

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Des. No. 1900842 (Lead, Bridge) and 1801932 (Road)

New Bridge and Roadway Reconstruction along 13th Street and 8th Avenue over CSX Railroad US 31
City of Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana

The City of Terre Haute and Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host a public hearing on October 29, 2024. There will be an open house from 5 PM to 6 PM, then a formal presentation at 6 PM followed by the opportunity to provide public comment. The hearing will be held at the City Courtroom, 17 Harding Avenue, Terre Haute, IN 47807. Parking is available at the venue.

The purpose of the public hearing is to offer all interested people an opportunity to comment on the environmental document and the current design plans for the project. The need for this project is due to the high level of vehicular crossing blockage from train traffic on CSX Railroad, safety concerns related to train/vehicular conflicts, and lack of pedestrian crosswalks in the vicinity of the railroad crossings. The purpose of this project is to eliminate delays for motorists and emergency services at the 13th Street and 8th Avenue crossings of CSX Railroad due to train traffic, eliminate the potential for train-vehicle collisions at these crossings, and improve pedestrian accessibility and safety through the area.

The project will construct a new bridge to elevate 8th Avenue and 13th Street over the CSX Railroad. Two (2) separate 116-foot diameter raised roundabouts, connected by an approximately 115-foot long single-span bridge, will be constructed at 8th Avenue and 13th Street. The bridge will have a minimum vertical clearance of approximately 23.3 feet and consist of concrete bulb tee-beams. Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) retaining walls will be installed in the northeast, northwest and southwest quadrants of the bridge, and 3:1 earthen side slopes will be utilized in the southeast quadrant in order to accommodate the grade change of the railroad crossing. Due to the MSE walls, the following streets will become dead ends at 8th Avenue: N. 12th Street, Garfield Avenue, and the alley between Garfield Avenue and 13th Street. Plum Street will be relocated to the north of its current location in order to maintain access to a railroad museum off of 13th Street. Railroad Street will be permanently closed and the pavement will be removed (between 8th Avenue and 13th Street). The project will also include new curb and gutter for storm water city sanitary sewer improvements. Existing sidewalks and curb ramps within the project area will be replaced with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant facilities.

The project is approximately 0.52 mile long. Construction along 13th Street will begin near 6th Avenue and end near Beech Street. Construction along 8th Avenue will begin near 12th Street and end near 14th Street. The project requires approximately 5.91 acres of permanent right-of-way acquisition for construction. The project also requires approximately 1.210 acres of temporary right-of-way acquisition for drive reconstruction and grading. All proposed permanent and temporary right-of-way acquisitions described above will utilize the MAP-21 early acquisition process. It is anticipated there will be nine residential relocations and nine commercial relocations. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$33,000,000, which includes engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and construction. No wetland impacts are expected to occur as a result of the project. Approximately 0.33 acre of tree clearing will be required for construction.

The maintenance of traffic plan for the project will require full closure of 13th Street and 8th Avenue during construction. A detour route will be composed of an outer loop of streets: Maple Avenue to the north, Locust Street to the south, 19th Street to the east, and US 41 to the west. The proposed detour will add 2.4 miles to a through trip along 8th Avenue, and 2.0 miles to a through trip along 13th Street. Traffic approaching the project area will be given the option to detour this loop in a clockwise or counterclockwise direction. The project will require temporary closure of pedestrian access through the 13th Street and 8th Avenue intersection. East/west pedestrian travel along 8th Avenue, between 12th Street and 15th Street, will be temporarily disrupted. Approximately 0.4 mile will be added to a through trip during disruption utilizing Ash Street to the north of the project area. North/south pedestrian travel along 13th Street, between 3rd Avenue and Beech Street, will also be temporarily disrupted. Approximately 0.34 mile will be added to a through trip during disruption utilizing 11th Street and 12th Street to the west of the project area. Initial stages of construction expected to begin in Fall 2025 and last 18-24 months. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. INDOT will coordinate with

emergency services, local school corporation officials and project stakeholders to ensure potential disruptions and impacts are minimized as much as possible.

A link to the video of the public hearing presentation will be posted to the project website via the project sponsors web page <https://www.terrehaute.in.gov/departments/engineering/projects/13th-and-8th-avenue-overpass-1> on October 29, 2024. In addition, this web page contains the Environmental Assessment document and current project plans.

Federal and state funds are proposed to be used for construction of this project. An Environmental Assessment document has been prepared for the project. The environmental documentation is available to view at the following locations:

1. Website: <https://www.terrehaute.in.gov/departments/engineering/projects/13th-and-8th-avenue-overpass-1>
2. INDOT Crawfordsville District – 41 West 300 North, Crawfordsville, IN 47933
3. Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc. – 8450 Westfield Blvd., Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240
4. Terre Haute Public Library – 680 Poplar St, Terre Haute, IN 47807
5. Terre Haute Engineering Department - 17 Harding Ave Ste 200, Terre Haute, IN 47807

Public statements for the record will be taken as part of the public hearing procedure. All verbal statements recorded during the public hearing and all written comments submitted prior to, during and for a period of two (2) weeks following the hearing date, will be evaluated, considered, and addressed in subsequent environmental documentation. Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and within the comment period in the following ways.

1. BF&S Office, ATTN: Ryan Scott, 8450 Westfield Blvd., Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240, or rscott@bfsengr.com
2. Terre Haute Engineering Department, ATTN: Marcus Mauer, PE, City Engineer, 17 Harding Ave Ste 200, Terre Haute, IN 47807, or engineering@terrehaute.in.gov

The public comment period for the EA began on October 15, 2024, and will end on November 12, 2024. The City of Terre Haute and INDOT respectfully request comments be submitted utilizing the options noted above by November 12, 2024.

Persons with limited internet access may request project information be mailed. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and with advance notice, the City of Terre Haute will coordinate accommodations for persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids including, but not limited to sign language interpretation, alternative format documents and other ADA supportive services. In addition, and in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the City of Terre Haute will coordinate accommodation for persons of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requiring auxiliary aids and/or supportive services including, but not limited to alternative format documents and other services as needed. Should accommodation be required please contact Ryan Scott of BF&S at rscott@bfsengr.com, 8450 Westfield Blvd., Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN, (317) 713-4615.

This notice is published in compliance with Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1) states: "Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program." 23 CFR 450.212(a)(7) states: "Public involvement procedures shall provide for periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all and revision of the process as necessary." approved by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation on July 7, 2021