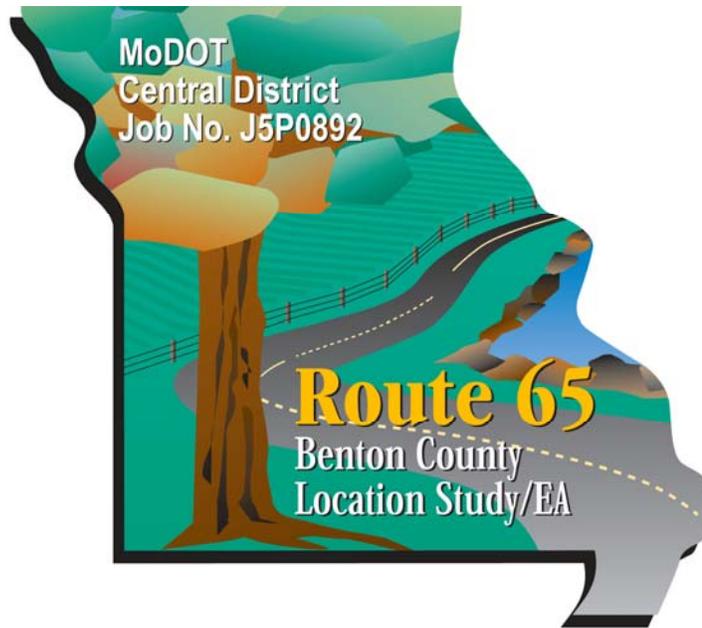


APPENDIX V-C

Public Meeting Handouts



Location/ Environmental Study

Benton County

**Public Information Meeting No. 1
February 22, 2006**



Route 65 Location/EA Study Project Location Map



TB012006004MKE 335552 CR C0 Project Location Map.ai_v1 1-19-06 mjl





Public Information Meeting

Route 65 Location/Environmental Assessment Study
February 22, 2006

Welcome to the first Public Information Meeting on the Route 65 Benton County, Missouri location/environmental assessment (EA) study. The purpose of today's meeting is to:

- Introduce the project team;
- Present the study schedule and activities;
- Explain the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process;
- Discuss the purpose and need of the location study;
- Present preliminary alternatives for the new alignment;
- Gather information and obtain your views on the preliminary alternatives and other issues you would like considered during the study.

Representatives of CH2M HILL, the St. Louis consulting firm hired to conduct the study, and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) are here to listen to your comments and ideas about local transportation needs and other related issues. Your input will help us identify problems and solutions for meeting future transportation needs in the area.

Please review the exhibits, ask questions, and share your ideas, suggestions, or concerns. If you wish to make written comments, please fill out the attached comment sheet and leave it with us today, or mail it to us after the meeting.

Thank you for participating in this important study.





Study Purpose

The study will identify alternatives to improve the safety and capacity of Route 65. The area under study for these alternatives is bounded by the intersection of Route 65 and Route 52 at Cole Camp in the north, and the intersection of Route 65 and Route 7 at Warsaw in the south. The primary need for the location/EA study is based on safety and increased traffic demand. The project team will evaluate existing and future traffic volumes, crash data, existing land uses, environmental and socioeconomic factors, along with the current deficiencies as the basis for proposing alternatives to replace the existing alignment.

Community Involvement Opportunities

Community involvement will play an important role in the study. As shown on the schedule on the following page, this public information meeting is the first of two that will be held during the study. At the second public information meeting, scheduled for May/June 2006, the project team will present the refined alternatives that will be discussed in detail in the project's Draft Environmental Assessment.

A public hearing will also be held in September 2006 to present the recommended preferred alternative. At each public meeting and the public hearing, area residents will have the opportunity to express their views on the proposed alternatives for the proposed Route 65 improvements.

Newsletters will announce all upcoming public meetings and the public hearing. The newsletters will also give updates on study activities. If you received the first newsletter in the mail, then you are on the project mailing list. If you did not receive a newsletter in the mail and would like to be placed on the mailing list, please contact a project team member today.

Preliminary Alternatives Considered

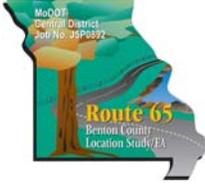
The following four types of alternatives represent the initial range of alternatives currently being considered in the study:

1. **No-build:** Leave the existing alignment/facility exactly the way it is with no maintenance or repair.
2. **Rehabilitate Existing:** Continue maintenance of the existing alignment in order to accommodate existing and future traffic demands.





3. **Non-Relocation of highway:** Leave the existing alignment in the same location and add capacity to Route 65 to meet future traffic demand. This would require temporary and permanent roadway closures until reconstruction is complete. Traffic will have to use alternative routes to navigate through or around the City of Lincoln during construction. In addition, this may potentially reduce the number of access points to local businesses along Route 65.
4. **Relocation of highway:** Completely relocate the existing alignment with a bypass alignment around the City of Lincoln. This would require no major route closing that would disrupt business activities in Lincoln during construction. Traffic will still have business access along the existing Route 65 alignment. Preliminary alternatives being considered are (1) to bypass Lincoln to the east and provide a new business loop (existing Route 65) with multiple access points along the new alignment; (2) bypass Lincoln to the west, beyond the residential area, and provide a new business loop (existing Route 65) with multiple access points along the new alignment.



Project Contact

If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact:

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Or

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314-421-0900





Questions and Answers

Q. Why is this study being done?

A. The existing alignment/facility on Route 65 needs to be widened to meet future traffic demands. This study is being done in order to determine the best alternatives to address the existing alignment's deficiencies. It should be noted that this study will not provide detailed design for the new alignment.

Q. What project decisions has MoDOT already made?

A. No decisions have been made. That is the purpose of this study.

Q. Will I have a chance to participate in the study?

A. Absolutely. In fact, public input will play an important role in the project. We encourage people to attend meetings and to call CH2M HILL project staff in order to share information. There are several other public involvement activities planned for the study. You can obtain a summary of the project's public involvement plan at the first public information meeting or request a copy of the plan from CH2M HILL staff.

Q. How will we know what decisions are made as a result of this study?

A. Any decisions that are made will be the result of a team effort. The CH2M HILL team and MoDOT will meet with people who live and work in the area. When all of the factors are weighed (public opinion, environmental concerns, and other legal requirements), the project recommendation will be determined. Announcement of project-related decisions will be made in local newspapers.

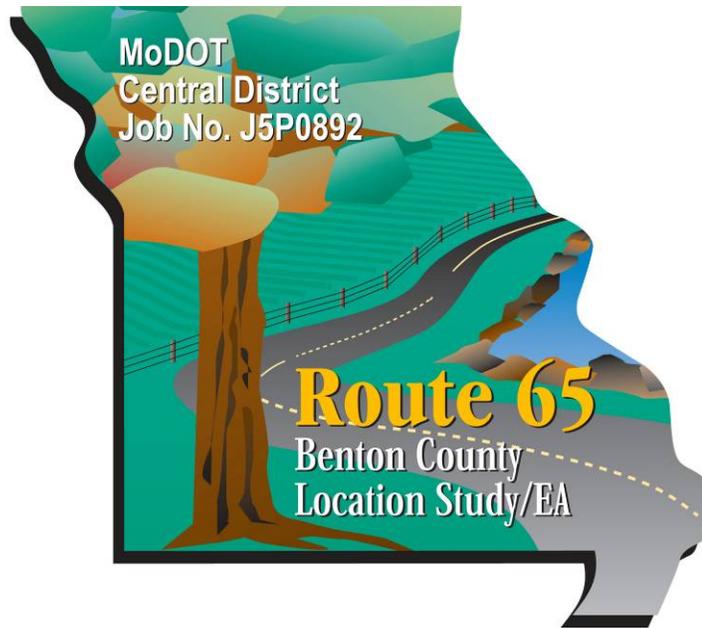
Q. What happens if the proposed improvements affect someone's home, business, or farm?

A. The project team tries to avoid or minimize the number of people whose homes or businesses may be affected by the proposed alternatives. When property is in the path of a new road, the state has procedures to justly compensate property owners and assist them in relocation.

Q. When will construction begin?

A. This location study is scheduled to be completed by early 2007. If a new alignment is selected as the preferred alternative construction could begin as early as 2009.





Location/ Environmental Study

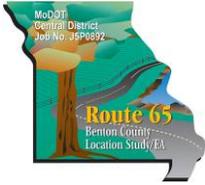
Benton County

Public Information Meeting No. 2
May 24, 2006



Route 65 Location/EA Study Project Location Map





Public Information Meeting

Route 65 Location/Environmental Assessment Study
May 24, 2006

Welcome to the second Public Information Meeting on the Route 65 Benton County, Missouri location/environmental assessment (EA) study. The purpose of today's meeting is to:

- Provide background for the project
- Present the study schedule and ongoing activities
- Present the full range, reasonable range and preferred alternative* for the new alignment
- Discuss the elements of the Environmental Assessment
- Gather information and obtain your views on the information presented

Representatives of CH2M HILL, the St. Louis consulting firm hired to conduct the study, and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) are here to listen to your comments and ideas about local transportation needs and other related issues. Your continued input is very valuable as we finalize the solutions for meeting future transportation needs in the area.

Please review the exhibits, ask questions, and share your ideas, suggestions, or concerns. If you wish to make written comments, please fill out the attached comment sheet and leave it with us today, or mail it to us after the meeting.

Thank you for participating in this important study.

** The preferred alternative has been identified based on public input and analysis performed to date. Additional analysis is being conducted which may result in refinements to the preferred alternative. This additional analysis and any refinements to the preferred alternative will be discussed in the Environmental Assessment and presented at the public hearing in fall 2006.*





Study Purpose

The study identifies alternatives to improve the safety and capacity of Route 65. The area under study for these alternatives is bounded by the intersection of Route 65 and Route 52 at Cole Camp to the north, and the intersection of Route 65 and 7 Highway North at Warsaw to the south. The primary need for the location/EA study is based on safety and increased traffic demand. The project team has been evaluating existing and future traffic volumes, crash data, existing land uses, and environmental and socioeconomic factors as the basis for proposing alternatives to improve the existing route.

Community Involvement Opportunities

Community involvement continues to play an important role in the study. The first public meeting conducted in February 2006 was well attended and almost 200 valuable comments were received from attendees. As noted on the schedule on the following page, this public information meeting is the second of two that will be held during the study.

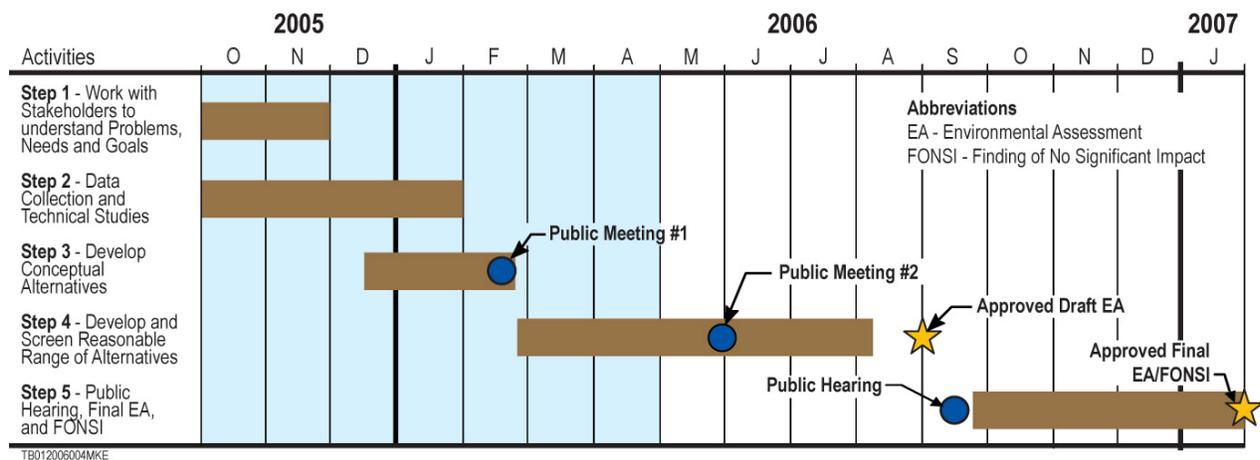
A public hearing will be held in fall 2006 to present the draft Environmental Assessment and related information. At the public hearing, area residents will have another opportunity to express their views on the proposed alternatives for the proposed Route 65 improvements.

The next newsletter will announce the date, time, and location for the public hearing. That newsletter will also give updates on study activities. If you received the first two newsletters in the mail, then you are on the project mailing list. If you did not receive a newsletter in the mail and would like to be placed on the mailing list, please contact a project team member at tonight's meeting.





Project Schedule



Preliminary Concepts Considered

The three types of concepts listed below were considered in the study.

1. **No-build:** The existing route remains the way it is with no maintenance or repair.
2. **Rehabilitate Existing:** Continue maintenance of the existing 2-lane roadway in an effort to accommodate existing and future traffic demands.
3. **Non-Relocation of highway:** Leave the existing alignment in the same location and add capacity to Route 65 to meet future traffic demand. This would require temporary and permanent roadway closures until construction is complete. Traffic will have to use alternative routes to navigate through or around the City of Lincoln during construction. In addition, a reduction of the number of access points to local businesses along Route 65 is possible.
4. **Relocation of highway:** Completely relocate the existing alignment with a bypass alignment around the City of Lincoln. This would require no major route closings that would disrupt business activities in Lincoln during construction. Traffic will still have business access along the existing Route 65 alignment. Preliminary alternatives considered were
 - (1) Bypass Lincoln to the east and provide a new business loop (existing Route 65) with multiple access points along the new alignment;
 - (2) Bypass Lincoln to the west, beyond the residential area, and provide a new business loop (existing Route 65) with multiple access points along the new alignment.





Reasonable Range of Alternatives

Based on public input and analysis performed by the study team, it was determined that the alternatives listed below were “reasonable” for further consideration. Reasonable alternatives satisfy the project’s Purpose & Need and are feasible and prudent.

North of Lincoln

- Add two additional lanes to the existing route either east or west of the existing roadway

Through/around Lincoln

- Construct a five-lane section through town along the existing roadway
- Construct a new four-lane divided highway east of Lincoln (Alternative LE-1)

South of Lincoln

- Add two additional lanes to the existing route either east or west of the existing roadway

Preferred Alternative*

The study team analyzed the Reasonable Alternatives in detail for their impacts to the natural and human environment. The results of this analysis are presented at tonight’s meeting. Based on this further analysis, the study team has identified the following alternative as the preferred alternative*.

North of Lincoln

- Add two additional lanes to the existing route east of the existing roadway

Through/around Lincoln

- Construct a five-lane section through town along the existing roadway

South of Lincoln

- Add two additional lanes to the existing route either east or west of the existing roadway to minimize impacts

* *The preferred alternative has been identified based on public input and analysis performed to date. Additional analysis is being conducted which may result in refinements to the preferred alternative. This additional analysis and any refinements to the preferred alternative will be discussed in the Environmental Assessment and presented at the public hearing in fall 2006.*





Questions and Answers

Q. Why is this study being done?

A. The existing alignment/facility on Route 65 needs to be widened to address safety issues and meet future traffic demands. This study is being done in order to determine the best alternatives to address the existing alignment's deficiencies. This study will not provide detailed design for the new alignment.

Q. What project decisions has MoDOT already made?

A. No decisions have been made. That is the purpose of this study.

Q. Will I have a chance to participate in the study?

A. Public input continues to play an important role in the project. We encourage people to attend meetings and to call CH2M HILL project staff in order to share information.

Q. How will we know what decisions are made as a result of this study?

A. Any decisions that are made will be the result of a team effort. The CH2M HILL team and MoDOT will meet with people who live and work in the area. When all of the factors are weighed (public opinion, environmental concerns, and other legal requirements), the project recommendation will be determined. Announcement of project-related decisions will be made in local newspapers.

Q. What happens if the proposed improvements affect someone's home, business, or farm?

A. The project team continues to try to avoid or minimize the number of people whose homes or businesses may be affected by the proposed alternatives. When property is in the path of a new road, the state has procedures to justly compensate property owners and assist them in relocation.

Q. Is the preferred alternative presented today the "final" location of the proposed improvements?

A. No, the preferred alternative presented tonight has been identified based on public input and analysis performed to date. Additional analysis is being conducted which may result in refinements to the preferred alternative. This additional analysis and any refinements to the preferred alternative will be discussed in the Environmental Assessment and presented at the public hearing in fall 2006.

Q. When will construction begin?

A. This location study is scheduled to be completed in early 2007. Construction on the preferred alternative could begin as early as 2009.





Project Contacts

If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact:

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