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Dixon, IL – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced today that the public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed six alignments as part of the U.S. Route 30 Environmental Impact Statement Study (EIS) and Phase I Design Report.

This study was initiated in June 2007 to evaluate roadway improvements along U.S. Route 30 between IL 136 and IL 40 in Rock Falls. A key element of this study is the incorporation of the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process. This process is required by the State of Illinois and ensures that community involvement and input is incorporated into the decision-making process throughout the project.

Since the project's inception in 2007, the U.S. Route 30 project team has worked with citizens to develop six potential alignments for the roadway improvement. Most recently, additional work has been underway to complete various engineering tasks for these alignments. This work includes analysis of traffic and crash data, assessment of environmental impacts (displacements, agricultural land impacts, water resource impacts, etc.), determination of engineering feasibility (safety, congestion relief, etc.), and further screening of the six potential alignments within the project study area as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Based on the results of this work, additional refinements will be applied to the potential alignments to minimize impacts and ensure the suitability of the proposed route. IDOT will post the six potential alignments on the U.S. Route 30 project website in early August. The website can be accessed at <http://www.dot.il.gov/US30/index1.html>.

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IDOT encourages the community to review the six alignments and provide comments or concerns using the online comment form, or by calling the project hotline at 1-866-ROUTE30 (1-866-768-8330). If the public does not have access to the internet, please call the project hotline number and someone from the U.S. Route 30 Project Study Team can provide assistance. **IDOT welcomes comments on the six alignments and those comments will be accepted until September 9, 2010.**

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