



State of Illinois
JB Pritzker, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Omer Osman, Acting Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
July 9, 2020

CONTACT:
Maria Castaneda 312.447.1919
Guy Tridgell 312.343.1731

Interactive website for I-55 Access Study

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation, in partnership with the City of Joliet, is inviting the public to learn more and comment about the preliminary engineering and environmental studies for the Interstate 55 Access Study. Instead of hosting a regular public meeting, IDOT will share details and encourage public participation through an enhanced project website: i55atil59accessproject.org.

The purpose of the outreach effort is to obtain public input, present the preferred alternative for each of the projects identified by the I-55 Access Study, provide a status updates and discuss next steps.

The I-55 Access Study area is in western Will County, primarily within Shorewood and Joliet. The study area covers approximately 6.5 square miles, bounded by Interstate 80, U.S. 52 (Jefferson Street), Houbolt Road and River Road.

Based on earlier public meetings, IDOT has identified a recommended preferred alternative that includes four improvements:

- **U.S. 52 from River Road to Houbolt Road:** Capacity improvements with an additional lane for the portion of U.S. 52 from River Road to Illinois 59.
- **I-55 from I-80 to U.S. 52:** Converts the existing interchange at I-55 and Illinois 59 into a diverging diamond interchange with access to and from the north and the addition of a lane along I-55 between the Illinois 59 and U.S. 52 interchanges.
- **Olympic Boulevard from I-55 East Frontage Road to Houbolt Road:** Includes the extension of Olympic Boulevard to the East Frontage Road of I-55.
- **Seil Road from Raven Road to Illinois 59:** Includes mini-roundabouts at the Seil Road intersections with Raven Road and States Lane.

In addition to the website, outreach efforts will include a mailed newsletter and the opportunity to ask questions and leave comments to IDOT's staff over the phone at (847) 705-4087. Comments received by Aug.4 will become part of the official public outreach record.

Written comments can be mailed to:

**Illinois Department of Transportation
201 Center Court
Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096
Attn: Jessica Feliciano in Bureau of Programming**

People with disabilities needing accommodations can contact Jessica Feliciano at (847) 705-4087. Also, IDOT's TTY/TTD number is (800) 526-0844 or 711. TTY users in Spanish can call (800) 501-0864 or 711. The Telebraille line is (877) 526-6670.

###