

US ROUTE 45 PUBLIC HEARING

*From Illinois Route 60
to Illinois Route 22
Lake County*

Tuesday, February 7, 2012
5:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
Vernon Hills Park District
Sullivan Center
635 North Aspen Drive
Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061

Anticipated Project Schedule



IDOT is excited to continue working to

create the best possible future for US Route 45. In the months ahead, we will review the comments received from the Public Hearing and finalize the project details for approval of the Phase I study. Next, contract plans will be designed and property needed to build the roadway will be acquired. While funding for contract plan preparation has been included, only partial funding for land acquisition is included in IDOT's Fiscal Year 2012 to 2017 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. Construction funding for this improvement is not currently included in IDOT's Fiscal Year 2012 to 2017 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. This project will be included in IDOT's priorities for future funding consideration.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND INFORMATION

Written questions and comments or requests for materials may be submitted during this Public Hearing or mailed to the Illinois Department of Transportation. Comments are welcome at any time, but to be included in the Public Hearing record, they must be received by February 24, 2012.

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Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096**

You may also submit input through the project email address at: us45@transystems.com



Welcome

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) welcomes you to this Public Hearing for the US Route 45 Phase I Study. The study limits extend from Illinois Route 60 to Illinois Route 22.

We invite you to watch an audio-visual presentation, browse the project exhibits on display and visit with IDOT personnel and the project team in attendance at today's hearing. We also invite you to provide your comments in writing or orally to the court reporter in attendance.



Purpose and Need for Improvement

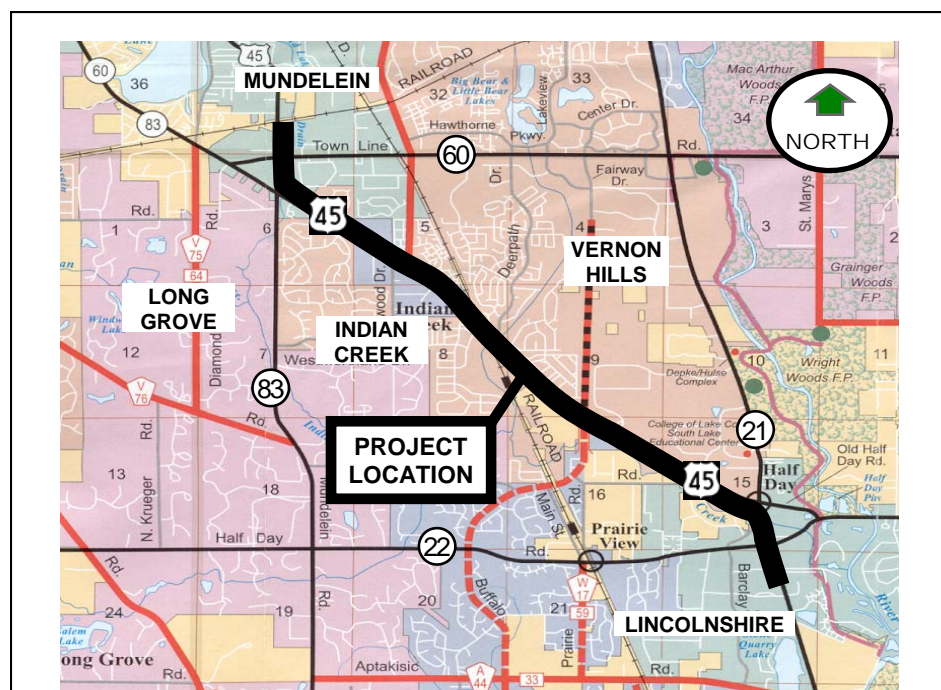
The Purpose & Need Statement defines the reasons for a project. The US Route 45 project will provide an improved transportation facility by addressing the needs of economic development, system linkage, continuity, capacity, and safety.

- System Linkage and Continuity – The project will provide a 4-lane link between Illinois Route 60 and Milwaukee Avenue.
- Capacity – The proposed improvements will accommodate the projected future traffic of the area.
- Safety – The proposed improvements will reduce the potential for crashes by adding capacity to the roadway and providing separate turn lanes at several intersections.

Proposed Improvements

The proposed improvements include:

- Reconstructing US Route 45 to provide two lanes in each direction
- Providing a median and provisions for additional turn lanes at intersections
- Traffic signal modernization at 15 signalized intersections including US Route 45 with Town Line Square, Illinois Route 60, Illinois Route 83, Oakwood Road, Butterfield Road, Evergreen Drive, Deerpath Drive, Ranney Avenue, Fairway Drive/ Buffalo Grove Road, Port Clinton Road and Milwaukee Avenue; Milwaukee Avenue with Jamestown Lane, West Olde Half Day Road, Illinois Route 22 and Marriott Drive
- Drainage improvements including replacement of 8 major box culverts to meet current IDOT drainage standards and installation of an underground storm sewer system
- Replacement of the Indian Creek Bridge over US Route 45/Illinois Route 21 (Milwaukee Avenue)
- Providing sidewalk and a multi-use path throughout the entire project limits pending cost participation by the municipalities



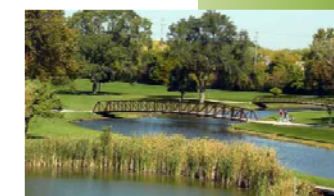
Public Involvement

Stakeholder involvement has been important to the planning process from the beginning of the Phase I Study of US Route 45. Meetings have been held throughout the process with various stakeholders along the project corridor including the Villages of Vernon Hills, Lincolnshire, Mundelein, Indian Creek and Long Grove. Two Public Meetings have also been held. The first Public Input Meeting was held in December 2003 to introduce the project to the community and obtain feedback regarding the major concerns including barrier median placement, access issues, and pedestrian accommodations. The second Public Meeting was held in May 2009 to present the preferred improvements to the public. Comments obtained at each of the Public Meetings were incorporated into the design as applicable.

Parks and Recreation

There are three public parks/ recreation areas along US Route 45: Vernon Hills Golf Course, Carriage Green Park, and Garvanian Park. The proposed widening of the roadway will require acquisition of a small amount of property adjacent to the roadway right-of-way. These small areas of land currently serve as a frontage to the roadway and are not used for recreational purposes. Therefore, acquiring these areas from publicly-owned recreational agencies will not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify these properties for protection under Section 4(f) of 23 CFR 771.135, which is the federal guideline that protects properties such as public parks and recreational areas from being adversely impacted.

Detailed documentation describing the impacts and mitigation associated with the effects of the US Route 45 project on the Section 4(f) properties will be available at the Public Hearing for review and comment. The US Route 45 project intends to seek a Section 4(f) "de minimis" impact finding based on a determination that the project will not adversely affect the features, attributes or activities that qualify the locations for protection under Section 4(f). Meetings have been held with both the Vernon Hills Golf Course and the Vernon Hills Park District to discuss the impacts.



Land Acquisition Types

Property acquisitions were analyzed with the intention of lessening impacts where possible along the project corridor while providing the best possible design to meet the project purpose and need. Three types of land acquisition will be used for this project:

- Proposed Right-Of-Way (Fee Simple)
 - ✓ Acquisition of all rights and interest
- Permanent Easement
 - ✓ Ownership retained by property owner
 - ✓ IDOT allowed use of property for maintenance
- Temporary Easement
 - ✓ Ownership retained by property owner
 - ✓ Used for grading only during construction