

Project Schedule

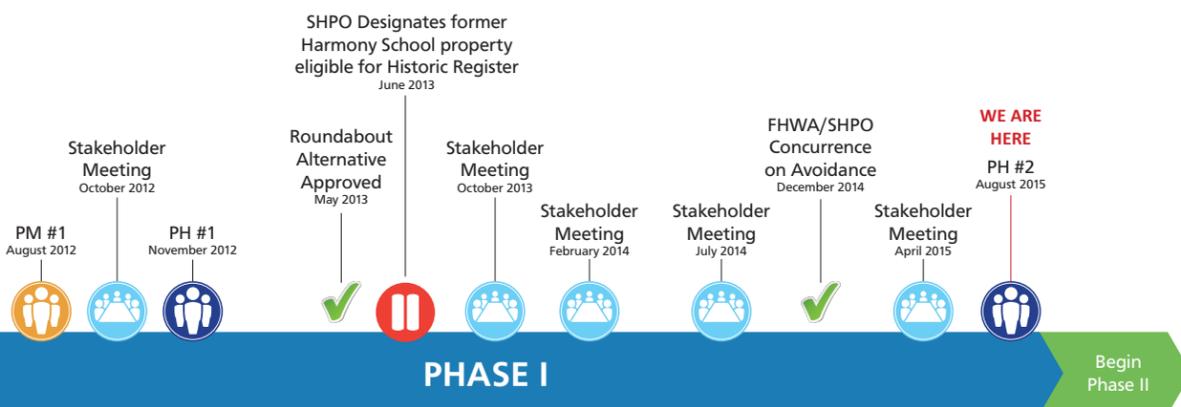
After completion of Phase I of the revised preferred alternative and contingent on funding availability, the Department will initiate the preparation of contract plans and land acquisition ("Phase II"), followed by Construction ("Phase III").



Phase I Schedule

LEGEND

- Public Meeting
 - Stakeholder Meeting
 - Public Hearing
 - Project On Hold
 - Project Milestone
- SHPO - State Historic Preservation Office
FHWA - Federal Highway Administration



Comments or Questions

Your comments and opinions are an important part of this project; you are encouraged to provide them today verbally to the court reporter. Written comments and questions may also be submitted during this hearing, mailed to the Illinois Department of Transportation at the address below, or sent to the project email at us20atharmony@clarkdietz.com. Comments received by August 26, 2015 will become part of the official hearing record.



Illinois Department of Transportation

201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096
Attn: Bureau of Programming, Theresa Pelletier Telephone: (847) 705-4479
For more information about the project please visit <http://www.us20atharmony.com/>



US 20 at Harmony Road

Public Hearing
August 5, 2015

Welcome

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) welcomes you to the second Public Hearing for the proposed improvement of US 20 at Harmony Road in McHenry County, Illinois. This improvement is included in the Department's FY 2016-2021 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. The Department's current engineering efforts are targeted to enable a contract letting in the middle years of the current multi-year program contingent upon plan readiness, land acquisition, and funding availability through future annual legislative appropriations. The proposed scope of work for this improvement is anticipated to include the installation of a roundabout.

HEARING INFORMATION

Wednesday, August 5, 2015

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Leggee Elementary School
13723 Harmony Road
Huntley, IL 60142

PURPOSE OF HEARING

- Present the updated preferred alternative.
- Obtain public input.

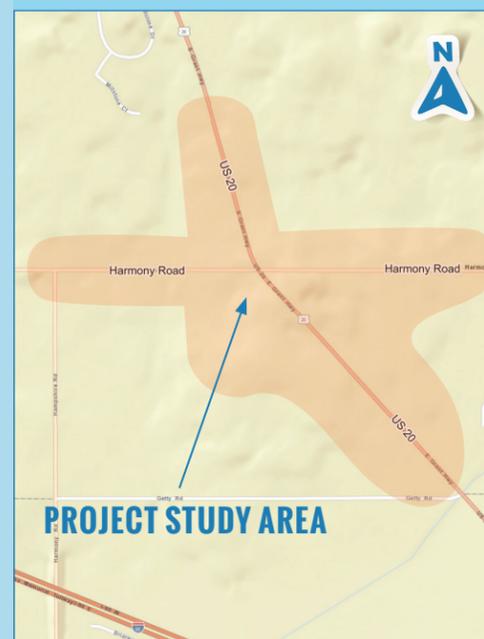
Background

The Department initiated preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I) to address the severe crashes occurring at the intersection. Early coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) indicated that there were no cultural resources of concern



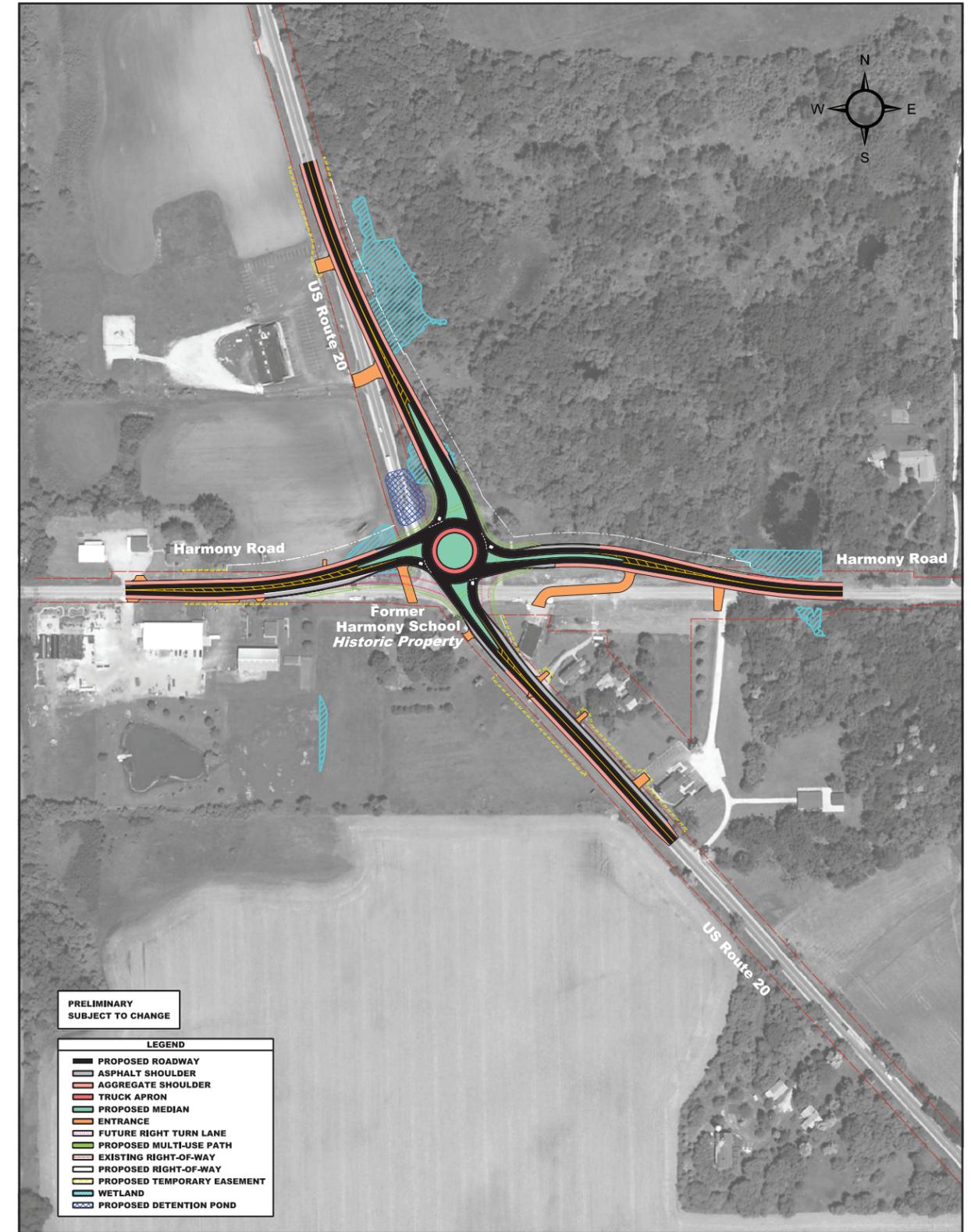
in the area. Several alternatives were developed, including traffic signal and roundabout designs. All alternatives included the removal of the structure on the southwest corner, known as the former Harmony School Building, given its proximity to the roadway. In 2013, engineering analyses, as well as input from stakeholders determined a roundabout to be the preferred alternative. Phase I studies were then completed and the Department initiated land acquisition and contract plan preparation (Phase II). Later that year, based on additional information provided by local stakeholders the SHPO identified the former Harmony School Building, located on the southwest corner of the intersection, as being eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Subsequently, in accordance with the federal laws that protect historic structures and properties (Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Section 4(f) of the National Transportation Act of 1966), the Department reopened the Phase I Study to develop alternatives that would avoid impacts to the Harmony School property. During this process, the Department met with stakeholders including the McHenry County Historical Society and the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission. Many avoidance and mitigation options have been investigated. Both roundabout and signalized alternatives were analyzed based on impacts to cultural resources, threatened and endangered species, wetlands, and woodlands. The engineering analyses determined that a roundabout shifted to the northeast to avoid the former Harmony School property would offer more safety benefit, with less impacts to adjacent properties, as compared to other options.



Footprint Comparison (2013 Roundabout vs 2015 Roundabout)

Roundabout Alternative (Preferred Alternative)



The map above shows the 2013 roundabout (green) that removed the former Harmony School building. The new roundabout alternative (blue) shifts the center of the intersection to the northeast quadrant.

The preferred alternative for the US 20 and Harmony Road intersection includes the installation of a four leg modern roundabout that avoids the former Harmony School building and reduces impacts to the property. The center of the intersection is relocated to the northeast quadrant; the north leg of US 20 and the east and west legs of Harmony road are realigned to enter the new intersection. Unused existing roadway would be removed as part of the proposed improvements but access to all properties will be maintained.