



US 50 Expressway Project Public Meeting #2 Summary

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) held the second set of Public Informational Meetings for the proposed study of the US 50 Expressway Project from 2.5 miles west of Illinois Route 130 (near Olney) to 3.5 miles east of Illinois Route 1 (near Lawrenceville) on July 30 and 31, 2012 at Parkside Elementary School in Lawrenceville and East Richland Middle School in Olney, respectively from 4 to 7 p.m. The purpose of the meetings was to display and solicit input about the preliminary access that had been designed with input from the Community Advisory Group for the US 50 Expressway Project.

A public notice was placed in the June 30 and July 23, 2012 editions of the Olney Daily Mail, the June 29 and July 20, 2012 editions of the Vincennes Sun Commercial and the June 29 and July 23, 2012 editions of the Lawrenceville Daily Record newspapers. Letters of invitation were sent to public officials and agencies, representatives of local communities, utilities, and other governmental agencies within the study area. The first edition of the project newsletter was included in the invitation letter and was sent to property owners and others on the project mailing list. Approximately 579 newsletters announcing the public meeting were mailed. The meetings were held in an open house format beginning with a registration table near the entrance to the meeting space. A total of 65 people signed the attendance roster in Olney and 73 signed in Lawrenceville. This likely represented great than 138 individuals in attendance as several couples and parties only signed once – or preferred not to sign in. Our estimate for meeting attendance is approximately 148 people. The project newsletter served as the meeting brochure and plenty were available for those who had not received a copy in the mail or wanted an additional copy. Attendees were provided with a Comment Form to fill out at the meeting or to return via US mail. After signing in and receiving their handouts, attendees were asked to view the meeting exhibits. The 13 meeting exhibits were arranged as follows:

- Welcome and Goals of the PIM
- Project Location
- Project Timeline/Schedule
- Expressway Access Examples/Types
- Expressway Jughandle Intersection Description/Explanation
- Expressway Access Examples Typical Section
- Roadway Typical Section
- NEPA Process
- CAG Activities
- CAG Interest Areas
- Purpose and Need
- Large-scale Aerial Mosaic of Project Corridor with Environmental Features
- Comment Station and Thank You Board

IDOT, Hutchison Engineering, Inc., and CH2M HILL staff were available to provide information, answer questions, and discuss individual concerns with members of the public at the meeting. Comment sheets were provided for those choosing to provide written comments at the meeting or for mailing after the meeting.

IDOT received 55 written comments about the project from 60 different individuals that were provided at or following the Public Meetings.