



OHIO RIVER CROSSING

Indiana and Kentucky are committed to improving the I-69 corridor by creating an I-69 Ohio River crossing between Evansville and Henderson.

A Project Update: Single Preferred Alternative - Central Alternative 1B Modified



I-69: A New Interstate Connection

- When complete, I-69 will serve as a new north-south interstate from Canada to Mexico
- IN: Work is underway on the final section of I-69 from Martinsville to Indianapolis
- KY: Upgraded 100+ miles of parkway with 126 miles of I-69 in place

Purpose and Need

- Complete the I-69 connection between Indiana and Kentucky
- Develop a solution to address long-term cross-river mobility
- Provide a cross-river connection to reduce congestion and delay
- Improve safety for cross-river traffic

What's Been Happening

- All comments have been considered
- Additional analysis and value engineering
- Identifying a single preferred alternative
- IN and KY identifying a financial path forward

Single Preferred Alternative: Central Alternative 1B Modified

Like Central Alternatives 1A and 1B, which were identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) as the preferred alternatives, **Central Alternative 1B Modified** includes a four-lane I-69 bridge and retains one US 41 bridge for local traffic. Only the I-69 bridge will be tolled.

It includes 11.2 miles of new interstate, including 8.4 miles on new terrain and 2.8 miles of upgrades to US 41. The alignment of I-69 is unchanged from the DEIS. It's "Modified" because additional design work has resulted in modifications to each of the interchanges to improve operations and reduce project costs.

Basis for Selection

Central Alternative 1B Modified was identified as the Selected Alternative for the following reasons:

- It provides acceptable cross-river capacity for future traffic demands in a fiscally responsible manner.
- It reduces economic impacts to traffic-dependent businesses along the US 41 commercial strip and to local users who regularly cross the Ohio River by keeping the US 41 bridge toll free.
- Additional information on this decision is available on the project website: I69OhioRiverCrossing.com/project-documents.

Refinements to the Preferred Alternative



KY 351 Interchange

- New roundabouts at the ramp intersections and at the KY 351 / KY 2084 intersection
- Improves safety and reliability of interchange
- Direct ramps to KY 2084 closed to improve safety
- Gateway opportunities for Henderson

US 41 Interchange

I-69 ORX will be constructed in two sections. See the back of this handout for additional details.



- Realign Kimsey Lane
- Direct, free-flow access to US 41 commercial corridor maintained
- Merrill Way Trail extended



- Interchange modified with completion of Ohio River bridge and connection to I-69 in Indiana
- Supports local development goals

US 60 Interchange

- Improves access to NE quadrant of interchange and Tillman Bethel Road
- Extends 5-lane urban roadway through interchange

Stormwater Detention Basin

- Addresses project stormwater needs and existing downstream flooding concerns
- Provides fill material for construction

Veterans Memorial Parkway Interchange

- More direct connection for traffic from downtown Evansville

What to Expect

Comment Period

Your feedback is requested on the identification of Central Alternative 1B Modified as the single preferred alternative. Comments will be accepted until **April 16, 2021** and can be received by phone, by email and by mail.



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FEIS/ROD

The combined Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) are expected this fall. The Project Team will publish the FEIS identifying the selected alternative and receive a ROD from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The ROD signifies final approval of the selected alternative.

ORX Sections 1 and 2

I-69 ORX is divided into two sections for construction. The project study area remains the same. I-69 ORX Section 1 focuses on improvements in Henderson and extends from KY 425 to US 60. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is overseeing the project.

I-69 ORX Section 2 is a bistate project between Indiana and Kentucky that will complete the I-69 connection from US 60 in Henderson to I-69 in Evansville. It includes the new 4-lane river crossing.

ORX Section 1	ORX Section 2
2020 Design	2025 Design
2021 Right of Way and Utilities Coordination	2026 Right of Way and Utilities Coordination
2022-2025 Construction	2027-2031 Construction
Estimated Cost: \$237 million (Year of Expenditure)	Estimated Cost: \$975 million (Year of Expenditure)

NEXT STEPS

- FEIS and ROD expected in fall 2021
- Initial financial plan and project management plan developed
- Construction of Section 1 to begin in 2022
- States will seek opportunities to accelerate Section 2 timeline



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