



Illinois 83/137 Study

www.IL83andIL137.org

Winter 2012



Overview

IDOT is studying potential improvements to 11 miles of IL 83 (Milwaukee Avenue/Barron Boulevard) and IL 137 (Buckley Road) in Lake County.

In this region, IL 83 and IL 137 serve as a main north-south corridor. IDOT has initiated this study because of the importance of these roadways in servicing the local and regional traffic. IL 83 and IL 137 carry between 15,000 and 23,000 vehicles per day in the study limits. These traffic volumes are expected to increase due to continual growth and development in Lake County.

Planning Process

IDOT develops and implements projects using a three-step process:

- ▶ **Phase I:** Preliminary engineering and environmental studies
- ▶ **Phase II:** Contract plan preparation and land acquisition
- ▶ **Phase III:** Construction

The IL 83/IL 137 Study is currently in Phase I. This phase is anticipated to be complete in Summer 2015. Funding for preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I) has been identified in the Department's Fiscal Year 2012-2017 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. Funding beyond this Phase I study is not currently included in the Department's Multiyear Program, but will be considered in future Programs based on fund availability and project readiness.

Location



Website

www.IL83andIL137.org

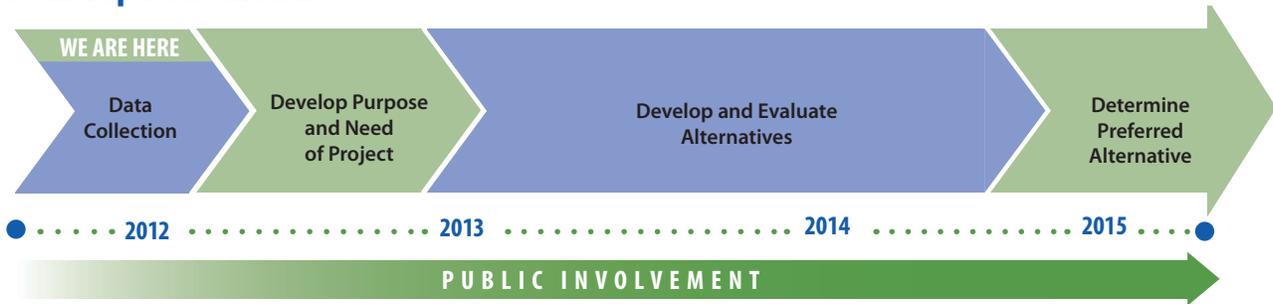
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Phase I - Anticipated Schedule

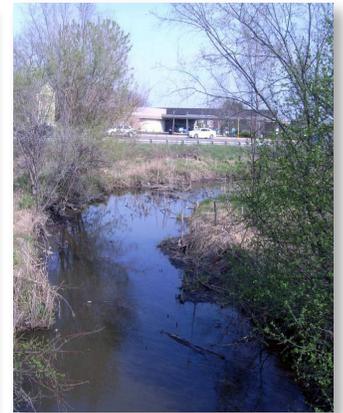


Phase I: Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies

During this phase, IDOT studies a broad range of alternatives, including a “no build” option, to improve IL 83/IL 137 in the study area. IDOT also conducts environmental analysis to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The study team will collect information, analyze the alternatives and identify potential effects to study area resources. The results of these studies are anticipated to be presented in an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Combined Design Report.

Context Sensitive Solutions

A key planning tool for this project will be a public involvement program based upon the principles of Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS). CSS is an



interdisciplinary approach that seeks effective, multimodal transportation solutions by working with stakeholders to develop, build and maintain cost-effective transportation facilities which fit into and reflect the project’s surroundings (its “context”). Through early, frequent, and meaningful communication with stakeholders and a flexible, creative approach to design, the resulting project should improve safety and mobility for the traveling public while seeking to preserve and enhance the scenic, economic, historic, and natural qualities of the settings through which they pass. CSS stakeholder activities will include Community Advisory Group (CAG) meetings, meetings with special interest groups, and Public Meetings as well as a Public Hearing. All input will be evaluated and used to help shape viable solutions.

Local Officials and Agency Partners

The study involves coordination with local, state and federal resource agencies. Agency meetings and briefings will be held throughout the study to keep agencies up-to-date with the latest study information.

Get Involved

Your participation and input are important to the success of the project. The project includes multiple opportunities to get involved:

- ▶ Visit the study website at: **www.IL83andIL137.org**
- ▶ Join our mailing list
- ▶ Submit comments
- ▶ Attend a public meeting
- ▶ Volunteer to be on the Community Advisory Group

We value your input and look forward to your participation.