



First I-69 ORX Open House Held in Henderson

A second open house will be held Thursday in Evansville

HENDERSON, Ky. (April 18, 2017) – The first of two open houses for the I-69 Ohio River Crossing (I-69 ORX) was held this evening in Henderson. Members of the community were invited to attend the open house at the Preston Fine Arts Center at Henderson Community College. The event included a presentation from the project team.

A second open house will be held Thursday, April 20 in Evansville. It's 5 – 7 p.m. at Cedar Hall Community School, 2100 N. Fulton Ave. A project presentation is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. The rest of the event is an open house format, with several information stations, including one for the bi-state FixFor41 project scheduled to begin in early May.

Attendees at both events have the opportunity to talk one-on-one with leaders of the I-69 ORX team, hear more about the project and ask questions.

"It's exciting to meet with members of the community and hear their input as work begins on the I-69 Ohio River Crossing Project," said Janelle Lemon, Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) project manager. "Getting that feedback is an important and valuable part of this project, and will help guide the work of our team."

On June 30, 2016, then-Indiana Gov. Mike Pence and Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin signed a memorandum of understanding directing both states to develop the federally-required Environmental Impact Statement for an I-69 Ohio River Crossing.

The study is expected to take 2-3 years to complete and will identify the route, bridge location and financing solutions for a new I-69 Ohio River Crossing. The study will include analysis of reasonable alternatives, public involvement and coordination and consultation with numerous agencies and local officials.

Parsons Transportation Group is overseeing the environmental study, required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

“This study is an important first step toward completing the I-69 connection between our states,” said Marshall Carrier, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) project manager. “An I-69 crossing will reduce congestion for cross-river traffic, improve safety for drivers and address long-term cross-river mobility needs for the region.”

The open house included a short presentation from the Project Team to provide an overview of the project, a discussion of broad alternatives identified to date and a timeline for the I-69 ORX Project.

The five broad alternatives identified include two west corridor routes at and near US 41, two central corridor options and an east corridor path. “It’s important to note that these alternatives are based on previous studies and represent reasonable alternatives,” said Steve Nicaise, Parsons project manager. “Each will be assessed based on a number of factors, and the screening process could result in some corridors being dismissed early in the process.”

Broad alternatives will be assessed based on meeting the purpose and need of the project; potential impacts to homes, businesses and natural resources; cost; traffic data and other factors.

A short list of alternatives is expected this summer, when a second round of open houses will be held. A preferred alternative will be identified and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement is expected in summer/fall 2018. Public hearings will follow. A Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision (ROD) are expected in late 2019. The ROD allows the states, with the help of available federal funds, to move forward with design, land purchases and construction.

Project Offices Open

As work begins on the I-69 ORX Project, project information centers are open on each side of the river. A project representative is available during office hours, and a variety of handouts and information are available. Identical materials, including handouts and displays from the open houses, are located at each office.

Evansville Project Office

320 Eagle Crest Dr., Ste. C
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Henderson Project Office

1970 Barrett Ct., Ste. 100
Wednesday and Friday

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Members of the community can reach either project office by calling 888-515-9756. There are a number of other ways to follow project progress, ask questions and offer feedback.

- Find project information online at www.I69ohiorivercrossing.com.
- Sign up for project e-newsletters on the website.
- Receive project text alerts by texting ORX to 33222.
- Email questions and comments to info@I69ohiorivercrossing.com.

Information and updates are also provided on social media, Facebook ([I-69 Ohio River Crossing](#)) and Twitter ([@I69ORX](#)).

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Indiana and Kentucky are committed to improving the I-69 corridor by creating an I-69 Ohio River Crossing between Evansville and Henderson. The states have reinitiated a study of the I-69 corridor, required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The study is expected to take 2-3 years, and will identify the route, bridge location and financing solutions for a new I-69 Ohio River Crossing. Find more information at www.I69ohiorivercrossing.com.

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