



**DES. # 1800184**

## LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is developing plans for a proposed small structure replacement project located on SR 105, approximately 1.25 miles north of SR 114 in Cleveland Township, Whitley County.

The purpose of this project is to provide a structure on State Route (SR) 105 over an unnamed tributary (UNT) to Hurricane Creek that has an overall condition rating of “7” (good) or higher, meets current Indiana Design Manual (IDM) design standards, will remain sufficient for approximately 75 years of service, and meets the hydraulic requirements to eliminate overtopping of the roadway.

The project proposes to replace the existing 48-inch diameter, 80-foot-long, corrugated metal pipe (CMP) with a 6-foot-wide by 6-foot-tall, 114-foot-long, reinforced concrete box (RCB) culvert. The waterway opening will be increased to reduce backwater and eliminate the overtopping of the roadway. Wingwalls and riprap over geotextiles will be installed at the inlet and outlet. The existing concrete toe wall located southwest of the inlet will be removed. A new riprap rock chute will be added northeast of the inlet and tied into the riprap placed at the inlet. New ditch lines will be established to direct drainage toward the structure. Three (3) existing 8-inch field tile outlet pipes will be cut flush with the side slopes, and the drainage from the outlet pipes will be rerouted into ditches that flow to the structure’s inlet. A temporary pump-around system will be used to dewater the structure during construction. Side slopes will be regraded to meet current standards. The roadway will be reconstructed to its original two (2) 11-foot travel lanes with 2-foot aggregate shoulders with a full-depth hot-mix-asphalt (HMA) pavement replacement over the structure for a length of 150 feet and transition milling and resurfacing for 50 feet north and south of the full-depth HMA.

The proposed construction of this project will require approximately 0.95 acre of permanent right of way (ROW). No temporary ROW will be required to complete the project. No relocations of residents or businesses will be required for this project.

Maintenance of Traffic is anticipated to be a complete closure of SR 105 with a detour. The proposed detour route utilizes SR 114 and SR 5. The detour length is approximately 8.25 miles. Signage will notify motorists of the road closure and detour route. SR 105 will remain open for local traffic access to homes, services, and businesses for the duration of construction. School corporations, local officials, and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. The proposed start of construction is Summer 2024.

The construction cost is estimated at \$840,000, with federal and state funds anticipated to be used. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and INDOT have agreed this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 2 environmental document. Approximately 345 linear feet of total permanent stream impacts and 345 linear feet of total temporary stream impacts will occur from this project. No impacts to wetlands will occur. The project will not require removing any trees. The CE-Level 2

environmental document describes the proposed project and potential impacts to environmental, social, and cultural resources, and contains preliminary project plans.

Preliminary design plans along with the CE document are available for review at the following locations:

- INDOT Fort Wayne District Website, <https://www.in.gov/indot/about-indot/central-office/welcome-to-the-fort-wayne-district/s.r.-105-over-hurricane-creek-in-whitley-county/>
- INDOT Fort Wayne District Office, 5333 Hatfield Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46808
- South Whitley Community Public Library, 201 East Front Street. South Whitley, IN 46787

All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or express their concerns by submitting comments to the attention of Laura Rogers, Environmental Scientist, SJCA Inc, 9102 N. Meridian St, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46260, 317-566-0629, or [lrogers@sjcainc.com](mailto:lrogers@sjcainc.com), on or before December 3, 2021. If a hearing is determined to be in the best interest of the public, additional notification will be prepared and the public notified. Otherwise, any comments or materials received will be considered in the decision-making process.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in alternative formats are encouraged to contact the INDOT Fort Wayne District for the arrangement and coordination of services. Please contact INDOT Project Manager, Miguel T. Tucker, at [mtucker2@indot.in.gov](mailto:mtucker2@indot.in.gov) or 260.969.8225. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in another language are encouraged to contact INDOT Project Manager, Miguel T. Tucker, at [mtucker2@indot.in.gov](mailto:mtucker2@indot.in.gov) or 260.969.8225. Special accommodations related to accessibility and auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters, signers, readers, or larger print can be provided upon request.

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1) stating, "Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program."; 2) 23 CFR 450.210(a)(1)(ix) stating, "Provide for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate."; and 3) The INDOT *Project Development Public Involvement Procedures Manual* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.