



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N758-ES
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (317) 296-0799

Eric Holcomb, Governor
Joe McGuinness, Commissioner

December 20, 2021

This letter was sent to the listed parties.

RE: County Line Road Added Travel Lanes Project (Des. No. 2002553; DPW Project ST-45-067;
DHPA Project 27053

Dear Consulting Party,

The City of Indianapolis, with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and administrative oversight from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), proposes to proceed with the County Line Road Added Travel Lanes Project (Des. No. 2002553).

This letter is part of the Section 106 review process for this project. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic and archaeological properties. We are requesting comments from you regarding the possible effects of this project. Please use the above Des. Number and project description in your reply and your comments will be incorporated into the formal environmental study.

A Section 106 early coordination letter was distributed on February 16, 2021. In addition, a letter distributed on June 3, 2021 notified consulting parties that a Historic Property Report (HPR) and a Phase Ia archaeology report were available for review and comment. A letter distributed on November 24, 2021, notified consulting parties that an addendum to the HPR was available for review and comment.

The proposed undertaking is on County Line Road, and begins 0.30 mile west of Morgantown Road and extends east to State Route (SR) 135/Meridian Street in Marion and Johnson counties, Indiana. It is within City of Indianapolis, Perry Township, Marion County and the City of Greenwood, White River Township, Johnson County, Maywood USGS Topographic Quadrangle, in Sections 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, and 28, Township 14 North, Range 3 East.

County Line Road is classified as a two-lane primary arterial roadway through the majority of the project corridor. The road expands to five lanes (two lanes in each direction with a turning lane to Meridian Street) between South Illinois Street and SR 135. The majority of the project area does not have pedestrian facilities, curb and gutter, or shoulders. Sidewalks, curb and gutter, and shoulders are only associated with the five lane section of County Line Road between South Illinois Street and Royal Meadow Drive.

There are two major intersections along County Line Road within the project limits: Morgantown Road and Railroad Road/Peterman Road. The Morgantown Road intersection is controlled by a traffic signal and has left turn lanes in all directions. There is a steep hill on County Line Road just west of this intersection, with an existing roadway grade of approximately 9 percent.

The Railroad Road/Peterman Road intersection is controlled by a 4-way stop sign, with a single approach lane from all four directions. The Indiana Railroad has a single-track rail line immediately adjacent to Railroad Road/Peterman Road, with an at-grade crossing of County Line Road less than 50 feet west of the intersection. The crossing has overhead flashers but no gates.

The existing structure over Pleasant Creek Run (Structure No. 49-4503F) is approximately 650 feet east of the Morgantown Road intersection. It is a 3-span concrete box beam bridge approximately 135 feet in length. The second existing structure over Buffalo Creek (Structure No. 49-4510F) is located just west of Leisure Lane on County Line Road. It is a 3-span reinforced concrete slab approximately 81 feet in length.

The proposed project includes County Line Road being expanded to a five-lane road (two 11 foot lanes in each direction and a 13-foot two-way left turn lane) with a 10-foot multi-purpose trail on the north side, 6-foot grass buffers on either side and a 6-foot sidewalk on the south side of the roadway. The two existing bridges will also be replaced to accommodate the additional travel lanes. The proposed bridge structures will accommodate the proposed roadway with the only modification to the typical section being that the grass buffers will be 2 feet per side within the bridge structure limits. The project will also construct stormwater detention, enclosed stormwater system, and address the sharp vertical curve at Morgantown Road.

The purpose of the South County Line Road Project is to address capacity deficiencies, improve east-west mobility, and improve safety within the corridor. The need for this project is the existing and future capacity restrictions as the projected traffic demands will exceed the capacity of the existing two-lane configuration. Additionally, there are no pedestrian or bicycle facilities associated with the existing roadway which is in a high density residential area.

HNTB is under contract with the City of Indianapolis to advance the environmental documentation for the referenced project. ASC Group, Inc., has been subcontracted to complete the Section 106 documentation for the project.

In accordance with 36 CFR 800.2 (c), you were invited to become a consulting party as part of the Section 106 process, or you are hereby invited to become a consulting party as part of the Section 106 process. Entities that have previously accepted consulting party status—as well as additional entities that are currently being invited to become consulting parties—are identified in the attached list.

The Section 106 process involves efforts to identify historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking, to assess the undertaking's effects and to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties. For more information regarding the protection of historic resources, please see the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's guide: *Protecting Historic Properties: A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review* available online at <https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2017-01/CitizenGuide.pdf>.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the area in which the proposed project may cause alterations in the character or use of historic resources. The APE contains no resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

With regard to archaeological resources, an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards identified one site within the project area. As a result of these efforts, site 12-Ma-1082 was recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP and no further work is recommended.

The archaeology report addendum is available for review in IN SCOPE (Tribes only) at <http://erms.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents/> (the Des. No. is the most efficient search term, once in IN SCOPE). You are invited to review these documents and to respond with comments on any historic resource impacts incurred as a result of this project so that an environmental report can be completed. We also welcome your related opinions and other input to be considered in the preparation of the environmental document. If you prefer a hard-copy of this material, please respond to this email with your request as soon as you can.

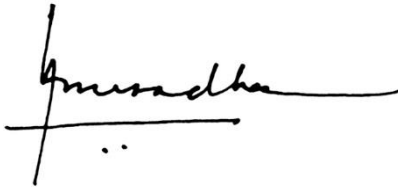
Please review the information and comment within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt. If you indicate that you do not desire to be a consulting party or if you have not previously accepted consulting party status and you do not respond to this letter, you will not be included on the list of consulting parties for this project and will not receive further information about the project unless the design changes. Tribal consulting parties may enter the process at any time and are encouraged to respond to this notification with any comments or concerns at their earliest convenience.

For questions concerning specific project details, you may contact Leah J. Konicki of ASC Group, Inc. at 317-915-9300, ext. 103, or lkonicki@ascgroup.net. All future responses regarding the proposed project should be forwarded to ASC Group, Inc. at the following address:

Leah J. Konicki
Principal Investigator – Architectural Historian
ASC Group, Inc.
9376 Castlegate Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46256
lkonicki@ascgroup.net.

Tribal contacts may contact Shaun Miller at smiller@indot.in.gov or 317-416-0876 or Kari Carmany-George at FHWA at K.CarmanyGeorge@dot.gov or 317-226-5629.

Sincerely,



Anuradha V. Kumar, Manager
Cultural Resources Office
Environmental Services

Distribution List:

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Miami Tribe of Oklahoma