



Illinois Department of Transportation

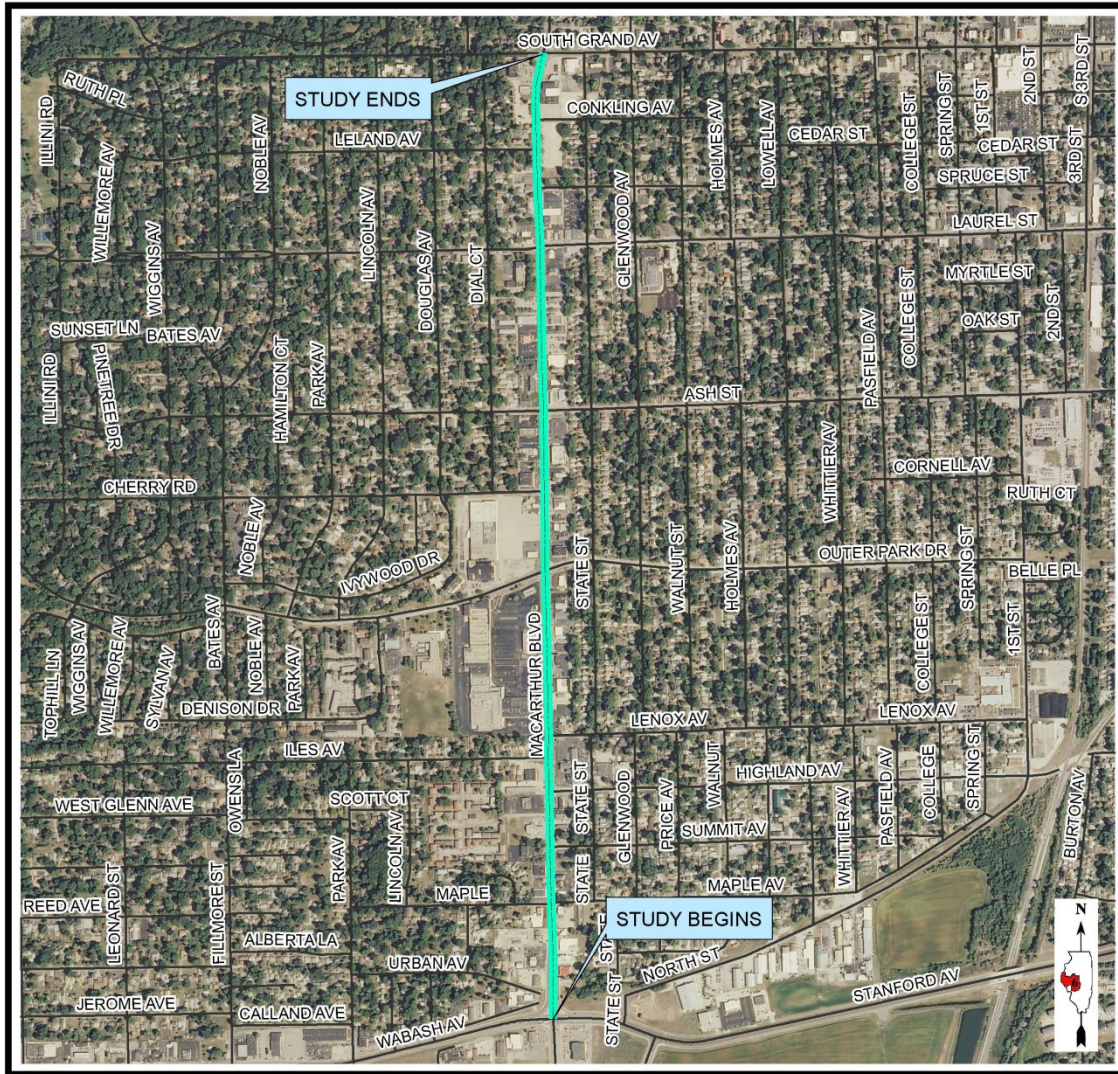
Office of Highways Project Implementation / Region 4 / District 6
126 East Ash Street / Springfield, Illinois 62704-4792



OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

MACARTHUR BOULEVARD FEASIBILITY STUDY

WABASH AVE. to SOUTH GRAND AVE., SPRINGFIELD, IL



Thursday, April 21, 2016
 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 South Side Christian Church
 2600 MacArthur Boulevard, Springfield, IL

Jeffrey M South, P.E.
 Regional Engineer

Welcome!

Welcome to the Public Informational Meeting on the MacArthur Boulevard Feasibility Study. Between 5:00PM and 7:00PM, the Illinois Department of Transportation and the City of Springfield invite you to inspect the visual aids on display and to visit with staff from the Department and our consultants.

Today's Public Informational Meeting is being held in an open house format which provides for informal discussions between the participants and Department staff.

(No formal presentations concerning the project will be made during this meeting)

FACTS on MacArthur Boulevard

- MacArthur Boulevard was originally named West Grand Boulevard.
- MacArthur Boulevard was constructed as a two lane paved roadway in 1919.
- In the 1930's, many businesses were located near the South Grand and MacArthur intersection, including a supermarket, hardware store, service station, several beauty parlors and restaurants, a flower shop, and a women's apparel shop.
- MacArthur Boulevard was renamed in 1942 after General Douglas A. MacArthur.
- MacArthur was widened from Laurel Street to Wabash Avenue from two lanes to the current 5-lane configuration in 1961.
- MacArthur used to be marked as Illinois Route 4, as well as U.S. Route 54 and 36.
- The "Wabash Curve", where MacArthur Boulevard and Wabash Avenue met, was removed and reconstructed as a 4 way intersection in 2003.
- Existing average daily traffic (ADT) in 2013 varied from 18,000 to 21,800 vehicles per day through the corridor.
- Projected average daily traffic (ADT) in 2033 is estimated to be 24,250 to 29,500 vehicles per day using a 1.5% growth rate per year.

Purpose of Public Informational Meeting

The Illinois Department of Transportation and the City of Springfield are conducting a feasibility study to investigate existing conditions on MacArthur Boulevard, from Wabash Avenue to South Grand Avenue. Various elements along the corridor are being studied, such as traffic signals, drainage issues, pedestrian, bicycle, and mass transit accommodations. Various alternates are being considered, and are described on the next page.

MacArthur Boulevard between Wabash Avenue to South Grand Avenue is one of the major thoroughfares in Springfield, carrying an average of approximately 20,000 vehicles per day. MacArthur Boulevard has the potential to be a positive economic and social asset to the City of Springfield. Recent development of MacArthur Boulevard south of Wabash Avenue and its potential future extension to Woodside Road, along with current and future development of Stanford and Wabash Avenues will only increase the use and importance of this corridor. Recent development along the corridor will also provide an anchor for further commercial development in the future.

Intersections are being studied for ideas to modernize traffic signals and their layout to promote safety and improve traffic flow. The storm sewer system may be subject to improvement to alleviate any current drainage issues. Bicycle accommodations, pedestrian / ADA accommodations and mass transit facilities are being studied.

The goal of this feasibility study is to determine the general scope of improvements desired for this section of unmarked State Highway, and to determine a preliminary estimated cost for future improvement(s).

The Department is looking for focused input from the local community which will help us in the development of the study, as well as to understand the community's concerns and needs.

Please consider submitting any written comments you may have regarding this study. A comment form is enclosed with this handout for your use and may be deposited in the "Comment Box" located at the meeting. You may also mail the self-addressed comment form to the IDOT District 6 office.

Comments received by May 6, 2016 will be included in the final project record.

Description of Alternatives

Alternative 1: Resurfacing of existing lanes. No major improvements to MacArthur Blvd. ADA ramps and small areas of curb and gutter may be included.

Alternative 2: Resurfacing of existing lanes south of Laurel Ave., with widening to 5 lanes north of Laurel Ave. to South Grand Ave. to complete a 5 lane section through the corridor. Includes 7' shared use one-way bicycle and pedestrian paths on both sides of MacArthur Blvd. north of Laurel Ave.

Alternative 3: Widening from Wabash Ave. to South Grand Ave. to accommodate 4 - 11' lanes, a 12' center turn lane, and 6' bike lanes. Also includes new curb and gutter and new 5' sidewalks on each side.

Alternative 4: Widening from Wabash Ave. to South Grand Ave. to accommodate 4 - 11' lanes and a 12' center turn lane. Also includes new curb and gutter, a 5' sidewalk on one side and 10' shared use two-way bicycle and pedestrian path on the other side.

Alternative 5: Widening from Wabash Ave. to South Grand Ave. to accommodate 4 - 11' lanes and a 12' center turn lane. Also includes new curb and gutter, and 7' shared use one-way bicycle and pedestrian paths on each side.

Alternative 6: Widening from Wabash Ave. to South Grand Ave. to accommodate 4 - 11' lanes and a 12' center turn lane. Also includes new curb and gutter, 8' boulevard between curb and sidewalks, and 8' sidewalks on each side. (Based on the Lakota Study, exceeds IDOT policy)

Alternative 7: Resurfacing of existing lanes, with lanes striped at 10'. Also includes new curb and gutter and new 6' sidewalks on each side. Alternative not studied further due to safety concerns.

Thank you for attending the Public Informational Meeting!

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY & COMMENT SHEET

Public Informational Meeting
MacArthur Boulevard Feasibility Study
South Grand Ave. to Wabash Ave., Springfield, IL

_____, 2016

Comments:

Please list preferred alternatives as well as any additional comments and specific suggestions you wish to have considered during the study. Issues that are being looked at include safety, capacity, pedestrian accommodations / ADA compliance, bicycle accommodations, traffic signal adequacy, drainage, and mass transit accommodation.

Please drop in the comment box or fold and mail to the address printed on the other side of this form (add extra sheet if necessary).

Thank you for your input.

Name (please print) _____
Address _____

Phone number _____
E-mail Address (optional) _____

(Please submit your comments on or before May 6, 2016)

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**Mr. Jeffrey M South, P.E., Regional Engineer
Illinois Department of Transportation
Office of Highway Project Implementation, District 6
126 East Ash Street
Springfield, IL 62704-4792
Attn: Bureau of Program Development
Jeffrey P Myers, P.E.**

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