

## PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Present the preferred alternative.
- Answer questions about the project.
- Explain land acquisition procedures.
- Receive public comments.

## PROJECT NEED

- Existing interchange ramp geometry does not meet current design policies.
- Existing IL 17 vertical clearance (14'-2") under I-57 is less than desired (16'-6") but does accommodate legal load heights (13'-6") and meets policy to remain in place (14'-0").
- Existing interchange bridges were constructed in 1955, rehabilitated in 1989 and are being repaired as part of an ongoing resurfacing project in the area. Both are in acceptable condition and continue to be monitored for needed repairs.

## PROPOSED SCHEDULE

- Preliminary engineering study will be completed in the fall of 2020.
  - Following the public involvement, IDOT will consider comments received as the Phase I preliminary engineering study is completed.
- Land acquisition and construction of the interchange are currently unfunded in the Department's Fiscal Year 2021-2026 Proposed Highway Improvement Program.
- Development of Design Plans for the overall project and construction of just the Waldron Rd. overpass structure are funded for improvement in the Department's Fiscal Year 2021-2026 Proposed Highway Improvement Program.

## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

- Reconstruct the existing interchange using a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) that will be compatible with future expansion of I-57 to six lanes.
- Reconstruct Interstate 57 pavement and shift east to avoid impacts to Mt. Calvary Cemetery.
- Reconstruct Illinois 17 and provide necessary turn lanes at the interchange.
- Maintain or upgrade existing traffic signals.
- Make intersection, drainage and safety improvements as needed.
- Noise barrier walls are to potentially be constructed on the west side of I-57 from 500 feet north of the project limits along Ramp to IL 17, on the outside of Ramp B, and along the west side of I-57 starting north of the Waldron Road bridge to 160 feet north of the project limits. The locations are called out on the aerial exhibits.
- Retaining walls to be constructed on the outside of Ramp B, in between Ramp D and I-57, both sides of I-57 under the KB&S Railroad Bridge, on the east side of I-57 just north of the Waldron Road bridge, and on both sides of I-57 under the Waldron Road bridge. The locations are called out on the aerial exhibits.
- Replace bridges carrying Waldron Road and the KB&S Railroad over I-57.
- Permanent and temporary closure or relocation of some local streets and entrances will be necessary to accommodate the new interchange and maintain traffic flow.
- Hammes Ave will be closed at IL Route 17 as part of the East Court Street Gateway Signage Project by the City of Kankakee.
- The North Frontage Road will be closed at North Eastridge Ave. A cul-de-sac will be constructed.