

LAPORTE NORTH- SOUTH CORRIDOR PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

DES. NO. 1592338;
US 35 TO STATE ROAD 39
City of La Porte,
LaPorte County, Indiana



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PROJECT TEAM



Sponsors/Owner: City of La Porte & LaPorte County

- Mitch Bishop – County Planner
- Jay Sullivan – County Highway Engineer
- Nick Minich – City Engineer
- LaPorte County Commissioners

Consultant: Lochmueller Group

- Susan Al-Abbas, PE – Project Principal
- Ruth Hook, CESSWI, CPESC – Project Manager

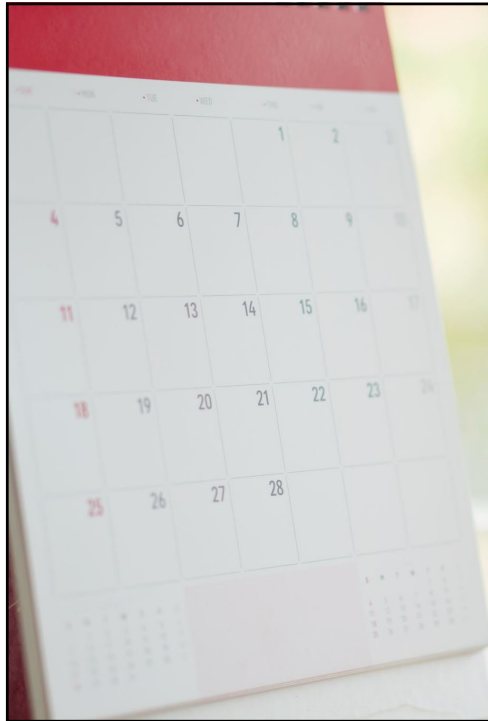
Project Partners:

- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Federal Highway Administration
- Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

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MEETING AGENDA

- **Welcome & Project Overview**
 - History of the Project
 - Project Corridor – Review Alternatives
- **Alternatives Screening Document Review**
 - Screening Methodology & Results
 - Review Recommendations
- **Next Steps**
 - 30 days to provide comments (May 14, 2021)

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WHY ARE WE HERE

The City of La Porte and LaPorte County are pursuing a corridor to reduce congestion through downtown La Porte to:

- Address transportation and economic needs;
- Support the development of La Porte as a livable center; and
- Improve safety.

Goals of Meeting:

- Review Alternatives and Alternative Analysis; and
- Present Recommend Preferred Alternative

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PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



WE ARE HERE



Scoping

- Engineering Assessment
- Corridor Study / Feasibility Study

Environmental

- National Environmental Policy Act Document
- Human & Natural
- Build or No Build

Preliminary Engineering

- Design
- Obtain Appropriate Permits / Mitigation Plans

Right-of-Way

- Land Acquisition
- Appraisal & Purchasing Upon NEPA Completion

Completion

- Mitigation Sites Constructed / Monitoring Enforced
- Project Construction

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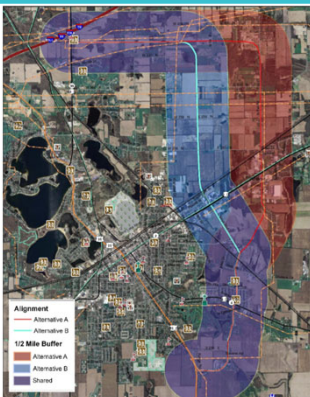


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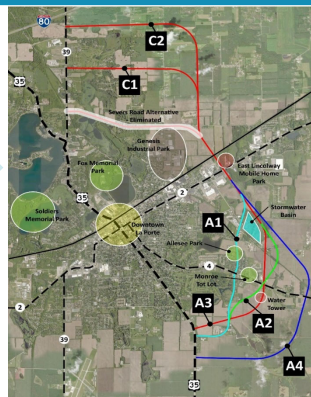
PROJECT CORRIDOR



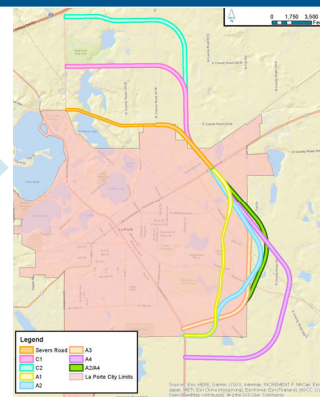
"Broad Band" corridors provided room for multiple alternatives to be developed



2018 Public information meeting presented 4 southern & 3 northern alternatives



2021 Public information meeting presenting 5 southern & 3 northern alternatives



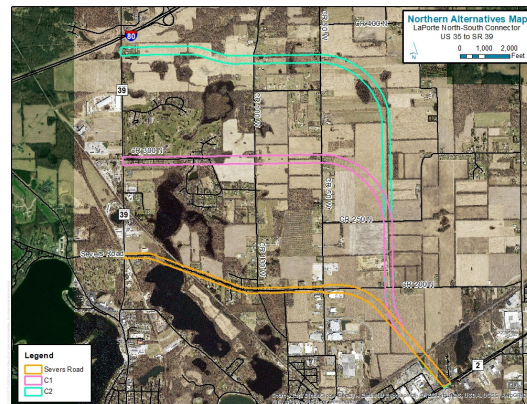
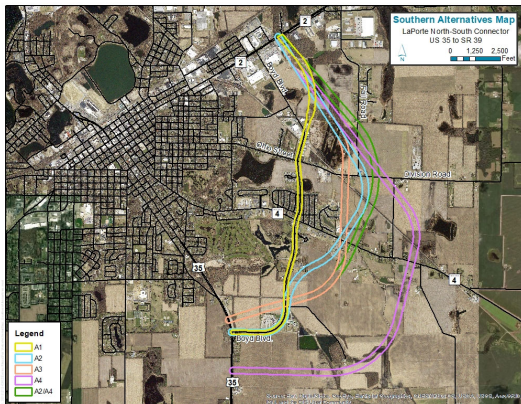
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PROJECT CORRIDOR

Five southern alternatives and three northern alternatives were evaluated



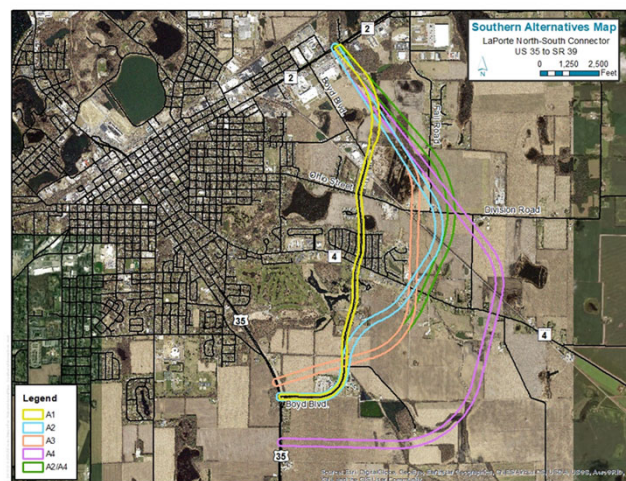
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ALTERNATIVES – SOUTHERN

A1 - New construction starting at SR 2, 0.24 mile east of Boyd Boulevard. The new construction will extend southwest for one mile and connect with existing Boyd Boulevard, 0.89 mile southeast of SR 2. This alternative would involve improvements to Boyd Boulevard until it ties into US 35. The estimated length is 3.43 miles.

A2 - New construction starting at SR 2, 0.29 mile east of Boyd Boulevard. The new construction would extend southeast for 1.05 miles and curve southwest south of Division Road. The new construction would continue southwest for 1.4 miles and connect with existing Boyd Boulevard at the Stevens Road intersection. This alternative would also improve the remainder of Boyd Boulevard until its intersection with US 35. The estimated length is 3.81 miles.

A3 - New construction starting at SR 2. The new construction would extend southeast for 0.9 mile and curve south, north of Division Road. The new construction would extend 1.16 miles south and then begin to curve southwest, 0.25 mile southwest of SR 4. The new construction would extend southwest to connect with US 35, 0.1 mile north of Boyd Boulevard. The estimated length is 3.65 miles.



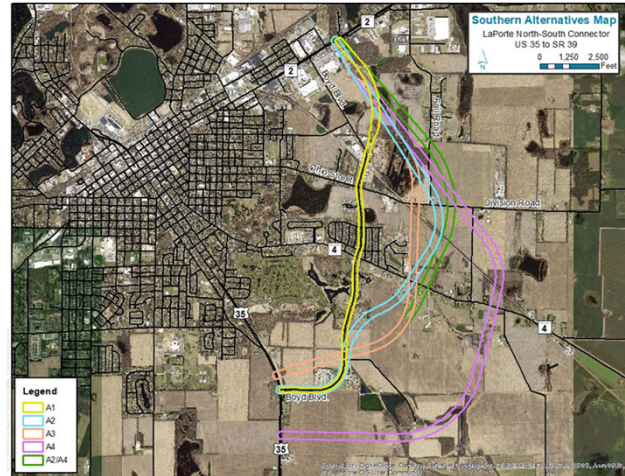
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ALTERNATIVES – SOUTHERN CONTINUED



A2/A4 - This alternative would involve new construction starting at SR 2. The new construction would extend southeast for 1.66 miles and then begin to curve southwest at Division Road. The new construction would extend southwest for 2.37 miles until it connects with US 35. The estimated length of A2/A4 is 4.03 miles.

A4 - This alternative would involve new construction starting at SR 2. The new construction will extend southeast for 1.6 miles and then begin to curve southwest, 0.19 mile east of CR 150 E. The new construction will extend southwest for 1.7 miles and then begin to curve west, 0.06 mile south of Stevens Road. The project will then extend west until it connects to US 35, 0.37 mile south of Boyd Boulevard. The estimated length of A4 is 4.99 miles.



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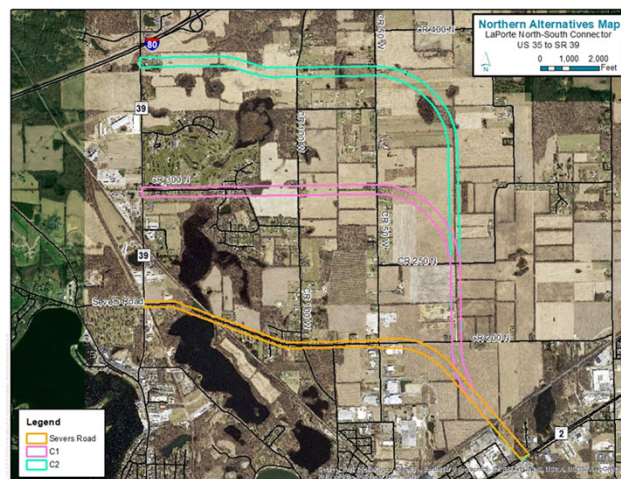
ALTERNATIVES – NORTHERN



Severs Road - Upgrading and widening of the existing roadway facilities from the intersection of SR 39 and Severs Road, east towards CR 200 N, 0.22 mile east of Genesis Drive, and then the alternative curves southeast to tie into SR 2. The estimated length is 2.76 miles.

C1 - Upgrading and widening of the existing roadway facilities from the intersection of SR 39 and CR 300 N, east to 0.36 mile west of CR 100 W. The alternative would then involve new roadway construction east to CR 50 W where it would then curve southeast and tie into SR 2. The estimated length is 3.68 miles.

C2 - New construction starting at SR 39, 0.22 mile south of I-80/90, east to CR 50 W. This alternative would then curve southeast and continue south to tie into SR 2. The estimated length is approximately 4.45 miles.



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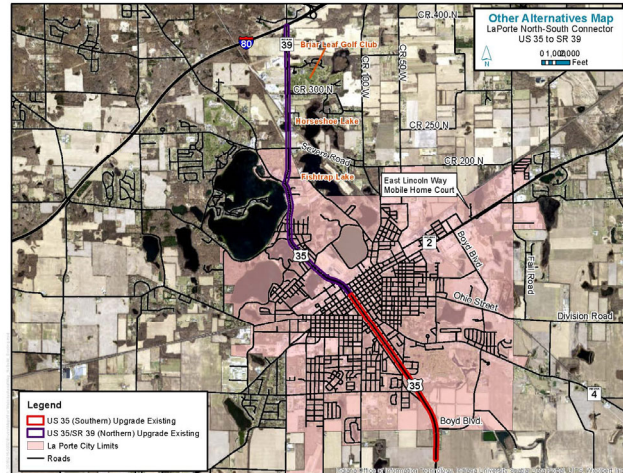
ALTERNATIVES – OTHERS CONSIDERED



No Build - This alternative involves no improvements to roadways within the City of La Porte or LaPorte County to create a corridor. This alternative eliminates costs and any environmental impacts but does not address the issues and concerns identified as reasons for the project.

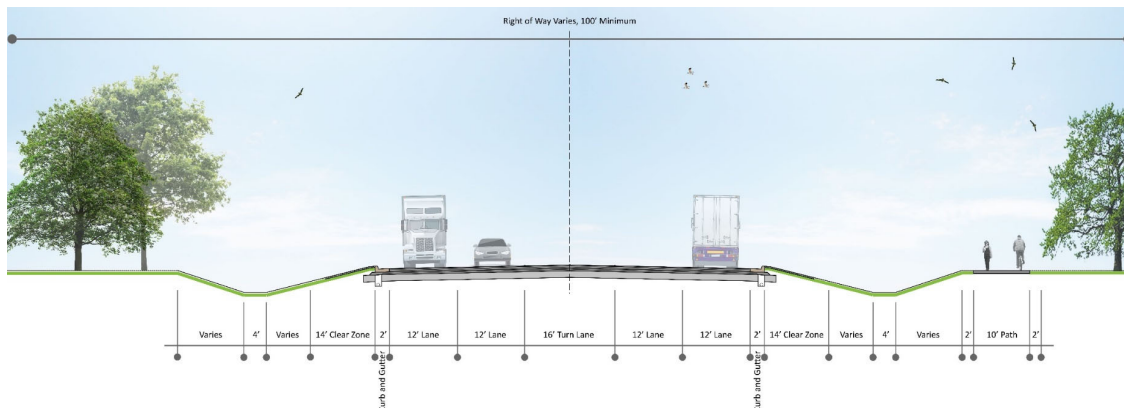
US 35 (Southern) - This alternative would improve the existing US 35 from south of Boyd Blvd north to the intersection of US 35 and State Road 2. The typical section of this would match the proposed typical sections for both urban and rural segments.

US 35/SR 39 (Northern) - This alternative would improve existing US 35 and State Road 39 from the intersection with State Road 2 to the Toll Road (I-80). The typical section of this would match the proposed typical sections for both urban and rural segments.



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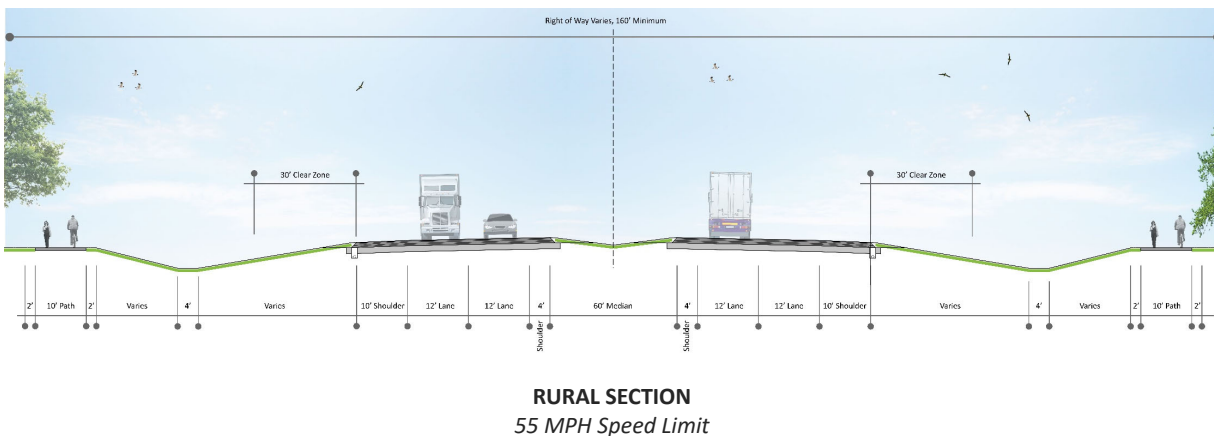
ALTERNATIVES – TYPICAL SECTIONS



URBAN SECTION
35 MPH Speed Limit

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ALTERNATIVES – TYPICAL SECTIONS



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SCREENING METHODOLOGY



Reviewed Ecological, Cultural, & Community Resources

- Wetlands & Streams
- Historic Properties & Archaeological Sites
- Recreational Facilities & Trails
- HazMat Concerns
- Acquisition and Relocation of Properties
- Environmental Justice
- Agency Early Coordination Input
- Public Input

Best Available GIS Datasets

- USFWS NWI
- USGS NHD
- Indiana Buildings, Bridges, & Cemeteries Map
- SHAARD
- IndianaMap
- Red Flag Investigation HazMat Layers
- Census Data

Full Screening Document available on the project website:

<https://www.laportecorridor.com/>

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WETLAND & STREAM RESOURCE IMPACT

Category	Units	SOUTHERN ALTERNATIVES						
		No Build	A1	A2	A3	A2/A4	A4	US 35
Wetlands								
Mapped NWI Wetlands Impacted	No.	0	5	6	5	4	6	4
Area of Mapped NWI Impacted	Acres	0	18.78	20.39	23.53	9.76	14.23	4.37
Mapped Open Water Impacted	No.	0	3	2	1	2	1	2
Area of Mapped Open Water Impacted	Acres	0	0.65	4.91	4.59	0.86	0.18	0.72
Total	Acres	0	19.43	25.3	28.12	10.62	14.41	5.09
Streams								
Stream Crossings	No.	0	1	4	4	1	2	0
Total Length of Impact	Linear Ft.	0	220	1,406	1,457	965	751	0

Category	Units	NORTHERN ALTERNATIVES				
		No Build	Severs	C1	C2	US 35/SR 39
Wetlands						
Mapped NWI Wetlands Impacted	No.	0	1	3	5	9
Area of Mapped NWI Impacted	Acres	0	0.09	2.64	9.15	3.41
Mapped Open Water Impacted	No.	0	2	2	4	7
Area of Mapped Open Water Impacted	Acres	0	0.49	1.05	1.57	4.04
Total	Acres	0	0.58	3.69	10.72	7.45
Streams						
Stream Crossings	No.	0	0	1	0	0
Total Length of Impact	Linear Ft.	0	0	331	0	0

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CULTURAL RESOURCES & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IMPACT

Category	Units	SOUTHERN ALTERNATIVES						
		No Build	A1	A2	A3	A2/A4	A4	US 35
Historic Properties & Archaeological Sites+								
Individual Properties Affected	No.	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Districts Affected	No.	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites Affected	No.	0	0	1	1	0	0	0

Category	Units	NORTHERN ALTERNATIVES				
		No Build	Severs	C1	C2	US 35/SR 39
Historic Properties & Archaeological Sites+						
Individual Properties Affected	No.	0	0	1	1	6
Districts Affected	No.	0	0	0	0	1
Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites Affected	No.	0	2	1	1	6

Category	Units	SOUTHERN ALTERNATIVES						
		No Build	A1	A2	A3	A2/A4	A4	US 35
Section 4(f) Resources								
Recreational Facilities	No.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Trails	No.	0	0	1	1	0	1	0

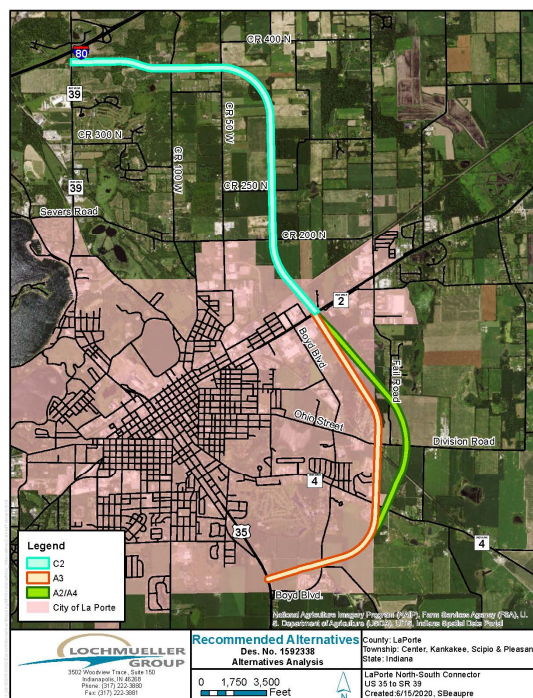
Category	Units	NORTHERN ALTERNATIVES				
		No Build	Severs	C1	C2	US 35/SR 39
Section 4(f) Resources						
Recreational Facilities	No.	0	0	0	1	2
Trails	No.	0	2	1	1	2

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Category	Units	SOUTHERN ALTERNATIVES						
		No Build	A1	A2	A3	A2/A4	A4	US 35
Affected Parcels								
Relocations	No.	0	36	9	23	9	7	186
Acquisitions	No.	0	53	25	25	36	21	28
Total Affected Parcels	No.	0	89	34	48	45	28	214

Category	Units	NORTHERN ALTERNATIVES				
		No Build	Severs	C1	C2	US 35/SR 35
Affected Parcels						
Relocations	No.	0	46	30	7	129
Acquisitions	No.	0	26	29	30	195
Total Affected Parcels	No.	0	72	59	37	350



ALTERNATIVES RECOMMENDED CARRIED FORWARD



TRANSPORTATION PROCESS & THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT



Why is an environmental document being completed?

- North-South Corridor has obligated funds from the Federal Highway Administration

Any Federal action causes the need for an evaluation under the NEPA

- Purpose & Need
- Alternatives analysis (also includes Do Nothing, Existing Facilities improvements)
- Impacts to the social and natural environment
- Continued involvement with the public

The NEPA Document to be prepared is an Environmental Assessment

- FHWA must issue a formal decision on environmental consequences



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TRANSPORTATION PROCESS & THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT



Early in the NEPA process = No decisions on alignment or impacts have been made

- Input from the public is wanted
- NEPA document will further evaluate and define the alternatives recommended to be carried forward

Continued engagement with the public

- Various stakeholder meetings
- Community Advisory Committee
- Public Hearing in late 2021

Outcome = Federal Highway Administration decision document

- Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) = environmental evaluation complete
 - FONSI anticipated early 2022
- Elevate to an Environmental Impact Statement = more studies required



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PROJECT COSTS & PROJECT PHASES

La Porte Economic Development Corridor (EDC)
Project Phasing & Preliminary Cost Breakdown

Segment Phase:	EDC Phase 1	EDC Phase 2	EDC Phase 3	EDC Phase 4	EDC Phase 5	EDC Phase 6	Project Totals
Segment Description:	US 35 to SR 4	N. of SR 4 to Fall Road	N. of Fall Road to SR 2	SR 2 to CR 200 N	N. of CR 200 N to CR 50W	CR 50 W to SR 39	US 35 to SR 39
Project Length =	7900 LFT	6700 LFT	5450 LFT	4850 LFT	10500 LFT	8010 LFT	43410 LFT
Road Construction Cost =	\$ 12,470,960.00	\$ 10,491,040.00	\$ 8,478,520.00	\$ 7,713,550.00	\$ 16,043,720.00	\$ 13,443,190.00	\$ 68,640,980.00
Road Design/Survey/Permits =	\$ 1,995,360.00	\$ 1,678,570.00	\$ 1,356,570.00	\$ 1,234,170.00	\$ 2,567,000.00	\$ 2,150,920.00	\$ 10,982,590.00
Bridge Construction Cost =	N/A	\$ 5,320,000.00	\$ 41,700,000.00	\$ 18,913,500.00		\$ 3,610,000.00	\$ 69,543,500.00
Bridge Design Cost =	N/A	\$ 532,000.00	\$ 4,170,000.00	\$ 1,891,350.00		\$ 361,000.00	\$ 6,954,350.00
Env. Doc AI =	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 360,000.00
Geotechnical Analysis =			\$ 55,000.00				
Parcels:							
# of Partial Acquisitions	12	10	4	9	15	5	55
# of Total Takes	5	2	2	2	2	4	17
Acres of Partial Acquisition	31.4 Acres	54.4 Acres	31.22 Acres	50.6 Acres	75.9 Acres	39.1 Acres	282.62 Acres
RoW Engineering/Services=	\$ 195,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 805,000.00
Right-of-Way Acquisition =	\$ 1,893,340.00	\$ 1,397,855.00	\$ 6,227,770.00	\$ 2,234,135.00	\$ 1,744,780.00	\$ 1,837,840.00	\$ 15,335,720.00
Construction Inspection =	\$ 1,870,644.00	\$ 2,371,656.00	\$ 1,271,778.00	\$ 1,157,033.00	\$ 2,406,558.00	\$ 2,016,478.50	\$ 11,094,147.50
Utility Relocation =	\$ 624,000.00	\$ 525,000.00	\$ 424,000.00	\$ 386,000.00	\$ 803,000.00	\$ 673,000.00	\$ 3,435,000.00
Total =	\$ 19,109,304.00	\$ 22,506,121.00	\$ 63,813,638.00	\$ 33,709,738.00	\$ 23,805,058.00	\$ 24,262,428.50	\$ 187,206,287.50

HOW TO COMMENT

- Comments will be accepted for 30 days following the meeting:
May 14, 2021
- Comment forms available at the project website (<https://www.laportecorridor.com/>), the City Building (801 Michigan Avenue, La Porte, IN 46350), and the County Complex (809 State St, La Porte, IN 46350)
- Comments can be emailed or mailed to Ruth Hook with Lochmueller Group, or dropped off at the City Building and County Complex
- Comments can also be submitted on the project website in the "Contact" section (<https://www.laportecorridor.com/>)

HOW TO STAY ENGAGED

- Visit the project website (<https://www.laportecorridor.com/>)
 - Provide a comment in the “Contact” section and you will be added to the email contact list
 - The recording of the April 13th meeting will be made available
 - Check back for updated mapping, project information, and announcements that will be posted

CONTACT

Comments or questions can be directed to Ruth Hook at any of the following:

- RHook@lochgroup.com
- 112 W Jefferson Blvd, Suite 500
South Bend, Indiana 46601
- 317.334.6816

