



# Welcome to the US 50 Expressway Project

## Public Information Meeting

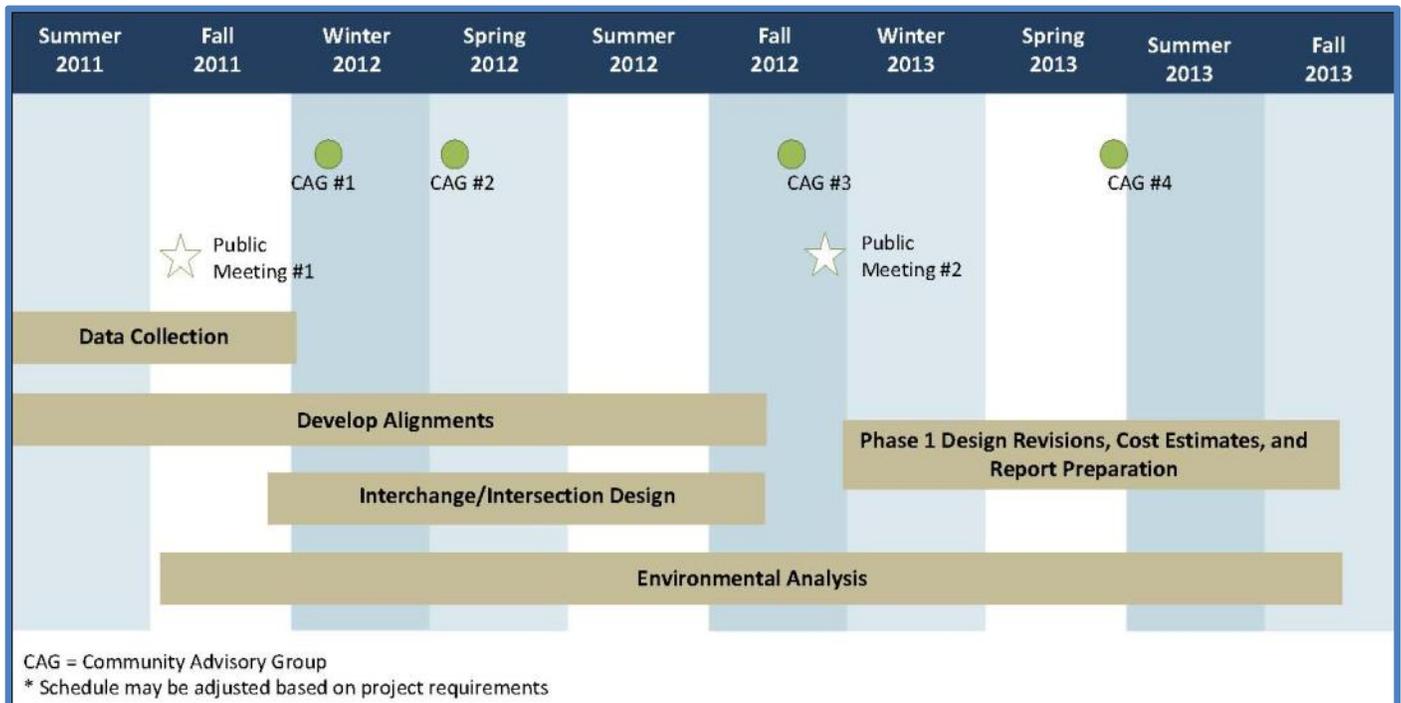
### October 24 & 25, 2011

#### Why are we here today?

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) would like to take this opportunity to introduce the U.S. 50 Expressway Project; describe the stakeholder involvement process, solicit input about the study area and, request your future participation (see the back page for ways you can be involved in the project).

#### What's new with US 50?

In 2010, the Illinois General Assembly appropriated \$5 million for the expansion of US 50 and included funds for preliminary engineering from Richland County to Lawrence County. We are conducting the Phase 1 Engineering studies which include environmental impact studies, detailed traffic and land use studies, and preliminary engineering studies that are necessary in order to be able to spend federal and state transportation funds on land acquisition and construction for a 4-lane expressway. Part of the Phase 1 studies includes public involvement in the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process.

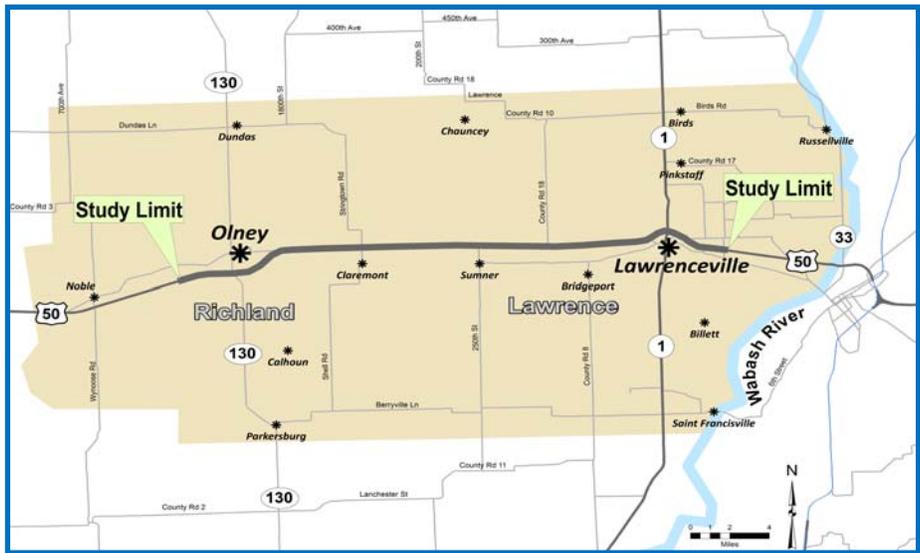


This current study is expected to be completed in Fall 2013 (see schedule above) and will identify, evaluate, and recommend the proposed improvements for the expansion of US 50 to a four-lane expressway. Public input will be an essential component to the proposed improvements. The project will include a preliminary roadway design, environmental and land use analysis, traffic operations and safety analysis, and public outreach to gain input from the project stakeholders.

Learn more at [www.US50Project.com](http://www.US50Project.com)

## Project location

The project is located in east-central Illinois and is predominately rural throughout the length of the project. The 27-mile project will look at US Route 50 from 2.5 miles west of Illinois Route 130 (near Olney) to 3.5 miles east of Illinois Route 1 (near Lawrenceville).



## How can I get involved?

**Public participation is an essential part of the US 50 preliminary design and environmental assessment process.**

For this project IDOT is seeking an effective transportation solution by working with stakeholders to develop, build, and maintain transportation facilities that fit into and reflect the project's surroundings. The two main objectives for this project are: 1) to educate everyone about the project and the study developments, and 2) to be educated by you about your community, its important resources, qualities, issues, and problems, and about your desires and preferences for the proposed Expressway project. **There are several ways for you to be involved and learn about the project over the course of the US 50 Expressway Project, including the following:**



We encourage all who are interested to take part in the project. It is only through the participation of those who live and work in the area that the best possible project can be achieved.

## Apply to join the Community Advisory Group (CAG) Today!

If you are interested in serving on the CAG, please fill out a comment form with your contact information today. Two CAGs will be formed, one for Richland County and one for Lawrence County. The general public can always attend a CAG meeting, even if they are not members of the group.

## Learn More

Learn more about the project at [www.US50Project.com](http://www.US50Project.com), or by contacting Rodger Smith, at (217) 245-7164 or [rsmith@hutchisoneng.com](mailto:rsmith@hutchisoneng.com).

**Please remember to fill out a comment form and drop it in the box or return by mail by November 16<sup>th</sup>.**