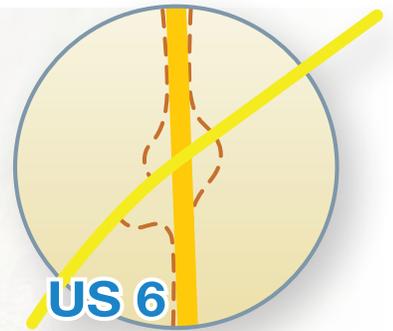


I-55 AT US ROUTE 6

IMPROVEMENT



pedestrian & bicyclist accommodations

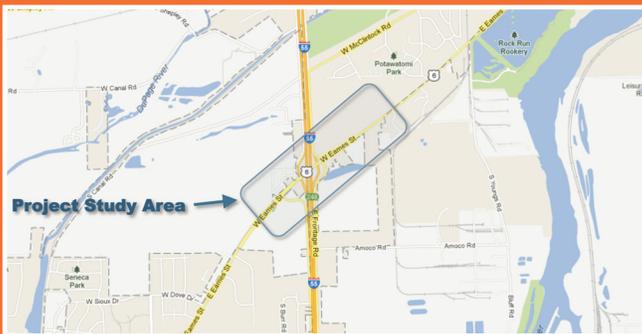
Project Background

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is currently engaged in preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I) for the improvement of Interstate 55 (I-55) at US Route 6 (Eames Street) in the Village of Channahon. This study expands on preliminary engineering and environmental studies (PHASE I) that were completed in 2001 of US Route 6 from the Will/Grundy County Line to US Route 52.

As part of the current analysis, the study team has evaluated the transportation needs of residents, visitors, and businesses using US Route 6 and its interchange with I-55, as well as re-evaluated the 2001 recommended improvements to US Route 6 within the study area. **In addition, the study team has reviewed current and future capacity needs, the condition of the pavement and bridge, safety and mobility needs of vehicular and non-vehicular traffic in the area, and the finalization of the frontage road locations.** Through these tasks, the study team has developed a preferred alternative, consisting of the reconstruction of US Route 6 to provide two lanes in each direction; a curbed median; relocation of the frontage roads in the northwest, northeast, and southeast quadrants; and pedestrian and bicyclist accommodations.

While this project is not currently included in IDOT's Fiscal Year 2013 - 2018 Proposed Multi-Modal Transportation Improvement Program, it will be included in IDOT's priorities for future funding consideration, among similar improvement needs throughout the region.

PROJECT LOCATION



The study area along US Route 6 begins just west of the interchange of I-55 and US Route 6 and extends to the east for a distance of approximately one mile within the Channahon Village limits. It also includes undeveloped properties in northwest, northeast, and southeast quadrants of the interchange, where alternative frontage road alignments will be evaluated.



condition of pavement and bridge

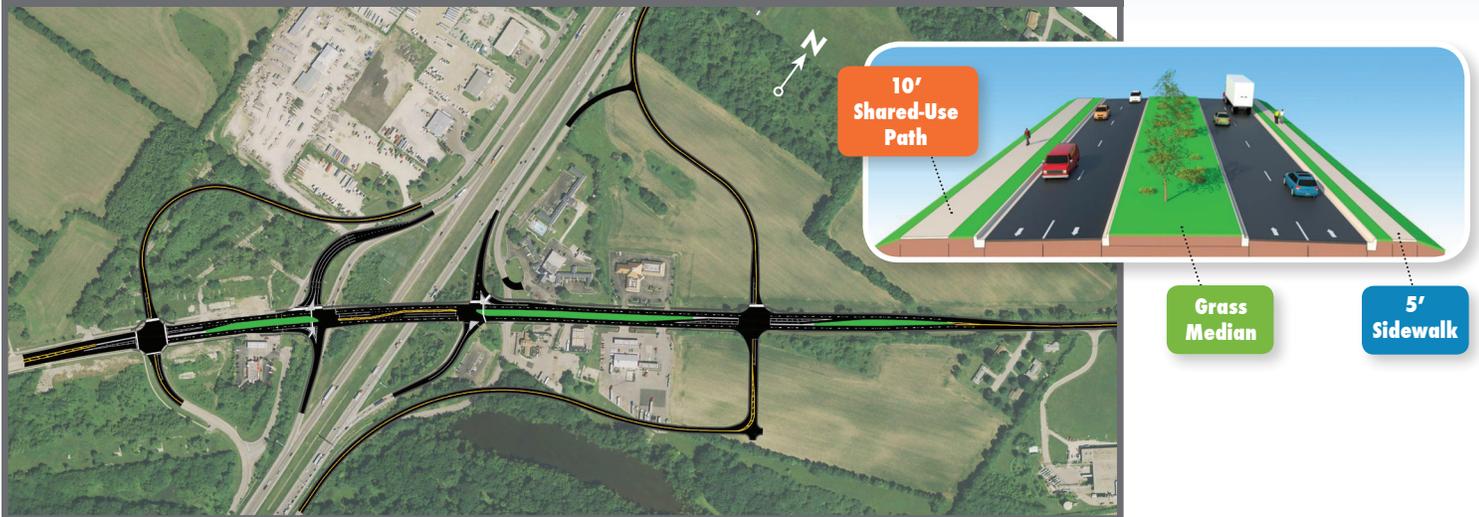
Study Process

IDOT projects typically include three “phases” in their overall development. Phase I consists of preliminary engineering and environmental studies. It involves an analysis of existing and future conditions and the development of improvement alternatives. A Phase I study concludes with design approval for the preferred alternative. This project is nearing the completion of Phase I, which is anticipated in the summer of 2013.

Following Design Approval, and after funding is identified, Phase II, or contract plan development and land acquisition, begins. Phase III, or the actual construction of the project, will commence once construction funding is identified and secured.



PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE



Public Involvement

In an effort to gain a local, on-the-ground understanding of the study area and the issues important to stakeholders, the study team developed a public outreach program. It consists of meetings with affected property owners and the Village of Channahon, project factsheets, and a presentation of materials at a Public Hearing. These tools help to create on-going opportunities for an open dialogue between the study team and stakeholders. The program ultimately assists the team in the collection of data and encouraging a discussion of specific issues and concerns.

What is Next?

Following the April 17, 2013 public hearing, the study team will refine the proposed alternative based on feedback received and will finalize the detailed and technical studies. These steps will contribute to the preparation of the Final Design Report and Design Approval, anticipated in mid-2013.

Comments received by Friday, May 17, 2013 will become part of the public record for this hearing.

Please Send Written Comments to:
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Bureau of Programming
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Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096
Email: US6@pbworld.com