

## Current Range of Alternatives

Since the start of the IL 29 study, the project team has developed a wide range of alternatives and then refined the wide range to those alternatives which best minimize overall impacts. These alternatives, which are on display at today's meeting, may be altered or added to based on public/agency input. For ease of analysis, the IL 29 corridor was divided into three sections.

- South Section – From IL 6/IL 29 near Mossville to Benedict Street north of Chillicothe.
- Central Section – From north of Chillicothe to south of Henry.
- North Section – From south of Henry to I-180 in Bureau County.

### South Section

In the South Section there are two alternatives to bypass Chillicothe on the west. Both cross Cedar Hills Drive west of Caterpillar's Tech Center and cross Old Galena Road north of Caterpillar's facilities. An interchange is planned at Cedar Hills Drive. After crossing Old Galena Road the two alternatives diverge. Alternative S-6B continues northeast crossing Rome West Road and Wayne Road west of Galena Knolls Subdivision. Alternative S-6C has a more east-west alignment than Alternative S-6B, crossing Rome West Road east of Galena Knolls Subdivision. North of Galena Knolls Subdivision the two alternatives rejoin the same alignment crossing Cloverdale Road, Sycamore Road and Truitt Road on new alignment. An interchange is planned at Truitt Road. North of Truitt Road the alternatives' shared alignment runs west of the gravel quarry before turning northeast along Senachine Creek to a proposed interchange north of Chillicothe. The impacts for the South Section alternatives are found in the insert of this handout.

### Central Section

Alternative alignments in the Central Section either bypass Hopewell and Sparland on the west (Alternative C-2) or generally follow the present route of IL 29 with a reduced median (Alternative C-3/C-3A). The Hopewell/Sparland bypass alignment would have an interchange connection to IL 29 north of Chillicothe, it would then follow Hardscrabble Road extended, returning to existing IL 29 north of Sparland near Camp Grove Road.

Three interchange options are being considered to connect Alternative C-3/C-3A to existing IL 29 north of Chillicothe. The segment of Alternative C-3/C-3A from north of Chillicothe through Sparland is being designed with a narrow median and retaining walls to minimize impacts to Department of Natural Resources properties, natural areas, and other properties. In Sparland, three interchange options have been developed to connect IL 29 and IL 17. North of Sparland Alternative C-3/3A uses a wider median to north of Crow Creek where the north section begins. The impacts for the Central Section alternatives are found in the insert of this handout.

### North Section

There is one alternative in the North Section. Alternative H-4, the Henry bypass begins north of Crow Creek and is located about 0.5 mile west of Henry. An interchange is planned at Western Avenue. Alternative H-4 rejoins IL 29 north of the Marshall-Putnam County line and becomes Alternative N-2. Alternative N-2 would improve IL 29 along the existing alignment through Putnam and the Miller-Anderson Woods area to the project's north terminus at I-180. The impacts for the north section alternative are found in the insert of this handout.

## Opportunities for Public Participation

IDOT encourages public participation in the process of studying the improvement of Illinois Route 29. IDOT will be seeking input from representatives of communities, agencies, businesses, and the general public. Several specific activities will provide opportunities for you to contribute to the project:

- You may request to be placed on a mailing list to receive informational newsletters which will provide a detachable comment form on which you may offer ideas, comments or opinions.
- At open-house **public information meetings** held throughout the study process, the project staff will display exhibits, provide information and solicit input on the study.
- When the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Combined Design Report have been completed, a **public hearing** will be held to inform the public of the study findings and again solicit input. These documents will result in alignments and right-of-way requirements, NOT construction plans.
- In addition, IDOT will hold **individual meetings** with representatives of local units of government, interest groups, civic groups and industries to discuss and address specific interests and concerns.

## Open House/Public Meeting



## The Illinois Route 29 Study

**July 14, 2004**

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Henry-Senachwine High School  
1023 College Street  
Henry, Illinois

**July 15, 2004**

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Three Sisters Park  
The Pavilion  
17201 North State Route 29  
Chillicothe, Illinois



# Project Statement

Welcome to this Public Information Meeting for the Illinois Route 29 Study.

Staff members from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and their consultants are here to discuss the alternatives for an improved highway between Illinois Route 6 near Mossville and Interstate 180 in Bureau County.

The meeting is being held in an open house format to allow informal discussion between the public and the study staff members. We invite you to view the displays and share your comments with members of the study team. You may also write your comments on the enclosed form and leave it in the comment box or mail the form to IDOT after you leave the meeting. All written comments received within 10 days after the meeting will be included in the official project record.

The Illinois Route 29 Study will select an alignment for an improved highway to enhance continuity, improve safety and improve efficiency in the Illinois Route 29 corridor. Since the first public meeting in June 2003 several alternatives have been eliminated from further consideration. The alternatives that have been eliminated and those that remain are shown on Figure 1. Exhibits with more detailed information about the remaining alternatives are on display at this meeting. IDOT has conducted a preliminary design of the alternatives on display today. These alignments may be altered or added to through public/agency input.

**Study Schedule** - The Illinois Route 29 Study began in December 2001. This is the second round of public meetings designed to present the progress of the study and obtain public input. Following this public meeting, the Illinois Department of Transportation will review comments received at the meeting and consider them in refining the preliminary engineering studies. In 2005 a Public Hearing is planned to allow public comment on the latest design work and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Thank you for attending this meeting and for your interest in this study.

Written comments or questions may be sent to:  
 Mr. Eric Therkildsen, P.E., Program Development Engineer  
 Illinois Department of Transportation, District 4  
 401 Main Street, Peoria, IL 61602

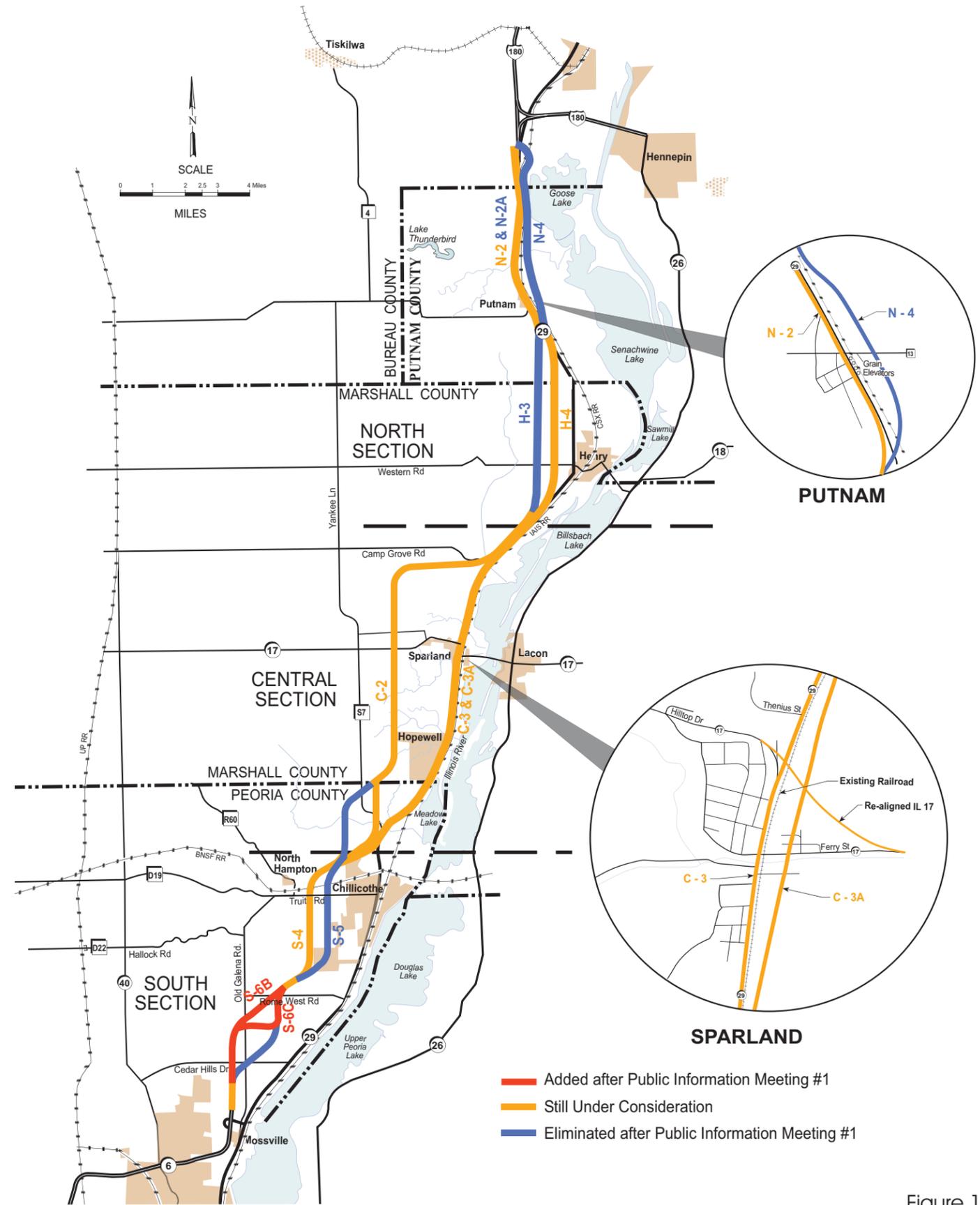


Figure 1