



Date: Monday, August 3, 2020

Dear Interested Citizen:

Welcome to the Indiana Department of Transportation's (INDOT) public hearing regarding the I-65/I-70 North Split Interchange Reconstruction in Indianapolis in Marion County.

The purpose of this public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on the North Split Interchange Reconstruction Environmental Assessment (EA).

There are several ways your comments may be presented this evening and following tonight's public hearing. You may submit comments in the following manner:

1. **Complete** a comment form and return it to an INDOT or North Split Project Team representative attending the public hearing. Comment forms are available at the Written Comments Table and are also included in your information packet.
2. **Participate** as speaker during the comment session following tonight's presentation.
3. **E-mail** comments to info@northsplit.com.
4. **Submit** comments via the North Split website comment form:
<https://northsplit.com/contact-us/>
5. **Mail** comments to the North Split PO Box at P.O. Box 44141, Indianapolis, IN 46244.
6. **Call** the INDOT toll-free telephone number for the North Split at 1-877-799-6570 and leave comments in the voice mailbox.
7. **Submit** comments (or have comments postmarked) by **Monday, August 17, 2020**. Comments will be reviewed and considered as part of the INDOT decision-making process

Public Hearing Agenda

Door Open at 4 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

Formal presentations at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Public Comment Session following each formal presentation

Project Open House

All substantive comments received prior to, during, and following the public hearing will be evaluated and responded to in writing within subsequent project documentation. The documentation will address concerns presented during the public hearing process and describe project decisions reached following careful consideration of the views and concerns of the public.

The North Split Project Team will be available in the display area to explain project details and address questions prior to and following the public hearing.

The Environmental Assessment document is available for public review and inspection at the following locations:

- North Split Website – <https://northsplit.com>
- HNTB Office – 111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200, Indianapolis, IN 46204
- Central Library – 40 E. Saint Clair Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204
- Spades Park Branch Library – 1801 Nowland Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46201
- Garfield Park Branch Library – 2502 Shelby Street, Indianapolis, IN 46203
- Martindale-Brightwood Branch Library – 2434 N. Sherman Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46218

Thank you for attending this evening's public hearing.



North Split Project

Project Location:	I-65 and I-70 North Split Interchange
Project Type:	Reconstruction
Time of Construction:	2021 - 2022

Project Description

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is rebuilding the North Split interchange, where I-65 and I-70 join in the northeast corner of downtown Indianapolis. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), INDOT has completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate project alternatives, to identify project impacts, and to solicit public input on the project.

Project Purpose and Need

The North Split interchange was constructed in stages 50 to 60 years ago and most of the original infrastructure is still in place. Roads and bridges are deteriorated and the interchange layout is poorly suited for current traffic levels. The purpose and need for the project is defined as follows:

PURPOSE: The purpose of the North Split Project is to rehabilitate and improve the existing interstate facilities within the North Split project area.

NEED: The project is needed in order to:

- Correct deteriorated bridge conditions
- Correct deteriorated pavement conditions
- Improve safety
- Improve interchange operations and reduce congestion

Public Involvement

The project team conducted 21 public meetings, open houses, and neighborhood workshops during the NEPA process, and held more than 110 meetings with stakeholders, neighborhood groups, and agencies. Information has been shared on the project website, social media posts, text alerts, and e-newsletters. The following project advisory committees informed the process:

- Community Advisory Committee (CAC)
- Environmental Justice Working Group
- Section 106 Consulting Parties (historic impacts)
- Context Sensitive Solutions Resource Team

Preferred Alternative

After an extensive screening process and multiple opportunities for public input, a preferred alternative was defined that meets the project purpose and need while effectively balancing service and community impact. The preferred alternative has a smaller, more compact footprint than the existing interchange, provides minimal widening and requires shorter retaining walls than other options, and can be constructed within existing right-of-way.

Two existing movements are eliminated to minimize impacts: the westbound I-70 exit to Pennsylvania Street and Delaware Street entrance ramp to the Collector-Distributor road, which serves North Street, Michigan Street, New York Street, Ohio Street, and Fletcher Avenue.



Environmental Impacts

Impacts to both the human and natural environment were analyzed and the results are reported in the Environmental Assessment. The following key impact focus areas were identified:

Historic Properties. Adverse effects were identified for three historic districts/properties:

- Old Northside Historic District/Morris Butler House
- St. Joseph Neighborhood Historic District
- Chatham-Arch Historic District

Working with consulting parties, the State Historic Preservation Officer and others, INDOT adopted a series of commitments to mitigate impacts to these areas and properties. These commitments are documented in a Memorandum of Agreement.

Highway Noise. Models show the project will reduce noise at most locations, but levels will still exceed standards. After a series of neighborhood meetings and surveys of benefited receptors, two noise barriers are planned on the north side of I-70 east of the North Split. Noise reducing technologies will be applied throughout the project, including jointless pavement, jointless bridges, and “next generation” grooving.

Environmental Justice (EJ). The project team analyzed Census data, consulted with an EJ Advisory Committee, held numerous neighborhood meetings, and conducted a public survey of EJ and non-EJ communities. Disproportionate impacts on minority or low-income populations were not identified as a result of the project.

Traffic Impacts. Long-term traffic impacts will be minimal, but major traffic impacts are expected during construction as a segment of I-65 and I-70 is closed for two years. The I-65 to I-70 link across the north part of the interchange and I-70 ramps to and from the east side of downtown will be open. Arterial streets will be impacted by closures of up to 90 days due to replacement of underpasses.

Mobility Management Plan (MMP)

INDOT is developing a Mobility Management Plan to optimize traffic operations outside the construction zone, reduce roadway network demand, and provide motorist information. Strategies include traffic signal system management; enhanced transit; promotion of vanpool, carpool, and non-motorized travel; work rescheduling; incident management; and real-time traffic information.

Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)

CSS is a collaborative decision-making process to involve stakeholders in creating a facility that fits into its setting. For the North Split, 12 CSS neighborhood workshops were conducted with over 400 residents engaged, and more than 2,700 comments were received during the process. Based on this input, a set of Aesthetic Design Guidelines was produced to provide direction for features such as landscaping, forms and colors, underpass treatments, pedestrian features, lighting, bridge piers and structure treatments, and public art space.

Additional Project Information

Project documents, presentation materials, and technical information are available at the project website: www.northsplit.com.



Preferred Alternative Overview Map

Des No: 1592385 & 1600808

Project: North Split Project

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

NAME

PHONE (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS

EMAIL ADDRESS

SUBSCRIBE TO E-MAIL UPDATES

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