

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **\*\*Public Notice\*\***

#### **REFINED ILLIANA CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVES TO BE PRESENTED AT PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS**

**Springfield, IL and Indianapolis, IN** - The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host the second round of open house public meetings for the Tier Two Illiana Corridor Study. The Illiana B3 Alternatives extend from I-55 near Wilmington, Illinois east to I-65 near Cedar Lake, Indiana. The refined Illiana Alternatives are generally located within the 2000' preferred corridor identified during the first tier of the planning process.

The meetings will be an open house format, and interested persons may attend anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. There will be a continuous PowerPoint presentation, and attendees will have the opportunity to view study exhibits and speak with IDOT, INDOT and study team representatives on a one-on-one basis. A question and answer forum will be held at 6:00 p.m. each day.

The public open house meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

**INDIANA**

Monday, June 17, 2013

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Lowell Middle School

19250 Cline Avenue

Lowell, IN 46356

**ILLINOIS**

Tuesday, June 18, 2013

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Peotone High School

605 West North Street

Peotone, IL 60468

Since the Tier Two kickoff in January, more than 80 meetings with stakeholder groups, businesses, and over 800 landowners have been conducted to help form the latest alternatives. The Illiana Team has gathered information to move forward with planning should the B3 alternative be carried forward. Beyond the regional benefits for improving freight movement and reducing trucks on local roads, as well as improving access to jobs and air quality by reducing congestion, the Illiana corridor provides an opportunity for communities to plan for growth.

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## News Release

Working with the Illiana team, as well as their own municipalities, residents and businesses can develop strategies to manage growth, including:

- Working to ensure cooperative and coordinated planning implementation between counties and municipalities;
- Capitalizing on links between communities;
- Supporting mixed-use development and balanced growth;
- Promoting infill development by diverting through-traffic to Illiana
- Providing an alternate route for motorists traveling through the region on the heavily trafficked I-80/94 Borman/Kingery Expressway and serving as an alternate route for trucks around the congested metropolitan area highways;
- Creating a positive effect on freight and other interstate travel throughout the country, as the region is one of the busiest intermodal hubs; and
- Promoting Eco-Agri-tourism and business opportunities along the corridor.

Based on recent community feedback and meetings with the corridor planning group, IDOT and INDOT will present the latest alternatives, including refinements to minimize impacts, maintain local access, interchange types and locations, local road connectivity, overpass and underpass locations, environmental protection and planning opportunities.

By connecting communities, the Illiana Corridor will serve as a vital backbone for local planning of many other land use needs and promote healthy, balanced, regional growth.

*\*The meetings are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Anyone needing specific assistance should contact Sarah Copeland of Images, Inc. at (630) 510-3944. Persons planning to attend who will need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify the TTY/TTD number (800) 526-0844/or 711; TTY users (Spanish) (800) 501-0864/ or 711; and for Telebraille dial (877) 526-6670 at least five days prior to the meeting.*