

Public Notice
Des. No. 1700500

Porter County is planning to undertake a roadway extension project of Willowcreek Road, funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The project is located in Porter County, Indiana beginning at US 30 and extending north to the intersection of Willowcreek Road and County Road (CR) 700 N.

Under the preliminary preferred alternative, the typical roadway section would consist of two 12-foot-wide travel lanes (one northbound and one southbound) with 10-foot-wide paved shoulders, a 10-foot-wide multi-use path, and a combination of open shoulders, curb and gutter, enclosed storm sewer, and roadside ditches. Intersection improvements would occur at CR 600 N, CR 700 N, SR 130, CR 450 N, CR 350 N, and US 30, including roadway widening and new traffic signals. A new bridge crossing over State Road (SR) 130, Chicago, Fort Wayne & Eastern Railroad, and Norfolk Southern Railroad would eliminate the existing at-grade railroad crossing on Jones Road. A new bridge crossing is also proposed over the Canadian National Railroad located immediately south of CR 350 N. It is anticipated that work to complete the project would require the acquisition of approximately 72.54 acres of new permanent right-of-way and approximately 11.74 acres of temporary right-of-way. Additionally, three relocations will occur for the project.

Properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) located within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) include Nike Missile Site C47 (NR-1421), Union Township School (IHSSI No. 127-520-36008), Wheeler Methodist Episcopal Church (IHSSI No. 127-520-36006), House at 105 North Street (IHSSI No. 127-520-36003), Hoosier's Nest (IHSSI No. 127-520-35006), and Crisman Farmstead. In addition, archaeological sites 12PR830, 12PR858, and 12PR865 are recommended potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register. The proposed action impacts properties listed in or eligible for the NRHP. The FHWA has issued an "Adverse Effect" finding for the project because the project may diminish the integrity of the characteristics that qualify the archaeological sites 12PR830, 12PR858, and 12PR865 for inclusion in the NRHP. The project was determined to have a "No Adverse Effect" on Nike Missile Site C47 (NR-1421), Union Township School, Wheeler Methodist Episcopal Church, House at 105 North Street, Hoosier's Nest, and Crisman Farmstead because it will not diminish the integrity of the characteristics that qualify them for inclusion in the NRHP. In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the views of the public are being sought regarding the effect of the proposed project on the historic elements as per 36 CFR 800.2(d), 800.3(e) and 800.6(a)(4). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(2), the documentation specified in 36 CFR 800.11(e) is available for inspection at American Structurepoint, Inc. Additionally, this documentation can be viewed electronically by accessing INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at <http://erms12c.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents>. This documentation serves as the basis for the "Adverse Effect" finding. The views of the public on this effect finding are being sought. Please reply with any comments to Meghan Hinkle, American Structurepoint, Inc., 9025 River Road, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46240, 317-547-5580, MHinkle@structurepoint.com no later than May 31, 2024.

In accordance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act", if you have a disability for which Porter County needs to provide accessibility to the document(s) such as interpreters or readers, please contact Meghan Hinkle, American Structurepoint, Inc., 9025 River Road, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46240, 317-547-5580, MHinkle@structurepoint.com.