



**Meeting #5**  
**October 26, 2016**  
**North Dearborn Branch Library**  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

**Advisory Committee Members:**

Mr. Kevin Lynch, Chair, Dearborn County Commissioner  
Mr. Todd Listerman, Dearborn County Engineer  
Ms. Liz Morris, Dearborn County Councilmember  
Mr. Mark McCormack, Dearborn County Plan Commission  
Mr. Eric Kranz, Dearborn County Chamber of Commerce  
Mr. David Lusby, Chief Deputy, representing Michael Kreinhop, Dearborn County Sheriff  
Ms. Jennifer Hughes, Dearborn County Soil & Water Conservation District  
Mr. Jim Ude, INDOT – Seymour District  
Mr. Greg Gronwall, Bright Area Business Association  
Mr. William Hursong, City of Harrison Fire Chief  
Mr. John Stenger, Resident-at-Large  
Ms. Cari Vuko, Southeast Indiana Workforce Investment Board  
Dr. Andrew Jackson, Sunman-Dearborn School District

**Study Team:**

Mr. Mark Policinski, OKI, CEO/Executive Director  
Ms. Robyn Bancroft, OKI Project Manager  
Ms. Karen Whitaker, OKI Project Administrator  
Ms. Ashley Patrick, OKI Communications Specialist  
Mr. Dave Wormald, AECOM, Project Manager  
Mr. Gary Mroczka, AECOM  
Ms. Pegi Yocom, AECOM

**Media:**

Ms. Denise Freitag Burdill, Register  
Ms. Celeste Calvitto, The Beacon Newspaper

**Guests:**

27 residents were in attendance

**Welcome and Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Kevin Lynch, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the fifth and final meeting of the Advisory Committee. He also welcomed the members of the public who were in attendance and reminded everyone that this was a working meeting of the Advisory Committee. He stated that the public was welcome to listen in, however guests would not be permitted to ask questions or make comments during the meeting. He explained that as time permits, after the meeting adjourned the committee would be open to hear public comment. He explained that if residents wish to speak after the meeting, they were requested to print their name on a request sheet and they would be given 2 minutes to make their comment.

Mr. Lynch asked if there were any changes to the minutes of the August 17, 2016 meeting. There being none, Liz Morris moved to approve the minutes as written. Greg Gronwall seconded the motion; motion carried.

**Study Purpose and Scope/Final Public Comment Period Summary**

Ms. Robyn Bancroft reminded the committee of the study scope and purpose. She highlighted the survey results. A full report was posted on the study website. She reported that 568 surveys were received. 70% of the respondents live in the Bright 74 Study Area. Ms. Bancroft explained that prior to the last public meeting, Concepts 2, 3 and 4 were removed from further consideration. Public Meeting #3 focused on Concept 1. The components of Concept 1 include Whites Hill Improvements, North Dearborn Improvements and maintenance. The survey also asked whether roundabouts should be publicly reviewed and considered as a possible, future intersection design solution and whether there should be consideration of a future local funding increase to in part implement the recommendations of the study. In addition, 46% of survey takers shared comments. Common themes to the comments included: fix, repair, maintain, improve, etc. existing roads; no need for study, disagree with everything leave area alone, not needed, etc.; don't widen was often accompanied by concerns such as proximity of road to homes and the safety of families and children, increased taxes, negative impact to properties, negative impact to rural quality of life, increased vehicle speeds and/or traffic, increased commercialization of the area; and do not support installation of roundabouts.

Mr. John Stenger commented that it's hard for County Engineer Todd Listerman to maintain the roads without affecting someone. He pointed out how often comments were made about sight obstructions. Ms. Bancroft stated that the maintenance recommendation includes consideration of a systematic field inventory of existing conditions to identify site specific maintenance needs.

Mr. Mark McCormack stated that he was surprised at the survey comments because they differ from what he is hearing at the Planning and Zoning meetings. At the planning meetings, the

public has said that the roads are not safe or wide enough to accommodate vehicles and farm equipment.

### **Study Documents**

Ms. Bancroft reported that study documents have been posted to the website as they have been developed. The final report will be posted in November after it is completed following the Advisory Committee meeting.

Mr. Wormald thanked the Advisory Committee for their participation. He explained that the study team has garnered a lot of information about the study area. The recommendations that have been developed will help the County Engineer move forward. The recommendations have been broken into short-term and long-term (perhaps 10-20 years). He pointed out that the study team did not conduct a detailed field inventory of existing conditions on a parcel-by-parcel basis—that would be the next step. He explained that some deficiencies or maintenance items were noted during field reviews and received through public and Advisory Committee comments.

Mr. Wormald discussed the short-term recommendation for maintenance of the existing North Dearborn and Whites Hill roads, including:

- Address drainage and slippage
- Repair, replace or add guardrail as needed
- Widen shoulders where possible
- Remove roadside obstructions
- Add lighting at key intersections
- Add mailbox turnouts
- Improve signage

Mr. Wormald stated that the study also recommends long-term improvements to North Dearborn Road and Whites Hill Road to address geometric deficiencies by providing shoulders, flattening grades and smoothing vertical and horizontal curves. He explained that Whites Hill and North Dearborn Roads serve as the primary route between Bright and the I-74 Harrison/Brookville interchange. The final recommendations are intended improve safety and travel time while minimizing cost and environmental impacts compared with potential new facilities evaluated as part of the study. The improvements would be likely phased into multiple individual projects with a total an estimated cost of \$16 million in 2016 dollars.

Mr. Wormald also discussed the long-term recommendations that would be implemented by INDOT on the state highway system or interstate 74 within the study area, including:

- Replacement of the SR 46 bridge over Whitewater River
- Improve sight distance on US 52 south of the SR 46 intersection
- Improve sight distance on SR 46 west of the Whites Hill Road intersection

- Improve geometry and sight distance on the I-74 eastbound ramps at the Harrison/Brookville Interchange.

Mr. Wormald stated that there are also a few long-term, county-wide recommendations, including:

- Develop sustained mapping program of crash data on county and local roadways to assist with prioritization of potential roadway improvements.
- Inventory and study of other interstate connections including North Dearborn Road west of Whites Hill Road, Jamison Road, North Dearborn Road east of State Line Road and Sand Run Road. This recommendation is the result of Advisory Committee feedback regarding the use by residents of other interstate interchanges in addition to the Harrison/Brookville exit.
- Monitor implementation of roundabouts in the area and share information with the public.
- Conduct inventory of dedicated rights-of-way along County roads to identify potential future right-of-way needs.

Mr. Mark McCormack commented that Dearborn County Planning and Zoning can map the crash data. Moving forward from this project, they will work with available County resources to provide this information in the future. Similarly, , they will work to inventory existing rights of way and work to identify potentially needed right of way in the future.

Mr. Greg Gronwall moved for consensus from the Advisory Committee on the recommendations, as presented, to be included in the Bright 74 Study's Final Report. Mr. Eric Kranz seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. McCormack commented that this project has been on the shelf for a long time. It was originally estimated that an improvement would cost approximately \$50 million or more, however, the County is now looking at an estimated total of about \$25 million, this gives them something to work with.

Mr. Lynch pointed out that the priorities of the community may change over time, particularly with the new port coming into the County. He commented that the study was a good exercise, no matter the outcome.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Lynch reminded everyone that the Final Report will be posted to the website in November and OKI will send out an email notice at that time to Advisory Committee members, alternates and the over 500 members of the public who have shared their addresses during the course of the study. He thanked the committee for their time and invaluable input. He stated that the County has never done a large study like this and it was a great learning experience.

Superintendent Jackson moved to adjourn the meeting. John Stenger seconded the motion; motion carried. The meeting concluded at 6:47 p.m.

Following the conclusion of the Advisory Committee, public comment was received from:

Al Powell  
Greg Vollmer  
Jimmie Price  
Melissa Dennis  
Brian DeBruler  
Ben Witt  
T.R. Christman  
Tom Jacobs

klw