

PUBLIC NOTICE

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC HEARING

SCHEDULED BY ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE IL 100/106 ILLINOIS RIVER CROSSING PROJECT FLORENCE, IL

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will hold an Open House Public Hearing on the proposed IL 100/106 Illinois River Crossing Project at Florence. The Open House will be held Thursday, September 10, 2020 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Nimrod Funk 4H Community Building located at 401 North Walnut Street in Winchester, Illinois.

The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public an opportunity to review and comment on the preferred alternative, a new bridge on an alignment 300 feet south of and adjacent to the existing bridge. The proposed improvement is currently included in the department's FY 2021-2026 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. The proposed improvement would involve removal of the existing IL 100/106 Bridge over the Illinois River which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Considering the potential for impacts on the community and the wide range of improvement options, IDOT designated this project for development using the principles of Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS). Through CSS, an advisory committee was formed as the IL 100/106 River Bridge Project Community Advisory Group (CAG) for the purpose of providing focused and direct input in the development of the study. The CAG has provided essential input in identifying and evaluating numerous alternative alignments for the new bridge and associated roadway improvements and assisted in identifying a preferred alternative.

Exhibits, maps, and aerial photography of the preferred alternative, as well as the Environmental Assessment will be available for viewing during the Open House Public Hearing. The hearing is an opportunity for citizens to offer feedback on the preferred alternative as the proposed improvement. All persons interested in this project are invited to attend. It will be conducted consistent with Illinois Department of Public Health and CDC guidelines which will include social distancing and limiting the number of attendees in the facility to 50 people at any given time. Staff and attendees will be required to wear masks; masks will be provided to attendees if they do not have one. More detailed guidelines can be reviewed at the IDPH website at: www.dph.illinois.gov. For those individuals who would like to review the material ahead of time or would prefer not to attend in person, meeting materials will be posted in advance at www.florencebridgestudy.com no later than September 8, 2020.

The hearing will be conducted on an informal basis; no formal presentation is planned. Representatives of the Illinois Department of Transportation and the consultant engineering firm of WSP will be available from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm to answer individual questions and receive comments about the study. Comment sheets will be available for those in attendance who wish to provide written comments. The same material will be available for review and inspection, by appointment, at the District Six Office at 126 East Ash Street, Springfield, Illinois. Comments received at this hearing or at the District Six Office by September 24, 2020, will be included in the official project record.

This hearing will be accessible to persons with a disability in compliance with current Accessibility Standards prepared by the Capital Development Board. Persons with a disability planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact the person listed in this Notice by September 4, 2020. The contact may be by telephone, in writing, or by email.

For more information, please contact Mr. Jay Wavering, Studies and Plans Engineer; 126 East Ash Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62704-4766; telephone (217) 785-9046; or by email at Jay.Wavering@illinois.gov.