



## MEETING SUMMARY - DRAFT

**Date:** May 10, 2018  
**Time:** 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.  
**Meeting:** Environmental Justice Meeting #1  
**Location:** Indianapolis Urban League

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*\*Complete attendee list begins on page 4.*

### 1. Introductions

Kia Gillette from HNTB started the meeting by thanking everyone for joining. Environmental Justice (EJ) representatives and Project Team members went around the room and introduced themselves.

### 2. System-Level Analysis Overview (see attached presentation)

Kia Gillette and John Myers, also from HNTB, walked attendees through a presentation that overviewed the needs of the project, the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the System-Level Analysis.

The Project Team then opened the Q&A portion of the meeting.

### 3. Questions (Q) and Answers (A)

#### **(Q) Did the team look at future traffic demands?**

(A) For the System-Level Analysis, only existing traffic conditions were analyzed. The North Split EA will also consider forecasted traffic.

#### **(Q) Is there more time available than only 2-4 years? If not, what is driving the urgency?**

(A) The North Split interchange is heavily traveled and was built 40 to 50 years ago. The bridges continue to deteriorate within the project area and this is driving the urgency. In addition, crash levels are above the statewide average for urban interstates. It will take two full years for the environmental review and alternatives development process. Approaching the entire system would take a lot longer than two years. The environmental process for the North Split project will engage the community to get input on the alternatives.

**(Q) How long is the public comment period?**

(A) The public comment period for the System-Level Analysis is through June 7. There will be several public comment periods during the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the North Split interchange. The NEPA process will last until early 2020.

**(Q) What is the construction timing for the North Split project?**

(A) Exact timing is currently unknown, but construction is anticipated to start in 2020. The NEPA process includes meeting with the Community Advisory Committee (CAC), EJ Working Group, and other organizations and agencies to present the alternatives and gather feedback.

**(Q) Will there be multiple design options just for the North Split?**

(A) Yes.

**(Q) Timing is a concern for residents and that initial input now and more public input later feels like “lipstick on a pig.” Has a decision been made or, if not, when will the decision be made for the North Split interchange project?**

(A) A decision has not yet been made. Construction could be minimal or it could be substantial. Alternatives will be presented and the public will be engaged throughout the study.

**(Q) Who makes the ultimate decision and would there be any chance to change that decision?**

(A) There is no public vote, but the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will consider public input before making a decision.

**(Q) Why there is no research on economic development or impacts to neighborhoods in the System-Level Analysis?**

(A) Impacts are discussed in the System-Level Analysis but at a high level of detail. The focus of the System-Level Analysis was on traffic because it's fundamental, along with overall impacts and costs. It was never INDOT's intent to get all the answers through this study, but it is a good start. Someone could take the study further and investigate those items.

#### **4. Overview of Environmental Justice**

Erin Pipkin of Compass Outreach Solutions presented an overview of EJ and the NEPA process (see attached slide deck)

- Overview of EJ – Is the project fair to all populations?
- EJ's role in NEPA process – Identify minority and low-income populations in project area; engage the public that represents EJ populations; identify impacts; and identify how to mitigate impacts.

- Title VI and EJ – Both are covered by the Civil Rights Act of 1964. It prohibits discrimination in programs and activities that are federally funded.
- EJ definitions and equity discussion – Both address minority populations, including race, color and national origin. EJ also includes low-income populations.
  - Minority populations:
    - Black or African American
    - Hispanic
    - Asian American
    - American Indian / Alaskan Native
    - Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
  - Low income:
    - Median household income at or below poverty guidelines
- Federal government seeks equity not equality. It ensures there is fairness in mobility and accessibility.
- Determining adverse effects – Look at potential impacts on human health, noise, community cohesion; access to community facilities; displacement of residents; traffic patterns. All will be documented in the Environmental Assessment.
- The EJ Working Group – This is a diverse group of engaged voices; representatives from the project area and surrounding communities. Want to identify additional groups that are currently not represented here.
- EJ outreach, role of committee – This group will be asked to provide guidance on how best to engage to EJ populations.
- Upcoming meetings and open houses – Next EJ Subcommittee meeting will be in late summer or early fall. There is a public open house scheduled for May 23 to present the System-Level Analysis.

## 5. Breakout Sessions and Roundtable Wrap-up

Each group met to discuss the EJ worksheet. A map was provided that showed the low-income and minority block groups as a reference.

- Additional organizations to consider for EJ Working Group:
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Department of Metropolitan Development</li> <li>○ St. Vincent Depaul</li> <li>○ Healthnet clinics</li> <li>○ Martin University</li> <li>○ Mexican Consulate</li> <li>○ Horizon House</li> <li>○ Community centers</li> <li>○ Homelessness Coalition</li> <li>○ Goodwill</li> <li>○ Edna Martin</li> <li>○ CICOA</li> <li>○ Ones that promote accessibility</li> <li>○ Community radio stations</li> <li>○ Gibson Plaza</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trader's Point Church</li> <li>○ Indy Recorder, Shannon Williams</li> <li>○ CDCs in area</li> <li>○ All Mayor's Neighborhood Advocates, including those outside the project area</li> <li>○ Quality of Life Summit</li> <li>○ NESCO</li> <li>○ Jordan Rodriguez, Latinos, largest foreign community in the city</li> <li>○ Small business associations</li> <li>○ Larry Williams</li> <li>○ Merchant's associations</li> <li>○ Arts Council</li> <li>○ City economic development</li> </ul>
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- Additional communication channels:
  - Church bulletins
  - Kroger
  - Village Pantries
  - Next Door app
  - Councilor Miller, city council county agendas, every week
  - Town halls
  - IMPD community Days, during the summer, large crowd from every area
  - Riley development organization
  - Transit advertising
  - Major employers
  - Festivals, Fiesta!
  - Mother's Day Celebration - radio station
  - Street Teams
  - Farmer's Market
  - State Fair
  - Urban Times

## 6. Adjourn -

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next EJ Working Group meeting will be held summer or fall of 2018.

### Attendees:

Project Team	
Michelle Allen	FHWA
Andy Dietrick	INDOT
Kia Gillette	HNTB
Ali Herndandez	Borshoff
Laura Hilden	INDOT
Emily Kibling	Borshoff
Laura Morales	HNTB
John Myers	HNTB
Erin Pipkin	Compass Outreach Solutions
Seth Schickel	HNTB
Runfa Shi	INDOT
Ron Taylor	TSW

<b>EJ Working Group Members</b>	
Imhotep Adisa	Kherprw Institute
Alicia Baker	John H. Boner Community Center
Glenn Blackwood	Fletcher Place Neighborhood
Paula Brooks	Ransom Place Neighborhood
Anthony Burke Sr.	MCPHD/ACTS Environmental Services
Rob Evans	Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership
Margaret Frericks	Improving Kids' Environment (IKE)
David Greene	Indianapolis Concerned Clergy
Burns Gutzwiler	Windsor Park Neighborhood
Kathy Hahn	Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana
Olubunmi Ijose	Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate (Area #8)
Marjorie Kienle	Marion County Alliance of Neighborhood Associations
Kristen LaEace	Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Ambre Marr	AARP Indiana
Steven Meyer	King Park Development Corporation
Ruth Morales	Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate (Area #10)
Bud Myers	Indianapolis Housing Agency
Vop Osili	Ciry-County Coucil
Christopher Purnell	Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic
Kate Riordan	Health by Design
Philip Roth	Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority
Mark Russell	Indianapolis Urban League
Ron Shelley	HVAF of Indiana
Pam Thevenow	Marion County Public Health Department
Trish Whitcomb	George K. Baum & Company

Others who were invited, but could not attend:

<b>EJ Working Group Members</b>	
Zach Adamson	City-County Council
Tony Alexander	Purpose of Life Ministries
Rick Alvis	Wheeler Mission
Orion Bell	CICOA Aging and In-Home Solutions
Melissa Benton	John H. Boner Community Center
David Bethuram	Catholic Charities- Indianapolis Office
Ildefonso Carbajal	La Ola Latino Americano
Lori Casson	Dayspring Center
Satchuel Cole	Near Eastside Community Organization
Marlene Dotson	The Indiana Latino Institute
Carl Ellison	Indiana Minority Health Coalition
Greg Garrett	Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate (Area #7)
Tedd Grain	Local Initiatives Support Corporation of Indiana (LISC)
Liliana Hamnik	La Voz de Indiana
Andrew Hart	The Oaks Academy
Cynthia Hooks	Kennedy-King Neighborhood
Jon Laramore	Immigrants and Language Rights Center (Indiana Legal Services Inc.)
Ike McCoy	Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate (Area 10)
Christian Mosburg	Willard Park of Holy Cross- Westminster Civic Alliance
Mandla Moyo	AARP Indiana
Cal Nelson	Wheeler Mission
Chrissy Petersen	Westminster Neighborhood Services
Todd Poindexter	Salvation Army Rent and Utility Assistance
Denise-Adbul Rahman	NAACP Indiana
Dana Reed	Marion County Public Health Department

Damon Richards	IndyCog
Jacob Sipe	Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority)
Kristian Stricklen	Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS)
Kiko Suarez	United Way of Central Indiana
Cynthia Taylor	Community Action of Greater Indianapolis
Michael Terry	IndyGo
Rev. Tom	Metropolitan Baptist Center
Jennifer Vigran	Second Helpings
Carlton Waterhouse	IUPUI
Alice Watson	Black Expo



# I-65/I-70 North Split Project

Environmental Justice Working Group Meeting #1

May 10, 2018





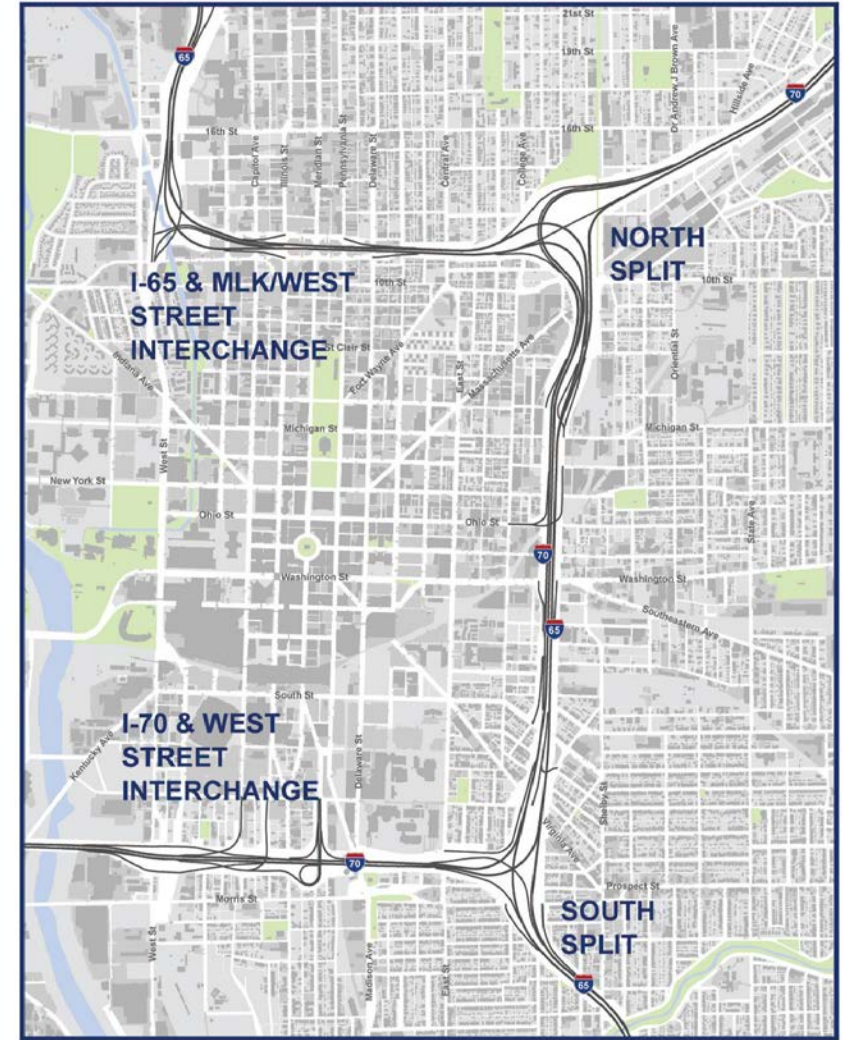
# Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Project overview
- NEPA process
- Environmental Justice (EJ) and Title VI
- Role of EJ Working Group
- Identifying and reaching EJ populations
- Project timeline/upcoming meetings



# North Split Interchange

- Second-most heavily-traveled interchange in Indiana
- Accommodates more than 214,000 vehicles per day
- Constructed between 40 and 50 years ago
- Does not meet current design standards



# North Split Project Needs

- 32 bridges with structural and safety issues
- Aging, deteriorated pavement
- Merges, weaves and lane changes lead to congestion and crashes
- Over 1,600 crashes between 2012 and 2016
- A more compact and efficient interchange by redesigning for 3 rather than 4 legs





# NEPA and the Environmental Assessment (EA)

- NEPA requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions.
- The EA studies impacts on homes, businesses and the natural environment
  - Cultural Resources – Historic sites and districts
  - Environmental Justice – Minority and low-income populations
    - Additional public outreach in low-income and minority communities



# Environmental Assessment (EA)

- Noise – Projected changes of noise levels and their effects on local neighborhoods
- Connectivity – How to maintain connections to local roads, trails, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Coordination – Input from state, local and federal resource agencies and permitting agencies, e.g. IDNR, IDEM





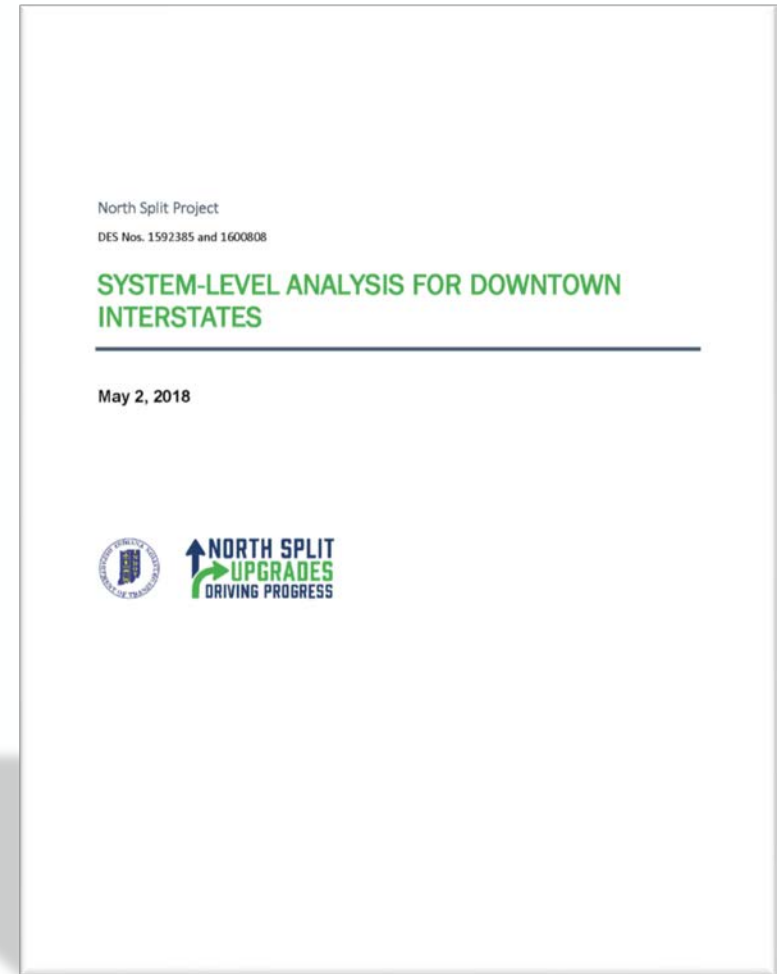
# Project Evolution

- Project introduction, public involvement and early coordination with agencies initiated as a part of NEPA
- **System-Level Analysis** developed as fact finding study by INDOT in response to public comments
- Analysis published at [www.northsplit.com](http://www.northsplit.com)
- Informs North Split project



# System-Level Analysis

- Studies all downtown interstates
- Informs North Split interchange project
- Supports public dialogue
- Provides basic information about system options
- Provides a technical starting point for more detailed studies of downtown interstates



# Components Reviewed



**Performance** – How well does the roadway system function?



**Cost** – How much will it cost to construct?



**Impacts** – How will it affect the community?

- local street and neighborhood traffic
- construction/MOT
- neighborhood connectivity/visual continuity
- right-of-way needs
- historic resources
- recreational areas and trails
- natural resources



# Concepts at a Glance

Concept	Performance	Costs	Time of Construction	Impacts		Relocations (Properties)
	Total Network Delay (compared to existing)	Estimated Costs		Visual/ Connectivity	ROW Total Area	
1 - No Build	No change	No change	--	No change	No change	No change
2 - TSM	--	--	--	--	--	--
3 - Upgrade Existing Interstates	10% less delay (AM) 6% less delay (PM)	\$900M - \$1.6B	5 years	Mixed/Good	1-5 acres	5-10
4 - Depress Downtown Interstates	10% less delay (AM) 6% less delay (PM)	\$1.5B - \$2.4B	6 years	Good/Good	5-10 acres	10-15
5 - Boulevards to Replace Interstates	40% more delay (AM) 145% more delay (PM)	\$500M - \$900M	4 years	Good/Mixed	1-5 acres	1-5
6 - Boulevards and Tunnels	9% less delay (AM) 3% more delay (PM)	\$3.3B - \$5.5B	10 years	Good/Mixed	5-10 acres	5-10
7 - West St. Interstate Tunnel and Boulevard	23% more delay (AM) 24% more delay (PM)	\$1.6B - \$2.6B	7 years	Mixed/Mixed	40-50 acres	30-40

# System-Level Analysis - Observations

- The System-Level Analysis provides a starting point for looking at a broader range of issues for downtown interstates.
- The time required for future system studies is inconsistent with the need to reconstruct the North Split interchange in the next 2 to 4 years.
- The reconstructed interchange will need to work with the existing interstates since they will still be in place when the interchange work is completed.
- The future expense of modifying the North Split interchange does not automatically prohibit options for the future system, nor does it preclude this project from moving forward.

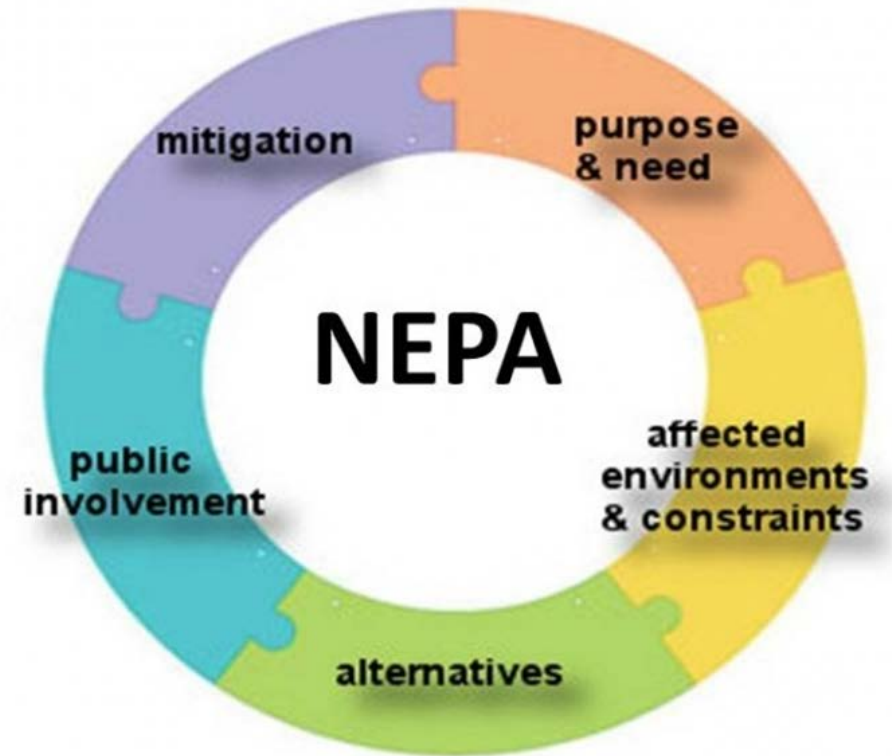
# Environmental Justice

- Environmental Justice (EJ) is:
  - Fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race or income
  - Identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations
  - Equitable distribution of benefits and burdens of the project



# EJ and the NEPA Process

- Identify existing minority and low-income populations
- Engage EJ communities through public involvement
- Identify benefits and burdens
- Propose measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects



# Title VI

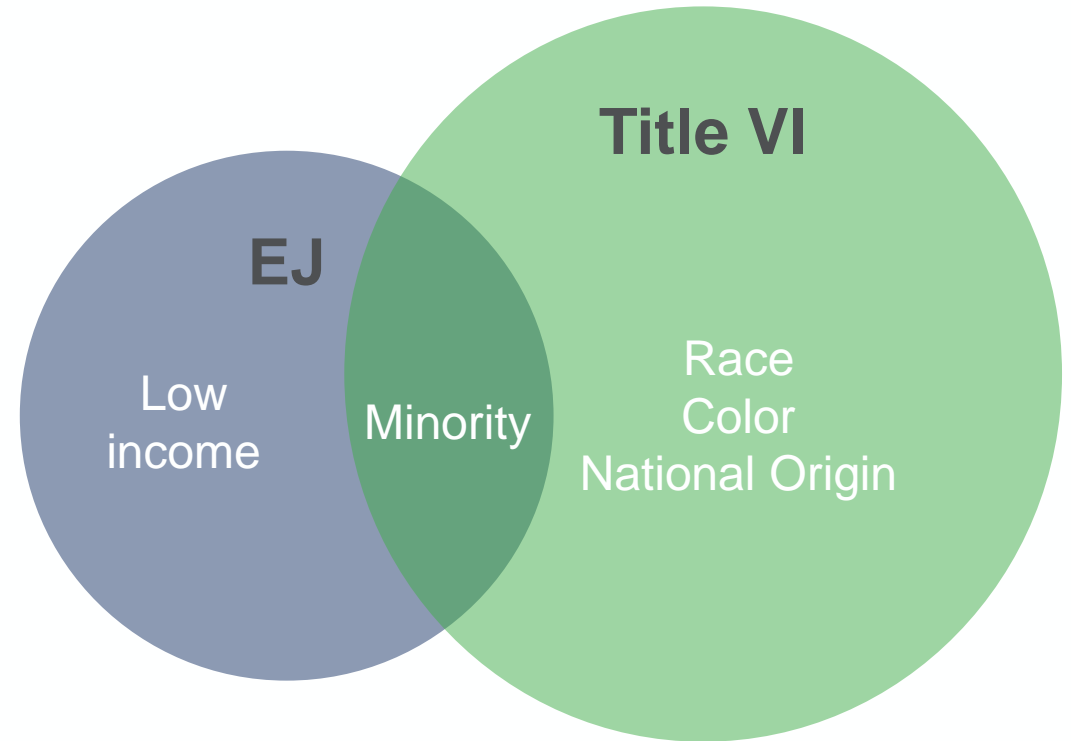
- Part of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Prohibits discrimination based on race, color and national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance
- FHWA adheres to Title VI and NEPA during development of transportation projects



# EJ Definitions\*

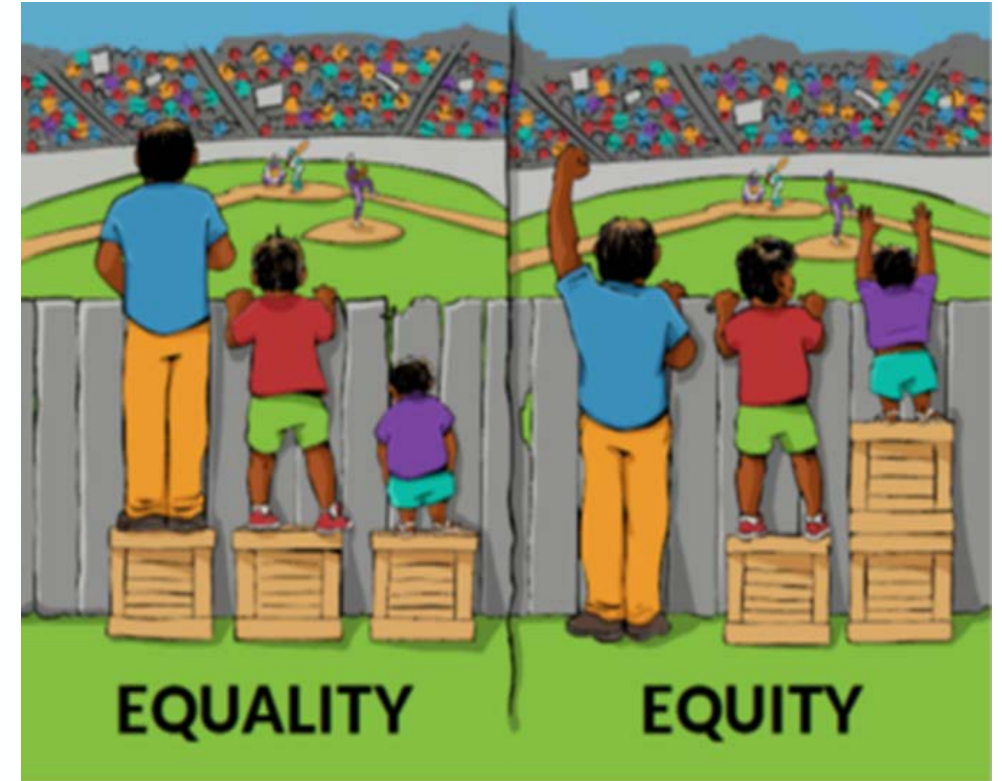
- Minority populations:
  - Black or African American
  - Hispanic
  - Asian American
  - American Indian / Alaskan Native
  - Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
- Low income:
  - Median household income at or below poverty guidelines

\* *As identified in FHWA Order 6640.23A*



# Equity in Transportation

- Seeks fairness in mobility and accessibility to meet the needs of everyone:
  - Low income
  - Minority
  - Elderly
  - Children
  - Limited English proficiency
  - Persons with disabilities





# Potential Effects

- Determine potential benefits and burdens
  - Effects on human health
  - Impacts on travel time
  - Environmental effects
  - Possible displacement of persons, economic impact
- Identify and document
- Evaluate possible alternatives
- Discuss mitigation





# EJ Working Group

- Diverse group of engaged voices
- Representatives from EJ block groups
- Members include:
  - Government representatives
  - Low-income advocates
  - Minority organizations



# EJ Outreach

- Identify key issues
- Propose measures to minimize and mitigate adverse effects
- Focus on community outreach:
  - Community connections
  - Meeting locations
  - Communications tools
  - Continuing conversation



# Role of the EJ Working Group

- Meets near milestones, five to six times during the two-year project
- Provides input throughout the NEPA process
- Serves as a sounding board for study information and choices
- Facilitates collaborative problem solving, discussions of specific issues
- Serves as link to the community, sharing project information



# Breakout Session

- Who should be added to the EJ Working Group?
- Where are our EJ populations?
- How do we reach our EJ populations?

# Next Steps

- Environmental assessment (EA) for the North Split
- Define alternatives for the North Split interchange
- Continue public involvement and feedback
  - Alternatives
  - Neighborhood identity, bicycle/pedestrian connectivity, aesthetics, lighting, public art, landscaping, and noise



# Schedule

- May 3: Published System-Level Analysis
- May 21: CAC meeting 2 and Consulting Parties meeting 3
- May 22: Resource Agencies meeting 2
- May 23: Project open house
- June 7: Public feedback period ends
- Summer 2018: Project-level purpose and need/  
alternatives screening  
EJ Working Group Meeting 2



# Public Open House

- May 23, 2018
- Biltwell Event Center – 950 S. White River Pkwy Dr.
- Open house: 3 – 7 p.m.
- Presentations at 4 and 6 p.m.
- June 7 – Public comment period ends

# Questions

Report Available: [www.northsplit.com](http://www.northsplit.com)

Submit Comments: [info@northsplit.com](mailto:info@northsplit.com)

## **Contact:**

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Public Involvement

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