

The US 50 Expressway Project is a Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Project

IDOT's mission has always been to provide safe and effective transportation facilities for the people of Illinois. With CSS, our goal is to create transportation projects that not only address safety and mobility but which also seek to preserve or enhance the scenic, economic, historic, and natural qualities of the area.

Since these issues can be complex, the CSS process works as a partnership between IDOT and stakeholders to come up with working solutions to our transportation needs. Travelers, communities, businesses, elected officials and many others are all "stakeholders" in our transportation system. Stakeholders help IDOT understand their needs for, and concerns about, our transportation projects. IDOT can then take this input, along with all of its other work and analysis, and use it to make planning and design decisions.

IDOT still must make the ultimate choices about a project. *Safety, the integrity of the transportation system, and good stewardship of the public's transportation dollars all remain IDOT's responsibilities. However, thorough stakeholder involvement can contribute to these decisions, and lead to a general consensus about the choices made.*

CSS Works...



US 51 expansion of a two lane to a four lane expressway from south of Pana to Centralia is utilizing CSS for this 70 mile study. The US Route 51 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that is being conducted by IDOT is taking social, economic, environmental and engineering issues into consideration in order to determine the best roadway solution for the area. The project encompasses five separate communities and each community has its own Citizen Advisory Group. The public has a sense of what is going on and they feel a part of the process.

IL Route 3 to Collinsville Avenue is a new construction project entailing building a new two lane connector road from IL Route 3 to Collinsville Avenue in St. Clair County. The CAG provided IDOT valuable insight about community goals and the travel obstacles in the area. One example of this included identifying that the at-grade railroad tracks on IL Route 3 are a hindrance because travel time could not be relied upon and that this was negatively impacting businesses in the area.

