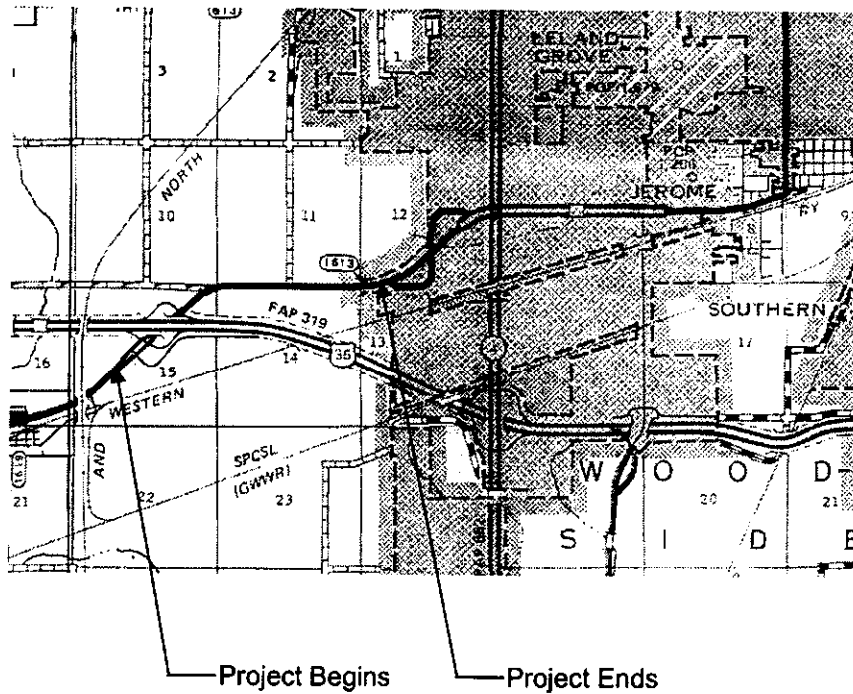




Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways/District 6
126 East Ash Street/Springfield, Illinois 62704-4792

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF WABASH AVENUE



The Open House will be from:

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 13, 2004

In the
Knights of Columbus #364 Columbian Hall

Located at 2200 South Meadowbrook in Springfield

Christine M. Reed, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways,
Region Four Engineer

WELCOME

PURPOSE OF THE HEARING

NEED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION

COMMENTS, INQUIRIES, AND INFORMATION

Welcome to this Hearing

Between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. we invite you to inspect the visual aids on display and visit with the staff from the Illinois Department of Transportation. The hearing is being held in the *open house format* which provides for informal discussions between the participants and staff members.

Purpose of the Hearing

The purpose of this hearing is to present the proposed improvement for questions and comments to area residents, road users, and the general public. These questions and comments are important to us at this stage of the project development and will be considered when developing the final improvement.

Exhibits, drawings, and aerial photographs outlining the project are available for your examination during the Open House Public Hearing. Participants are also invited to submit written or oral comments pertaining to the project. Oral statements may be presented in the recording area. A comment sheet is provided in this handout for written statements and may either be deposited in the box provided for that purpose or mailed to the Offices of the Illinois Department of Transportation, District 6, 126 East Ash Street, Springfield, IL 62704-4792.

Need for the Improvement

The purpose of the project is to alleviate traffic congestion and facilitate development of the Wabash Avenue corridor. In recent years, traffic volume has picked up considerably along this stretch of Wabash, with several car dealers, Wells Fargo Mortgage, Cingular Wireless, Mel-O-Cream Donuts, and numerous other business' locating on the corridor. In addition, residential development north of Wabash has increased traffic along Wabash. It is anticipated that the remainder of this corridor will be developed in upcoming years, adding to the traffic congestion.

Description of the Proposed Improvement

The proposed improvement consists of widening Wabash Avenue to 5 lanes from Koke Mill Road to near I 72 and tapering to 2 lanes at Moffet Street in Curran. The following 12 intersections are also to be reconstructed, with signal upgrades where required:

Koke Mill Dr., Happy Landing Dr., Mercantile Dr., Meadowbrook Dr., Pleasant Run, Archer Elevator Rd., Hamlin Pkwy., Wells Fargo, Bunker Hill Road / Ash Grove, I 72 (2 locations along the interchange), and International Parkway.

Additionally, the Hollis Drive intersection with Wabash Avenue is proposed to be relocated to connect with Mercantile Drive, which will provide direct access to Wabash.

Traffic Operations During Construction:

Wabash Avenue will remain open during construction. Some construction operations will restrict traffic to one lane. Traffic will be controlled by flagmen.

Comments, Inquiries, and Information:

Thank you for attending. A comment sheet is attached for you to provide comments on the proposed project.

**PUBLIC HEARING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
IMPROVEMENT OF WABASH AVENUE
5-LANE EXPANSION
SANGAMON COUNTY**

_____, 2004

Check the box that most closely reflects your point of view concerning this project.

- I favor the improvement as presently proposed.***
- I generally favor the improvement as proposed except (see comments).***
- I have no comment at this time.***
- I am not in favor of this improvement as it is proposed (see comments).***

Comments:

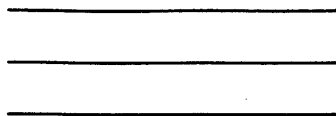
Sincerely,

(Print Name Please)

(Address)

(Please submit your comments on or before January 12, 2005)

Stamp



**Ms. Christine M. Reed, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways
Region Four Engineer
Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Highways, District 6
126 East Ash Street
Springfield, IL 62704-4792**

Attn: Studies & Plans

(Fold Here)

(Tape)