

Bright 74 Public Comment Survey In A Nutshell: Disagree And Unimportant

Posted On October 24, 2016

Share This:  

By Mike Perleberg



<https://eaglecountryonline.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/bright-74-study-06232016.jpg>

File photo.

(Bright, Ind.) – Results of the Bright 74 Study's final round of public comment shows most citizens want little to nothing done to improve local roads.

The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments released on Friday a summary of 568 surveys taken during a recent 30-day comment period that began with the third and final study open house **on September 14** (<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/bright-74-study-recommendations-reduced-to-existing-roads-opponents-air-grievances/>). The surveys include those submitted online, at the open house, and at the local library.

The study began earlier this year with four concepts, three of which included the construction of new roads to improve travel time between Bright and the Interstate 74 exit in West Harrison and open new land for development. As it became apparent there was no appetite – **and, in fact, outright opposition** (<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/online-opposition-forming-to-bright-74-study/>) – for a new connector road, OKI project managers began to look toward the forth concept: improve existing roads.

The roads identified for improvements with wider lanes, easier curves and slopes, and safer intersections included North Dearborn Road and Whites Hill Road

OKI plans to issue its final report and recommendation in November.

According to the new 20-page public comment summary, 54 percent of the respondents said that enhanced maintenance of existing roads is unimportant to them. Thirty-nine percent said that it was important and seven percent replied “not sure”.

Disapproval of the study was even more apparent when the question asked specifically about improvements to North Dearborn Road or Whites Hill Road. “Unimportant” was the response of 74 percent of survey-takers on the questions of each road. Less than 20 percent said improvements to the two roads were important.

The survey also gauged the interest of Dearborn County residents in roundabouts. However, it doesn’t appear many are in favor, with 82 percent of the respondents disagreeing when asked if they support further public review and future consideration of roundabouts. Twelve percent agreed while six percent were not sure. More than 85 percent disagree with the consideration of a roundabouts specifically at the intersections of North Dearborn Road at either Whites Hill Road or Stateline Road.

On the question of supporting a local funding increase – potentially a tax increase – to help pay for the Bright 74 Study’s study recommendations, 82 percent disagreed.

Of the 568 surveys, 262 included written comments. General themes identified in those writings included “no need for study, disagree with everything, leave area alone, not needed, etc.” or “don’t widen” roads. Perhaps contrary to the 54 percent rating enhanced maintenance as unimportant, many of the comments had a theme of asking for the fixing, repairing, maintaining, or improvement of existing roads.

The summary also includes mention of a Change.org petition in opposition to the Bright 74 Study. The petition stating in part “Bright Indiana residents and surrounding residents do not want a connector road built to save 4 minutes of travel time to Harrison Ohio” had 1,063 online signatures and 462 comments at the time a paper copy was presented to OKI and Dearborn County officials at the September 14 open house.

Seventy percent of the survey takers are residents of the Bright 74 Study area, 20 percent reside outside of the study area but within Dearborn County, and the remaining minority are split between Lawrenceburg, Harrison, and elsewhere.

The full public summary is available online at [bright74.oki.org](http://bright74.oki.org/phase-3-alternatives-and-recommendation/) (<http://bright74.oki.org/phase-3-alternatives-and-recommendation/>).

RELATED STORIES:

Bright 74 Study Recommendations Reduced To Existing Roads:
Opponents Air Grievances (<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/bright-74-study-recommendations-reduced-to-existing-roads-opponents-air-grievances/>)

AUDIO: Commissioner, OKI Address Bright 74 Study Opponents' Qualms
(<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/audio-commissioner-ok-address-bright-74-study-opponents-qualms/>)

Final Bright 74 Study Open House Takes Place Sept. 14
(<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/final-bright-74-study-open-house-takes-place-sept-14/>)

Take A New Road? Concepts Revealed At Second Bright 74 Study Open House (<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/take-a-new-road-concepts-revealed-at-second-bright-74-study-open-house/>)

Bright 74 Study Survey Results Revealed; Next Open House June 22
(<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/bright-74-study-survey-results-revealed-next-open-house-june-22/>)

Bright 74 Study: Does Area Have Transportation Problem? Take A Survey (<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/bright-74-study-does-area-have-transportation-problem-take-a-survey/>)

Committee Formed For Bright 74 Study
(<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/committee-formed-for-bright-74-study/>)

Funding Approved For Bright-To-I-74 Connector Road Study
(<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/funding-approved-bright-74-connector-road-study/>)

OKI Plan Recommends Bright-To-I-74 Connector Road
(<http://eaglecountryonline.com/local-article/oki-plan-recommends-bright-74-connector-road/>)



Add a comment...



John Watson

I believe the disparity in those saying that don't want improved maintenance but want better roads comes from terminology. OKI used "improve" to mean widening, adding shoulders etc. Many seem to have said they don't want this. They want enhanced MAINTENANCE of existing roads. I took "improve existing roads" to mean enhance maintenance at first. It is confusing language. In General the comments are maintain what is already here. Dont spend money making two roads wider or adding a connector while existing roads are sliding over hills and full of potholes.

Like · Reply ·  1 · 33 mins



© 2016 Wagon Wheel Broadcasting. (<http://eaglecountryonline.com/>) All rights reserved

Eagle Country 99.3 | 20 East High Street | Lawrenceburg, Indiana 47025

Business Phone 812-537-0944 | Studio Toll Free 888-537-9724 | Fax 812-537-5735

EEO Public File (<http://eaglecountryonline.com/eeo-report/>)