



MEETING SUMMARY

Date: May 22, 2018
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Meeting: Resource Agency Meeting #2
Location: Borshoff Office, Indianapolis, IN

**Complete attendee list on page 3*

1. Introductions

Kia Gillette from HNTB started the meeting by thanking everyone for joining. Resource Agency representatives and Project Team members introduced themselves as did those who participated via phone.

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

Kia Gillette and John Myers, also from HNTB, walked attendees through a presentation that overviewed the System-Level Analysis and provided details on each concept.

The Project Team then opened the Question and Answer portion of the meeting.

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

(Q) Were the through traffic diversion measurements completed three separate ways or all together? (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA))

(A) All three were done independently to see if there was consistency with the results. (HNTB)

(Q) Did you consider putting a tunnel under West Street but keeping the north leg as an interstate rather than converting to a boulevard? (Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR))

(A) This specific concept was not tested. There are many questions that could be followed up with additional studies. The idea that there could be combinations of what's there today and these concepts is one of them. The team reiterated that its hope is for someone to pick up this study and carry it further, looking at quality of life, economic development and other facets. (HNTB)

(Q) What is the name of the local coalition that has formed? (USEPA)

(A) The Rethink 65/70 Coalition. They have a website and social media pages. (HNTB)

(Q) Have you held specific meetings with just the Coalition? (USEPA)

(A) Yes, a separate meeting with the coalition took place in March. The Project Team explained that there are several coalition members on the project's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and Section 106 Consulting Parties group.

(Q) Are any of the concepts in the System-Level Analysis going to be part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the North Split? (IDNR)

(A) Alternatives are currently being developed for the North Split project. Some will be similar to Concept 3, which included improvements to the existing interstate system. The project area would be smaller than the system-level layout. There is not a defined plan to move forward with a NEPA document for the entire downtown interstate system. (HNTB)

(Q) What are the next steps for the current comment period? It appears a lot of interest has been generated for a project that initially started as just a fix. (USEPA)

(A) There has been a lot of community interest and the public has provided some larger-scale ideas early in the process. A dialogue is taking place based on concepts that may or may not work in Indianapolis. The System-Level Analysis was done in response to public comment. Those comments will be combined with the analysis and then if a local or regional group wants to spearhead the next study, they will receive the information. (HNTB)

(Q) Does that mean the regional planning organization hasn't looked at traffic? (USEPA)

(A) The Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has been involved in the project. They have attended traffic modeling meetings as well as regular coordination meetings. The MPO model was the basis for the traffic modeling. Traffic has been considered in the development of the Regional Transportation Plan, but this is the first time that people have suggested removing the highway. The analysis could be used by the MPO and local officials as a starting point for a bigger conversation for the city of Indianapolis, but aging infrastructure has created a need now at the North Split. (HNTB)

(Q) Is someone from the MPO on the CAC? (USEPA)

(A) Yes, and there are also regular meetings held with the City of Indianapolis and the MPO.

4. Closing

The meeting concluded with a reminder of the June 7 comment period and reminder of the public open house on May 23 from 3-7 p.m. at the Biltwell Event Center.

Attendees:

Project Team	
Michelle Allen	FHWA
Andy Dietrick	INDOT
Kia Gillette	HNTB
Laura Hilden	INDOT
Emily Kibling	Borshoff
John Myers	HNTB
Janice Osadczuk	FHWA
Erin Pipkin	Compass Outreach Solutions
Katie Rounds	INDOT
Seth Schickel	HNTB
Resource Agency Representatives	
Matt Buffington	Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Virginia Laszewski	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Robin McWilliams-Munson	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Melody Park	Indianapolis Department of Public Works
Dan Parker	Indianapolis Department of Public Works
Deb Snyder	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jim Sullivan	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
James Turner	Indiana Department of Environmental Management