



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / Region 3 / District 4
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111
Telephone 309/671-3333

July 8, 2008

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES & PLANS - Eastern Bypass Study
From Illinois 6 near Mossville, to Interstate 74 near Morton
Peoria, Woodford, and Tazewell Counties

The Honorable R. Dave Tebben
Mayor, City of Pekin
111 S. Capitol Street
Pekin, IL 61554

Dear Mayor Tebben:

The Illinois Department of Transportation has scheduled a Public "Kickoff" Meeting for the Eastern Bypass Study. This project would connect Illinois Route 6, near Mossville, to Interstate 74, near Morton, a distance of approximately 20 to 25 miles. The meeting is being held to introduce the project to the public, to describe the study elements, and to answer questions and receive comments.

This meeting is scheduled for Tuesday July 29, 2008, from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Countryside Banquet Facility in Washington, Illinois. Enclosed is a copy of the newsletter we have prepared for this meeting, which gives more information concerning the project and public participation. Advertisements announcing the meeting will be published in local newspapers beginning this week.

If you have any questions regarding the project or the scheduled kickoff meeting, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Mike Lewis at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph E. Crowe".

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways,
Region Three Engineer

PAG:kme

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Enclosure

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)

Eastern Bypass Study

NEWSLETTER

Edition No. 1

July 2008

IDOT Begins New Study for Eastern Bypass

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has begun a new study of an eastern bypass in the tri-county area. This study will begin with determining a corridor location for a highway intended to join Illinois Route 6 with Interstate 74, north and east of Peoria (see the map below).



The Eastern Bypass Study has been divided into two phases:

A Corridor Phase - Before determining where a highway should be built, it is necessary to select the general area where it should be located. This general area is called a corridor. A corridor is many times wider than a highway. This phase will help decide the location of the corridor. It will answer questions like, "Should it be north or south of Spring Bay?" and/or "Would it be best to be east or west of Washington?"

An Alignment Phase - After a corridor is selected, then the Alignment Phase will begin to determine the exact location of a new highway within the selected corridor. Studies including both positive and negative effects of a final alignment will then be used to make a "Build" or "No-Build" decision.

A Context Sensitive Solutions Project

IDOT's mission has always been to provide safe and effective

transportation facilities for the people of Illinois. Today, that mission also includes a greater emphasis on preserving or enhancing what are known as "quality of life" elements by using a technique called "Context Sensitive Solutions" (CSS).

Our goal is to create transportation projects that not only address safety and mobility but which also seek to preserve or enhance the scenic, economic, historic, and natural qualities of the area. It is only by working closely with area residents, however, that we can fully understand the unique and valued aspects of the project area's environment and communities. With this knowledge in hand, creative and flexible designs can be developed that are sensitive to those valued qualities.

The Community Advisory Group

An important part of the Eastern Bypass Study and CSS is extensive participation of the public in the study process. One highlight of our public involvement plan is the creation of a Community Advisory Group (CAG). The main purpose of the CAG will be to function as a pipeline or liaison between IDOT and the broader community. This ensures that the mood and opinions of the broader public are shared with the IDOT project team, and that information developed by the project team is distributed throughout the broader public.

The CAG will consist of volunteers who represent a wide variety of community interests ... groups such as homeowners' associations, local chambers of commerce, agricultural interests, environmental groups, and others with a stake in the outcome of the study. Please attend the July 29 meeting to learn how you could become a member of the CAG, or contact us at the address below.

**For more information
please contact:**

**Mr. Eric Therkildsen, P.E.,
Illinois Department of Transportation, District 4
401 Main Street
Peoria, IL 61602**

Phone: (309) 671-3333 Fax: (309) 671-3498

or visit our web site: www.easternbypass.com

Eastern Bypass Study

Illinois Department of Transportation
401 Main Street
Peoria, IL 61602

Eastern Bypass Study NEWSLETTER

Study "Kickoff" Meeting Scheduled

As a beginning step in the Eastern Bypass Study, IDOT will hold a public "kickoff" meeting on Tuesday, July 29 at the Countryside Banquet Facility, in Washington. The meeting has several objectives:

- make the community aware that IDOT is starting a study to locate a corridor for an eastern bypass
- explain the project and its Corridor Study
- receive questions and comments about the project
- ask for volunteers to serve on the study's Community Advisory Group

The meeting will run from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. and will be conducted in an open house format. Individuals are welcome to attend at any time to informally discuss the study with members of IDOT's project team.

At least twice during the open house a short presentation will be given to outline details of the study in a more formal manner. We expect the presentations to take place at approximately 4:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the Eastern Bypass Study.

Please join us on July 29th.

Study "Kickoff" Meeting

Countryside Banquet Facility
659 School St., Washington, IL

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Formal Presentations at
4:00 pm and 6:00 pm

