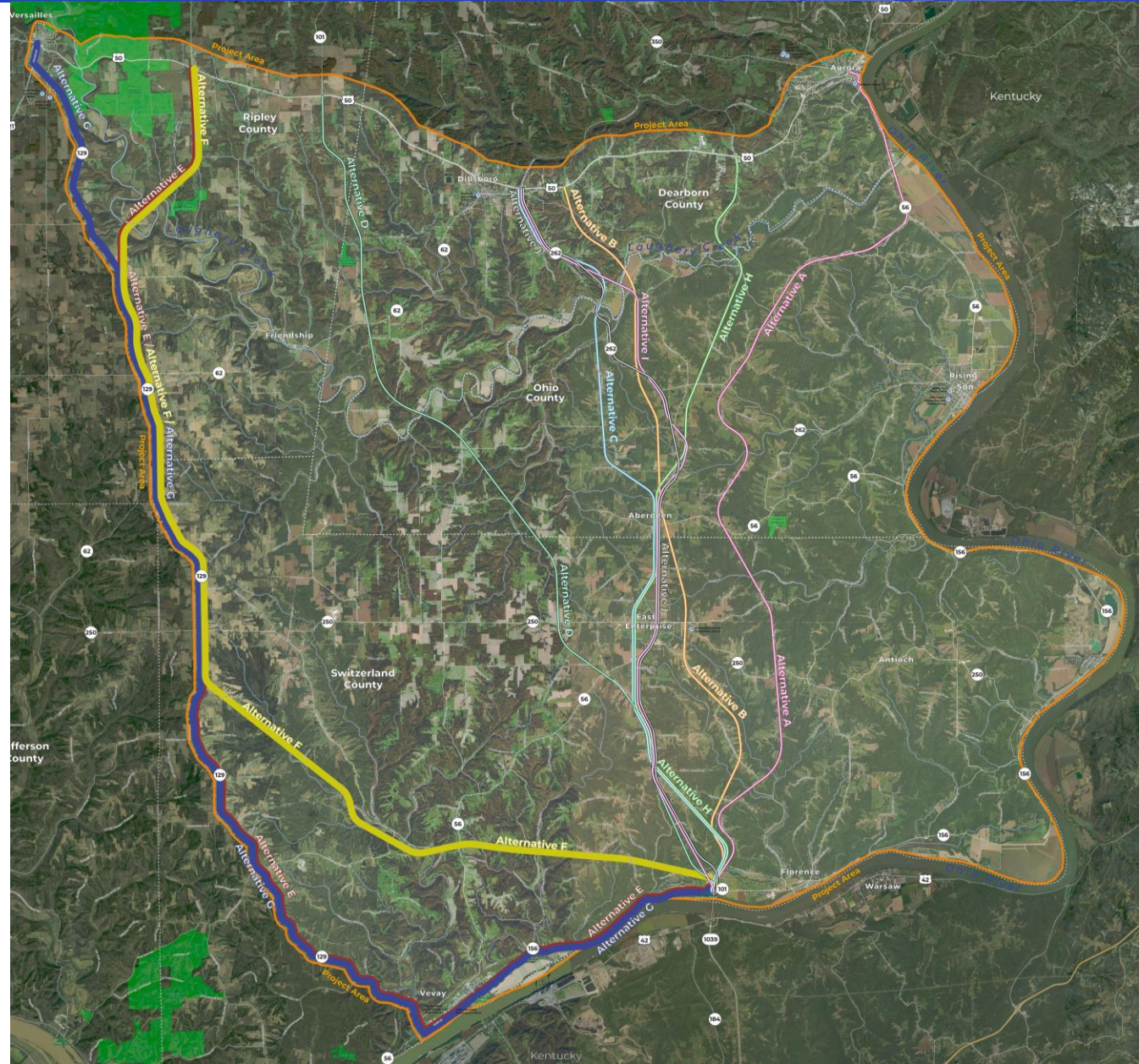
- Connects to SR 101 at US 50
- All on new alignment except for one mile on Markland Pike



PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives E/F/G

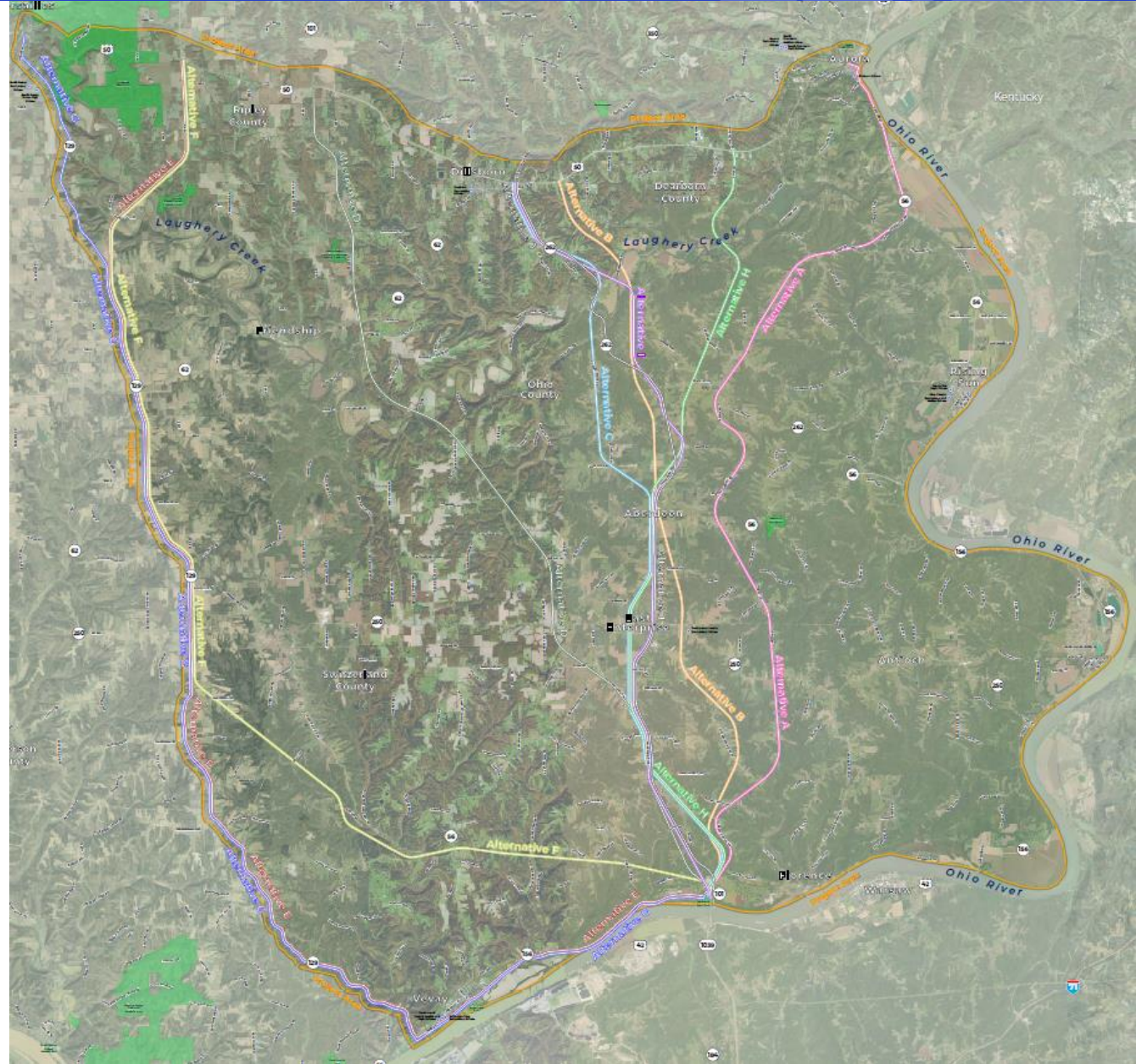
- Use portions of SR 156/56/129
- Connect to US 50 in/near Versailles
- Options to travel through or bypass Vevay and Versailles



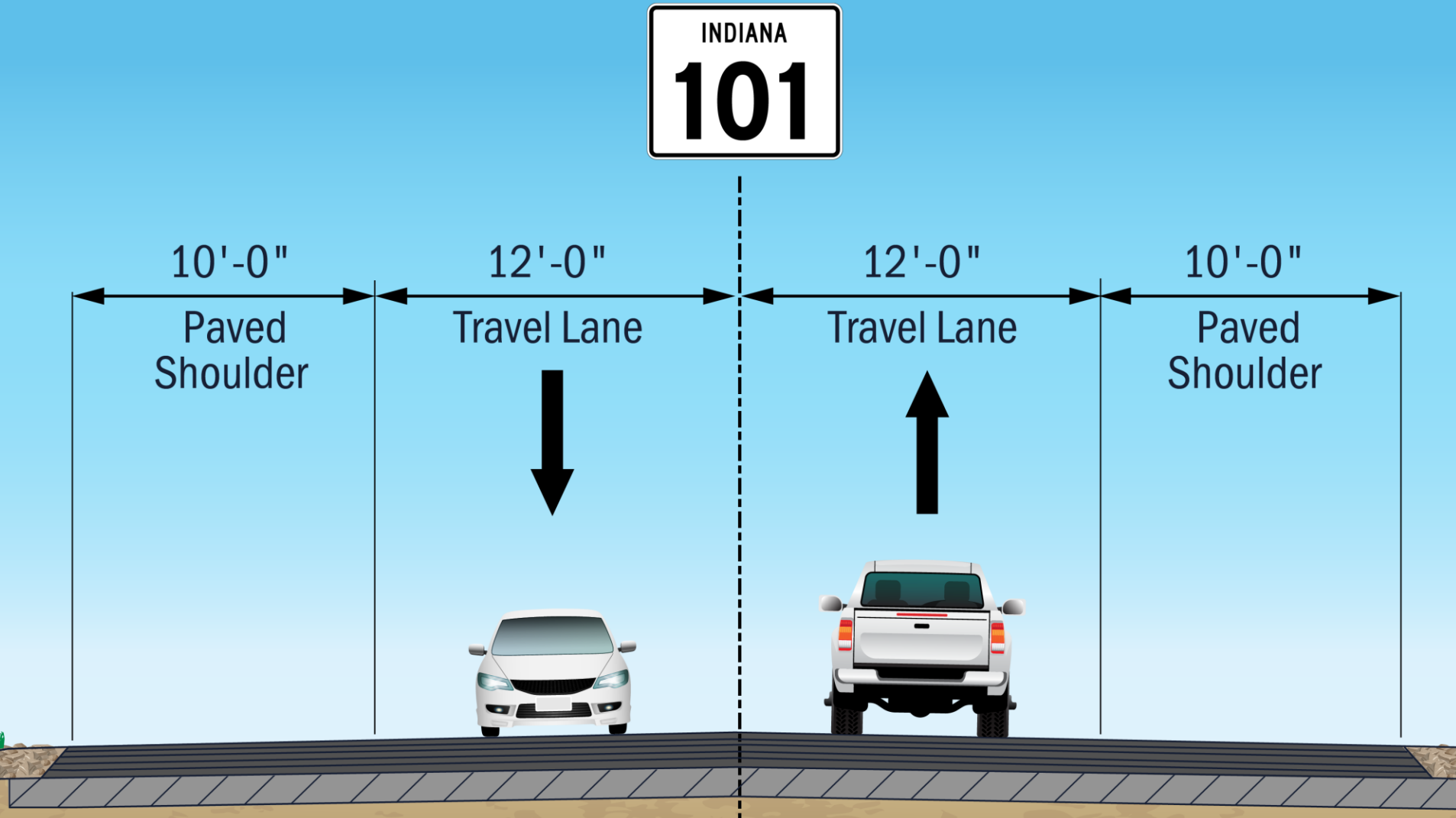
PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES FEEDBACK

We want your input!

- Which preliminary alternatives meet the needs of the project area and why?
- Which connection location along US 50 best meets the needs of the project area?
- Do you have suggestions for improving any alternatives?



PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION



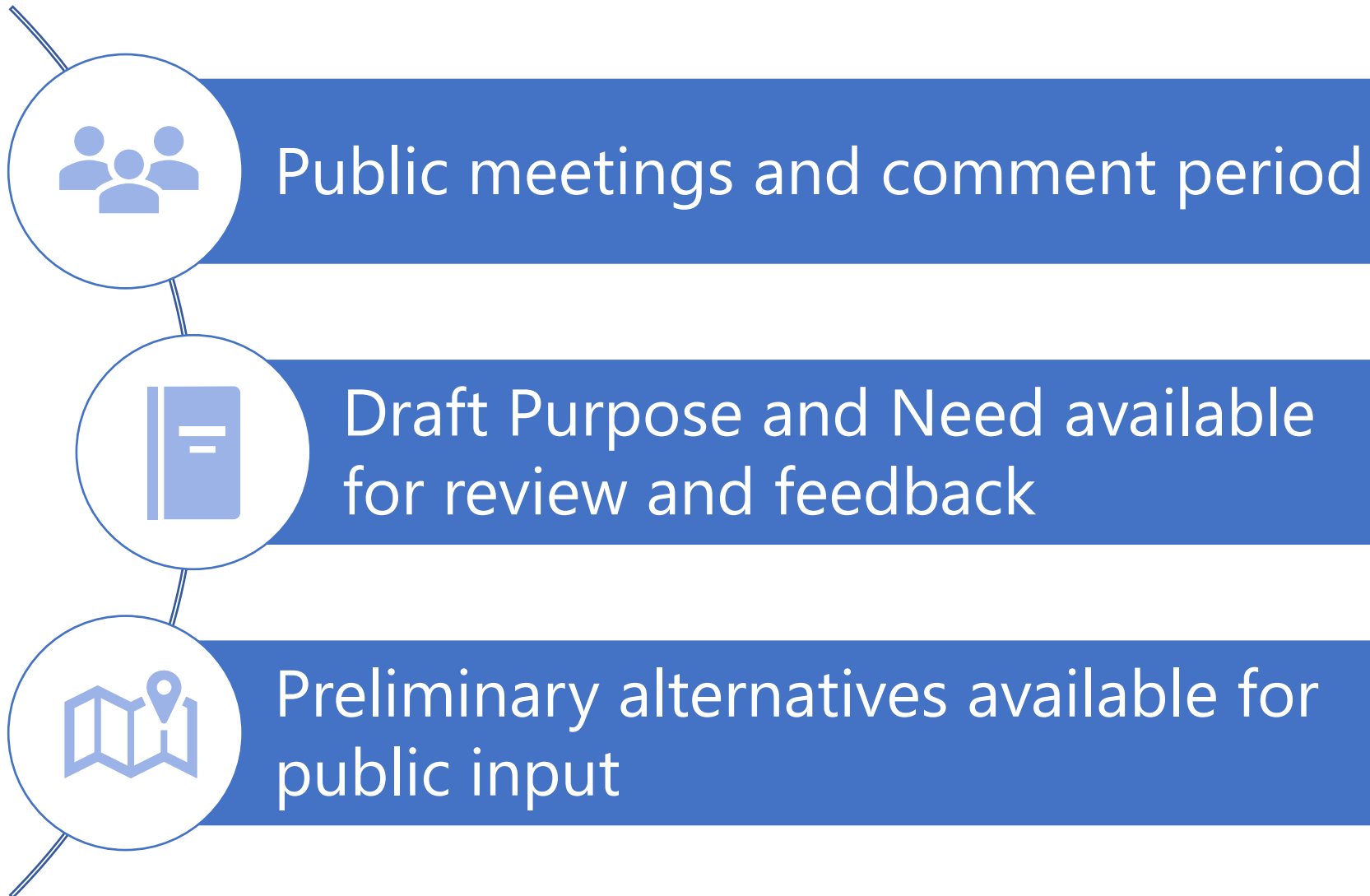
Proposed 2-lane roadway | One lane in each direction





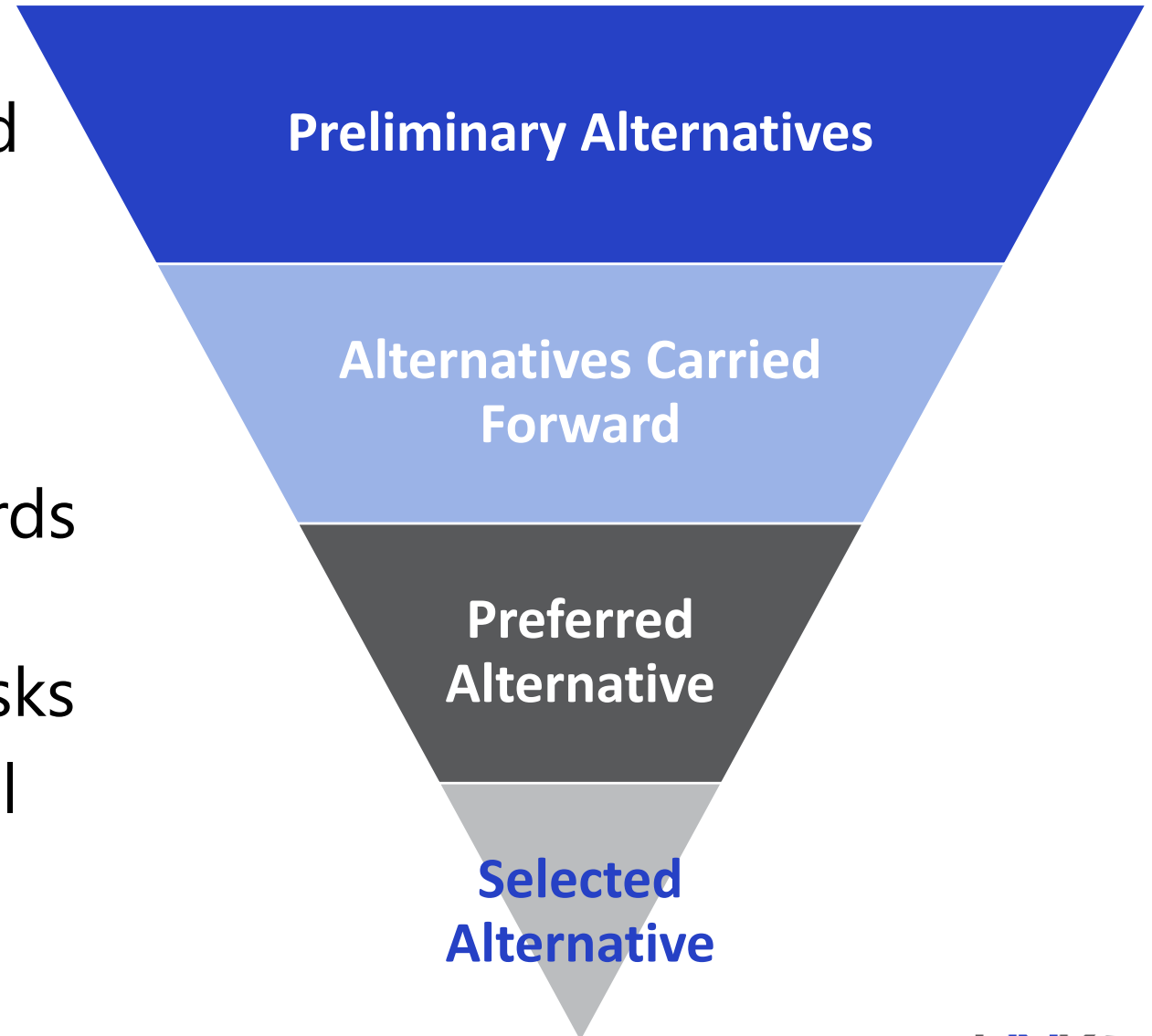
PROJECT PROCESS

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW



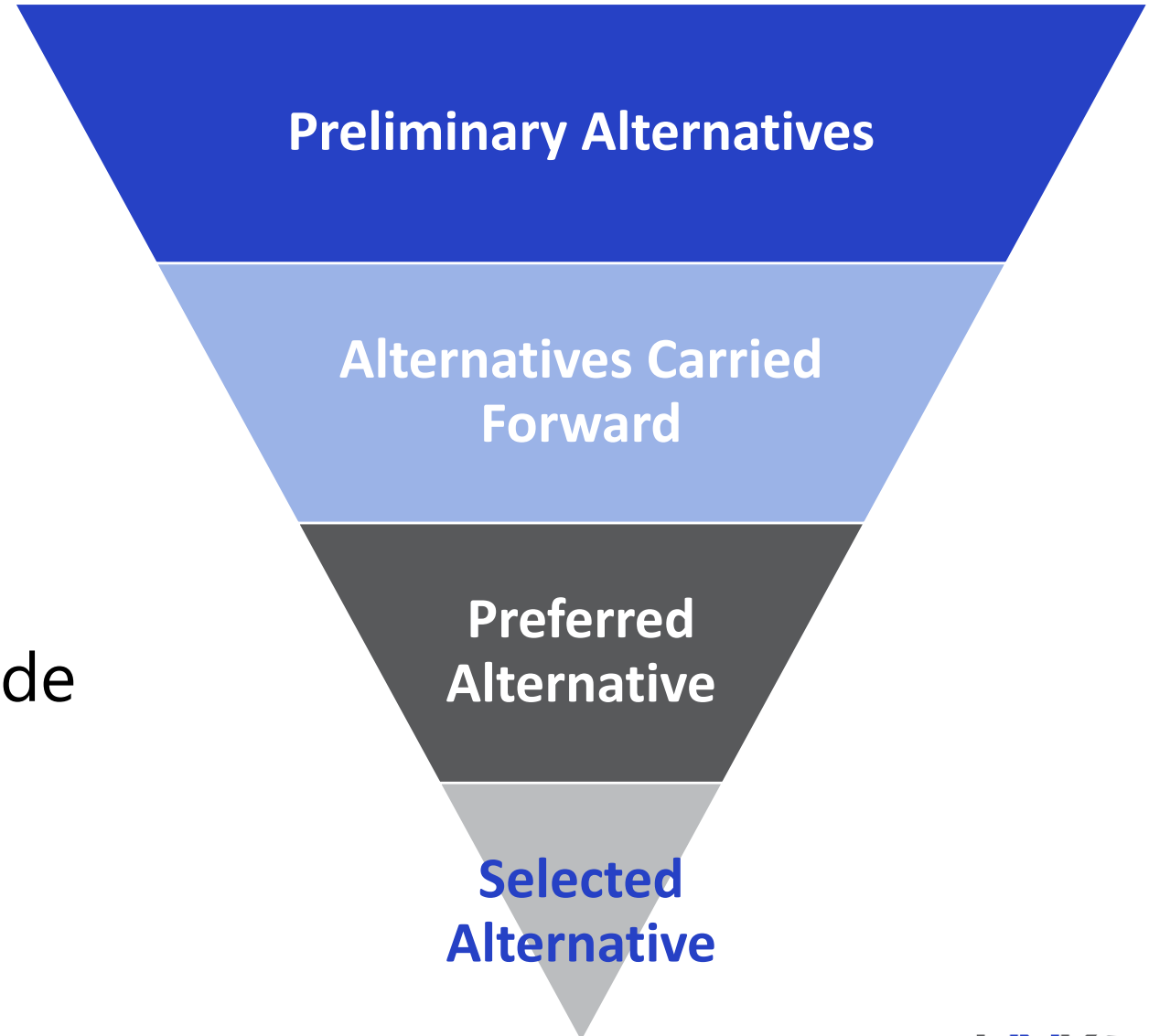
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- Alternatives are screened based on Purpose and Need
 - Reduce travel time
 - Improve safety
 - Meet current design standards
 - Above Laughery Creek floodplain; minimize slide risks
- Alternatives carried forward will be developed further

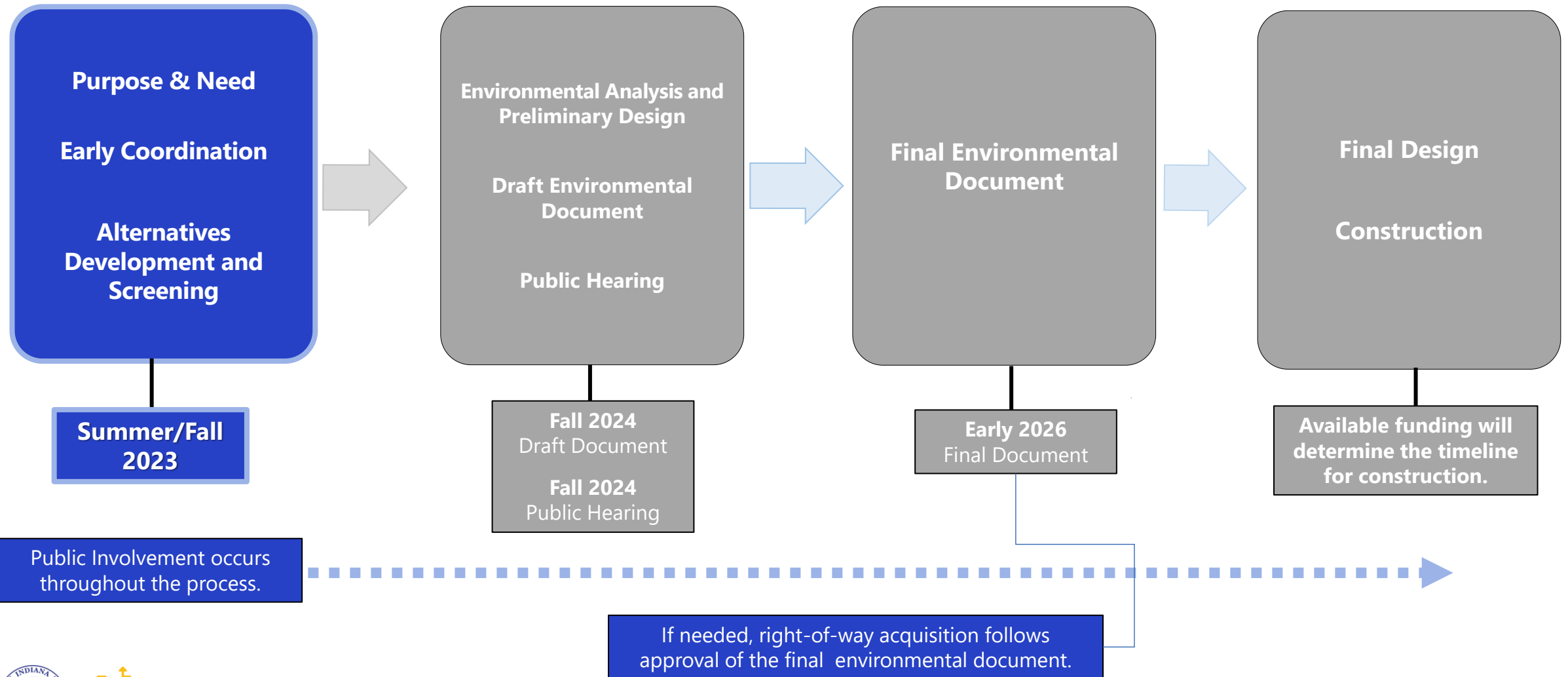


WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- Feedback from the public and agencies guides alternative refinements.
- Elements from different alternatives may be combined or new routes may emerge.
- Detailed field surveys will provide additional data to help screen alternatives.



ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS PROCESS





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

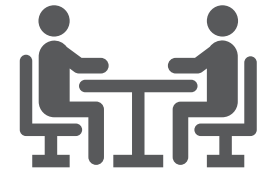
SUMMER 2024

Preferred Alternative Identified



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
- Mobile Office Hours in Dillsboro



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

- **Public meetings** coming soon
- **South Dearborn High School**
 - Wednesday, Aug. 2, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. | 6 p.m. presentation
- **Switzerland Co. Middle/Jefferson-Craig Elementary**
 - Thursday, Aug. 3, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. | 6 p.m. presentation
- **Virtual meeting** | Aug. 8 at 6 p.m.
 - Register at bit.ly/VirtualMeetingLink101

MOBILE OFFICE HOURS

Dillsboro Public Library

- Open house format
- Stop by with questions, share feedback
- **August 8th** and **15th**
from **11 a.m.** to **5 p.m.**
- Review maps and materials, complete a comment form and talk with the Project Team.



Dillsboro Public Library
10151 Library Lane
Dillsboro, IN 47018

PROJECT OFFICE

Link 101 Project Office

Switzerland County Technology
and Education Center, 2nd floor



844-Link101 (844-546-5101)



Link101Corridor.com



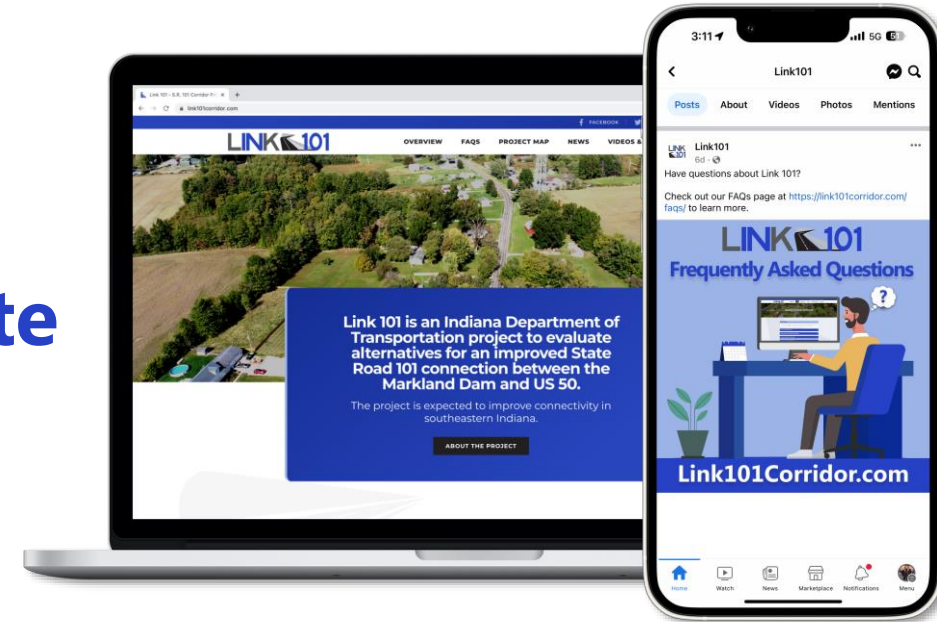
info@Link101Corridor.com

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



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





THANK YOU

July 27, 2023

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETING

July 27, 2023 | Switzerland County Technology and Education Center

PROJECT OVERVIEW



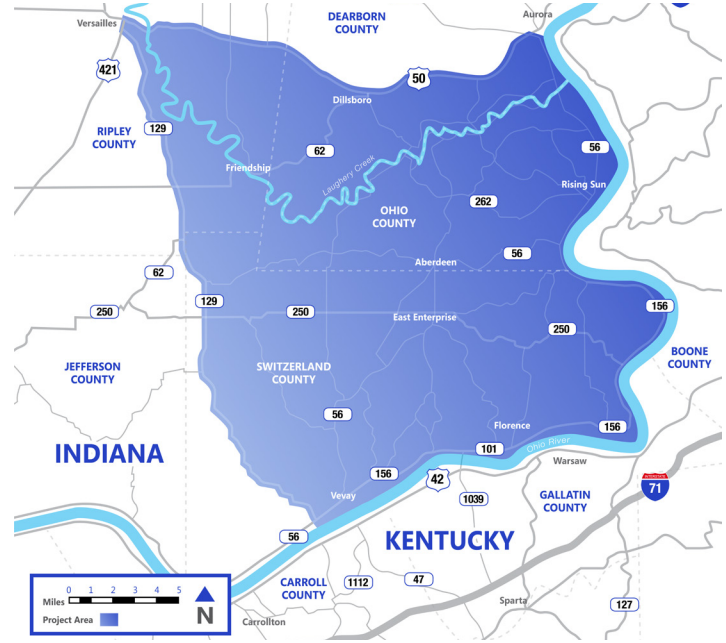
- The Link 101 project area includes portions of Switzerland, Ohio, Dearborn and Ripley counties.



- The project is in the environmental and preliminary design stage.



- The Project Team has been identifying needs in the area, collecting data, reviewing feedback, and developing potential solutions.



DRAFT PURPOSE AND NEED - THE WHY FOR THE PROJECT

- Reduce travel time within the project area by improving connectivity.
- Improve safety within the project area by reducing vehicle miles traveled on roadways with elevated crash locations.
- Provide a roadway that meets current design standards.
- Provide a roadway that is above the Laughery Creek 100-year floodplain elevation and minimizes the risk of slides.

The full Purpose and Need report is available at [Link 101Corridor.com](http://Link101Corridor.com).



Scan with your camera phone to access the P&N Report.

Ten preliminary alternatives have been developed by the Project Team and based on feedback from the public. All alternatives are shown on the map inside this handout and can also be reviewed on the project website (Link101Corridor.com) and at the project office.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEMBERS

- Discuss project-related issues or concerns
- 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 communication with Project Team
- Serve in an advisory role and share project updates and information with others
- Take part in up to four CAC meetings during the project

NEXT STEPS

- The ten preliminary alternatives will go through a preliminary screening process.
- A smaller number of alternatives will be carried forward for more detailed analysis.
- Benefits, impacts, and costs, along with public and agency input, will help to determine a single preferred alternative.
- The preferred alternative is expected to be identified in the draft environmental document in summer 2024.
- A public hearing and formal comment period on the draft environmental document are expected in fall 2024.
- All comments will be reviewed and considered by the Project Team.
- The final environmental document, which will respond to public and agency comments and identify a selected alternative, is expected in early 2026.
- A timeline for construction will be determined at the end of the environmental study.

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Comments associated with the draft Purpose and Need and preliminary alternatives are due September 8, 2023. Comments can be shared in a variety of ways:



In person at public meetings
(August 2 and August 3)



Via mail to the
project office



In writing at area locations
(see list on the project website)



Via email to the
project office



Online at
Link101Corridor.com



In person at
the project office

CONTACT US



Link101Corridor.com



Info@Link101Corridor.com



844-Link101
(844-546-5101)



**Switzerland County Technology
and Education Center**

708 W. Seminary St., 2nd Floor | Vevay, IN

FOLLOW OUR PROGRESS



Text "INDOT LINK101"
to 468311



Sign up for email updates
on the project website.



Facebook: Link 101 Corridor
Twitter: @Link101Corridor

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**.

PUBLIC MEETINGS IN AUGUST

Preliminary alternatives to be shared for review and comment.

IN-PERSON MEETINGS

Wednesday, August 2

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

6 p.m. presentation
 South Dearborn High School
 5770 Highlander Pl., Aurora, IN

Thursday, August 3

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

6 p.m. presentation
 Switzerland County Middle School/
 Jefferson-Craig Elementary School
 1004 W. Main St., Vevay, IN





VIRTUAL MEETING

Tuesday, August 8 | 6 p.m.

Meeting via Microsoft Teams
 Register in advance:
bit.ly/VirtualMeetingLink101



Link 101 is evaluating alternatives for an improved State Road 101 connection between the Markland Dam and US 50. The project includes portions of Switzerland, Ohio, Dearborn and Ripley counties.

-  **Draft Purpose and Need will be shared.**
-  **Preliminary alternatives will be shared.**
-  **Comments from the public are encouraged.**
-  **Materials will be posted on the project website.**



Scan with your phone camera to visit our website.

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 contact Berry Craig, public involvement specialist, Parsons, at berry.craig@parsons.com or 270-705-1640.

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