Project Study Schedule

PROJECT MILESTONES

- Establish Problem Statement, Identify Deficiencies
- Develop Purpose and Need
- Identify Possible Alternatives
- Evaluate and Screen Alternative
- Preferred Alternative
- Environmental and Engineering Report
- Design Approval

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Public Meeting #1 (June 2011)
  - Overview of study process
  - Solicit issues and concerns
  - Present public involvement opportunities

- Public Meeting #2 (Nov. 2012)
  - Present project Purpose & Need
  - Review the alternative evaluation process
  - Display the Alternatives to be Carried Forward
  - Solicit public input

- Public Hearing (Winter/Spring 2015)
  - Present Preferred Alternative
  - Present environmental report
  - Solicit public input

We Are Here

CAG Meeting Schedule

NEPA Meeting Schedule

January 15, 2015

Illinois Department of Transportation
Illinois Route 31 • Route 176 to Route 120
### Watersheds and Streams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watershed</th>
<th>Square Miles</th>
<th>Lane Miles of Watershed within IL 31 Corridor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boone Creek</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Fox River</td>
<td>1,278</td>
<td>3.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleepy Hollow Creek</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver Creek</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Map of Watersheds and Streams](image-url)
Watersheds and Streams

**General Watershed Goals**

- Protect/Restore Stream Corridor
- Restore/Protect Natural Areas/Wildlife Habitat
- Maintain/Protect Surface Water Quality
- Protect Groundwater Quality
- Reduce Flood Damage
Wetlands

- Delineation by INHS, 2011
- 37 wetland sites identified
- Wetland Quality:
  » FQI ranged from 1.8 to 20.1
  » One wetland with FQI > 20 (Seep, Site 35)
- 7 ADID wetlands identified
- 2 Seeps identified
Minimizing Wetland Impacts

- Design modifications proposed to reduce environmental impacts:
  - Urban roadway section
  - Horizontal shift (to avoid seep wetland)
  - Median and lane width reductions
  - Retaining walls

- Median widths of 28’ and 18’ (River Birch to Ames)
  - Reducing median to 28’ from original width, along with lane widths to 11’, reduces wetland impact by 0.3 acres
  - Reducing median from 28’ to 18’ width has minimal reduction in impacts
Watershed Goals and BMPs

- **Goal: Protect/Maintain Water Quality**
  - Filter Strip
  - Vegetated Swale
  - Meander Squaw Creek

- **Goal: Restore/Protect Wildlife/Aquatic Habitat**
  - Wildlife Crossings
  - Natural Bottom Culverts
  - Meander Squaw Creek

- **Goal: Protect Groundwater**
  - Vegetated Swale
  - Deicing BMPs
BMP: Natural Bottom Culverts

- Four locations; contain a natural streambed for fish and small animal passage
- Promoted by US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Typical condition of Section 404 permit

**Benefits:**
Supports fish passage, preserves natural streambed, terrestrial wildlife movement
BMP: Vegetated Swale

- Drainage swales planted with natural vegetation
- BMP Benefits: Reduce runoff velocity, improve infiltration, and reduce pollutants
- Propose 3,637 feet of IL Route 31 vegetated swales

Vegetated swale along Tri-State Tollway I-294 (Photo by Huff & Huff)
Creating bends in a straight stream to slow moving water

*BMP Benefits:* Reduced storm water velocity, reduces erosion, reduce non-point sources of sediment, enhances aquatic habitat and diversity

Propose 1,946 ft of meandering stream
2014 Planned Surveys

- Blanding’s Turtle
  » Thunderbird Lake
- Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid
  » East of IL 31
- Tree Survey