

**LEGAL NOTICE
OF
PUBLIC HEARING**

The Putnam County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Wednesday February 17, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at the Putnam County Courthouse Annex Building located at 208 West Liberty Street, in Greencastle, Indiana.

The purpose of the public hearing is to afford all interested persons an opportunity to comment on the current plans for the proposed replacement of Putnam County Bridge No. 146 on CR 25 East over Big Walnut Creek (Des. No.9982480). The proposed project is located in the central portion of Putnam County in Greencastle Township approximately 2.0 miles northeast of the City of Greencastle. The purpose of the project is to replace the operationally obsolete and deteriorating structure over Big Walnut Creek and improve the overall safety of the roadway by constructing the new bridge and approach road on new alignment.

The project proposes to replace the existing single span steel truss bridge with a new structure on new alignment downstream from the existing bridge. The new bridge will be a three span (80'-0", 100'-0", 80'-0") continuous composite steel beam structure with concrete abutments, deck, and railing. The structure would be approximately 260'-0" (0.05 mile) in length with a clear roadway width of approximately 28'-0".

The approach roadway would consist of two 10'-0" travel lanes with 3'-0" shoulders, 10'-0" of clear zone and a design speed of 40 mph. The reconstruction on CR 25 East on the south approach would begin approximately 634'-0" (0.12 mile) from the south end of the proposed structure. The new alignment will shift to the northwest and cross over Big Walnut Creek approximately 240'-0" (0.04 mile) downstream from the existing location. After crossing the stream channel, the alignment will continue north and merge with existing CR 25 East approximately 422'-0" (0.08 mile) from the north end of the proposed bridge. The total project length is approximately 0.25 mile. A maximum of 3:1 side slopes would be used. The proposed channel work would consist of removing the existing structure and shaping the channel to accommodate the new structure.

The proposed maximum right-of-way along CR 25 East would be approximately 170'-0". An estimated 4.7 acres of agricultural and forested area would be required for this project. The existing bridge structure and CR 25 North is currently closed to through traffic. During construction of the new bridge traffic would be maintained utilizing an established detour. The detour is 5.1 miles in length and utilizes North Arlington Street, Shadowlawn Road, US 231 and CR 200 North. The estimated cost of construction is \$1,897,500, with construction initiated in the 2010 construction season. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has found that Putnam County Bridge No. 146 is an outstanding example of a single-span Pratt thru truss bridge. The bridge demonstrates the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction and is important for the engineering significance at the local level. As such, the structure meets the criteria to be considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under the purview of Criterion C. In addition, no archaeological sites that could qualify for inclusion on the NRHP were located within the project area. On June 24, 2008 the FHWA determined that an "Adverse Effect" finding was appropriate for this project. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with appropriate stipulations as mitigation for the adverse effect was entered into by the FHWA, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and Putnam County. The MOA was signed and executed on June 29, 2009.

Individuals interested in participating in the public statement session may sign the speaker's schedule prior to the presentation. An area will be provided with comment sheets and a court recorder to take comments for the official record. All comments collected before, during and for a period of two (2) weeks after the hearing will be evaluated and addressed in the Final Engineers Assessment Report and the final Categorical Exclusion Environmental Document. Before and after the formal presentation, the plans will be available for anyone interested in talking to the engineers about the project. Conversations will not be part of the official record. The deadline for submitting comments will be March 3, 2010.

In accordance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act", if you have a disability for which Putnam County needs to provide accommodations, please call Mr. Brian Shaw, Beam, Longest and Neff at (317) 849-5832, bshaw@b-l-n.com by February 15, 2010.

Information on the project is available for viewing in the following offices:

1. Beam, Longest and Neff, 8126 Castleton Road; Indianapolis, Indiana 46250, Phone # (317) 849-5832
2. Putnam County Highway Supervisor, Mr. Jim Smith at 1624 West CR 225 South Greencastle, Indiana 46135 Phone # (765) 653-4714.

This notice is published in compliance with Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 771.111(h) entitled, "Early Coordination, Public Involvement and Project Development," and the Indiana Public Involvement/Public Hearing Procedures for Federal-Aid Project Development approved by the FHWA, U.S. Department of Transportation on April 1, 2009.

WINTER WEATHER NOTICE

This meeting will be rescheduled at a later date if hazardous winter weather conditions arise. Please contact Beam, Longest and Neff at (317) 849-5832 to find out whether the meeting will be held or postponed.

PUTNAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Jim Smith, Putnam County Highway Supervisor
1624 West CR 225 South, Greencastle Indiana 46250
Phone (765) 653-4714.