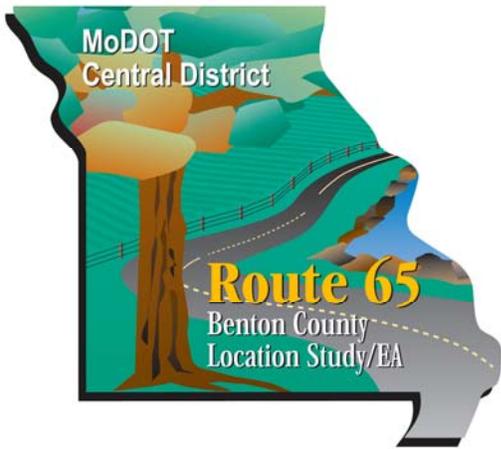


APPENDIX V-G

Public Hearing Materials



US 65

Location Study and Environmental Assessment

Please join the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) at an open house Public Hearing on the study of improvements to Route 65 between Route 52 at the Cole Camp Junction and Highway 7 at Warsaw.

Public Hearing

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

4 – 7 p.m. (come and go at any time)

Lincoln School Cafeteria

101 West Lamine Street

Lincoln, MO

With your help, MoDOT will complete this study to identify the future location of U.S. 65 improvements.

Questions?

Contact Mike Dusenberg, MoDOT planning manager:

1-888-ASK-MODOT (275-6636)

or *Contact Buddy Desai, consultant project manager:*

314-421-0900 or buddy.desai@ch2m.com

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY and PUBLIC HEARING

DRAFT Environmental Assessment Route 65 from South of Cole Camp Junction (Route 52) to Highway 7 at Warsaw, Benton County

Review Period – February 21, 2007 to March 28, 2007
Public Hearing – March 14, 2007

Beginning February 21, 2007 the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for Route 65 from South of Cole Camp Junction (Route 52) to Highway 7 North at Warsaw, prepared by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and its consultant will be available for public inspection and copying at the MoDOT District 5 Office, 1511 Missouri Blvd., Jefferson City, MO and at the following locations:

- Benton County Court House, 316 Van Buren, Warsaw, MO 65355
- City of Warsaw, 181 West Harrison, Warsaw, MO 65355
- City of Lincoln, 122 East Main Street, Lincoln, MO 65338
- Lincoln School, 101 West Lamine Street, Lincoln, MO 65338
- Benton Co. Soil & Water Conservation District, 535 N. Highway 65, Lincoln, MO 65338
- Boonslick Regional Library, 102 East Jackson, Warsaw, MO 65355

Comments on the DEA may be submitted to MoDOT through the following means:

- Via mail to: MoDOT, 1511 Missouri Blvd, P.O. Box 718, Jefferson City, MO 65102
- Via mail to: FHWA, 3220 West Edgewood, Suite H, Jefferson City, MO 65109
- In person at the official public hearing

An open house Public Hearing will be held to display maps and other pertinent information and to gather public comment. The hearing will be held in an open house format, allowing interested persons to come and go at any time. No formal presentations will be made. An informal recording device will be available to accept verbal comments for the official study record. Written comments will also be accepted. The hearing will be held on:

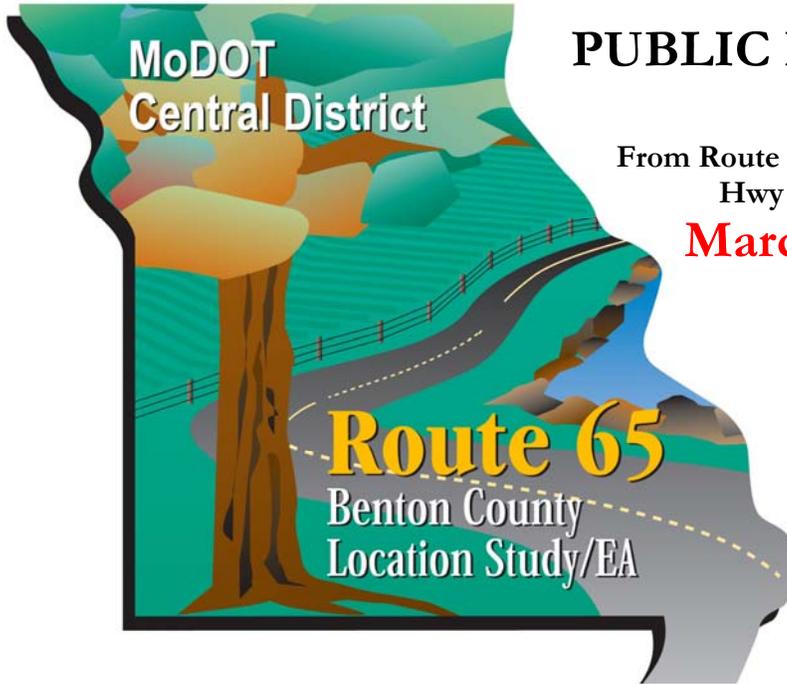
Wednesday, March 14, 2007
4-7 p.m. Open House
Lincoln School Cafeteria
101 West Lamine Street
Lincoln, MO

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. People with special needs covered in the Americans with Disabilities Act should notify the Missouri Department of Transportation, Central District, P.O. Box 718, Jefferson City, MO 65102, phone 1-888-ASK-MoDOT, or the Missouri Relay System, TDD 1-800-735-2966 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Interested citizens are encouraged to ask questions and make their comments known. All comments received will be evaluated by MoDOT staff and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission in determining the final improvement to Route 65 in Benton County. The Commission will approve the selected alternative once the Federal Highway Administration has approved the conclusion of the study process per the National Environmental Policy Act.

For more information contact MoDOT at 1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636).

Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.



**PUBLIC HEARING
ROUTE 65**

From Route 52 at Cole Camp to
Hwy 7 North at Warsaw

March 14th, 2007



**Route 65 Public
Hearing!**

Wednesday, March 14th, 2007

4 – 7 p.m. (come and go at any time)

Lincoln School Cafeteria

101 West Lamine St.

Lincoln, MO

Place
stamp
here

To:

PUBLIC HEARING

This document summarizes the Public Hearing held on March 14, 2007 concerning the proposed improvements to Route 65 in Benton County, Missouri.

CH2M HILL, a St. Louis-based consultant hired by MoDOT, has performed a location and environmental assessment to address the transportation problems associated with Route 65, in Benton County, Missouri. The study area extends from the Route 52/Cole Camp Junction to just north of the Route 65/Route 7 interchange. North of this area, US-65 is a four-lane divided highway with a 60-foot grassed median. Within the study area, US-65 is a two-lane facility with narrow shoulders, at-grade intersections and limited access control. Selection of the preferred alternative is currently being finalized with the substantive comments collected from resource agencies and from the public hearing.

The public hearing, held on March 14, 2007, at the Lincoln School, 101 West Lamine St., Lincoln, Missouri, from 4 - 7 p.m., was very effective. Approximately 140 stakeholders attended the hearing, with some providing written comments (17 in total). The hearing was conducted in an "open house" format, and organized by station and subject. In all, there were four stations: welcome and background, draft environmental assessment background, preferred alternative and stakeholder comments. Copies of the Draft EA were also available for public viewing.

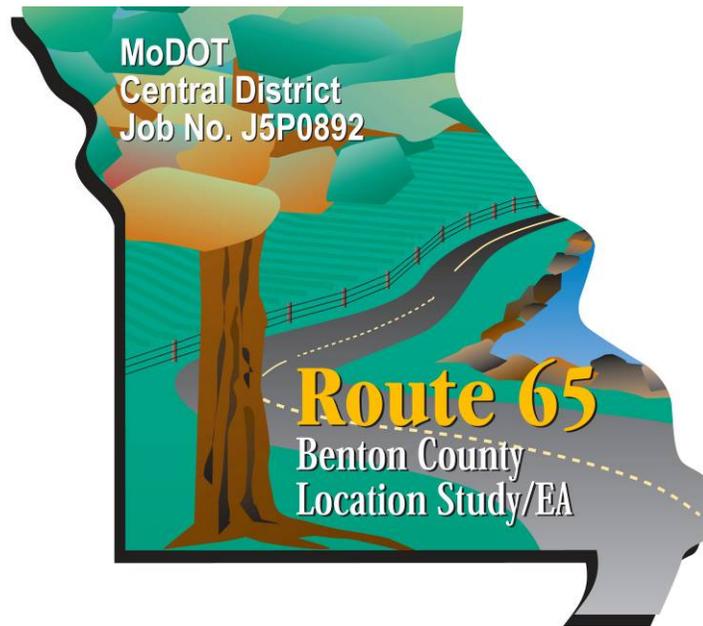
All station exhibits were explanatory in nature and provided information on their respective subjects, with one exception. Station 3 included both explanations and a graphical representation of the preferred alternative. The preferred alternative was illustrated on aerial images along with relative environmental and socio-economic constraints.

Key issues of the preferred alternative were also presented. The issue of open drainage versus enclosed drainage in Lincoln was included at the public hearing to present to the public the open drainage alternative system that would be required in the event that enclosed drainage is found infeasible. This issue is mainly due to very flat terrain and lack of design-level mapping during the current study. In addition, an impact summary table was included to demonstrate the associated impacts of both open and enclosed drainage systems. The issue of access management was also presented. An exhibit demonstrating the proposed parcel access points throughout Lincoln was provided to depict the changes in access required by the preferred alternative. Access points were reduced through the Lincoln corridor to improve safety and operations.

In addition, a 3-D visualization of the preferred alternative was presented. The visualization is a 3-D video rendering of potential conditions of the preferred alternative in its proposed state. Key points illustrated were median cross-overs, realignment of identified cross-roads, median widenings and the five-lane section through Lincoln.

Based on the written and verbal comments, the key messages were: (1) strong support and satisfaction with the preferred alternative going through Lincoln, (2) satisfaction that all safety concerns have been addressed with use of four-lane divided facility outside of Lincoln and a two-way, left-turn lane through Lincoln, (3) enclosed drainage will be utilized in the final preferred alternative, and (4) stakeholders expressed concerns with some of the proposed access locations in Lincoln as well as the placement of median cross-overs.

Public Hearing Handouts



**Location/
Environmental
Study**
Benton County

Public Hearing
March 14, 2007



Route 65 Location/EA Study Project Location Map



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





Public Hearing

Route 65 Location/Environmental Assessment Study
March 14, 2007

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

- Provide information related to the approved Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA)
- Present the Preferred Alternative* for the new alignment
- Gather information and obtain your views on the information presented

Representatives of the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and CH2M HILL, the St. Louis consulting firm hired to conduct the study, are here to listen to your comments and ideas about the approved Draft Environmental Assessment. Your involvement to date has been very valuable in the identification of the Preferred Alternative that meets the 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. There is also a station available for you to record your comments orally.

Thank you for participating in this important study.

* The recommended preferred alternative has been identified based on public input and analysis performed to date. Additional analysis and refinements to the preferred alternative performed subsequent to the last public meeting are discussed in the approved Draft Environmental Assessment and presented here tonight.





Study Purpose

This study identifies alternatives to improve the safety and capacity of Route 65 in Benton County. 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 Highway 7 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 socio-economic factors as the basis for proposing alternatives to improve the existing route.

Community Involvement Opportunities

Community involvement has played an important role in this study. Two previous public meetings conducted in February and May 2006 were well attended and generated nearly 400 written comments from attendees. As noted on the schedule on the following page, this public hearing is the final meeting to be held during the study phase of the project.

This public hearing is to present the Preferred Alternative, the approved Draft Environmental Assessment and related information. The approved Draft Environmental Assessment will remain available to the public for review at the locations below. Comments on the Draft EA will be accepted until March 31, 2007.

Benton County Court House

316 Van Buren Street, Warsaw

City of Warsaw

181 West Harrison Street, Warsaw

City of Lincoln

122 East Main Street, Lincoln

Lincoln School

101 West Lamine Street, Lincoln

Benton County Soil & Water Conservation District

535 North Highway 65, Lincoln

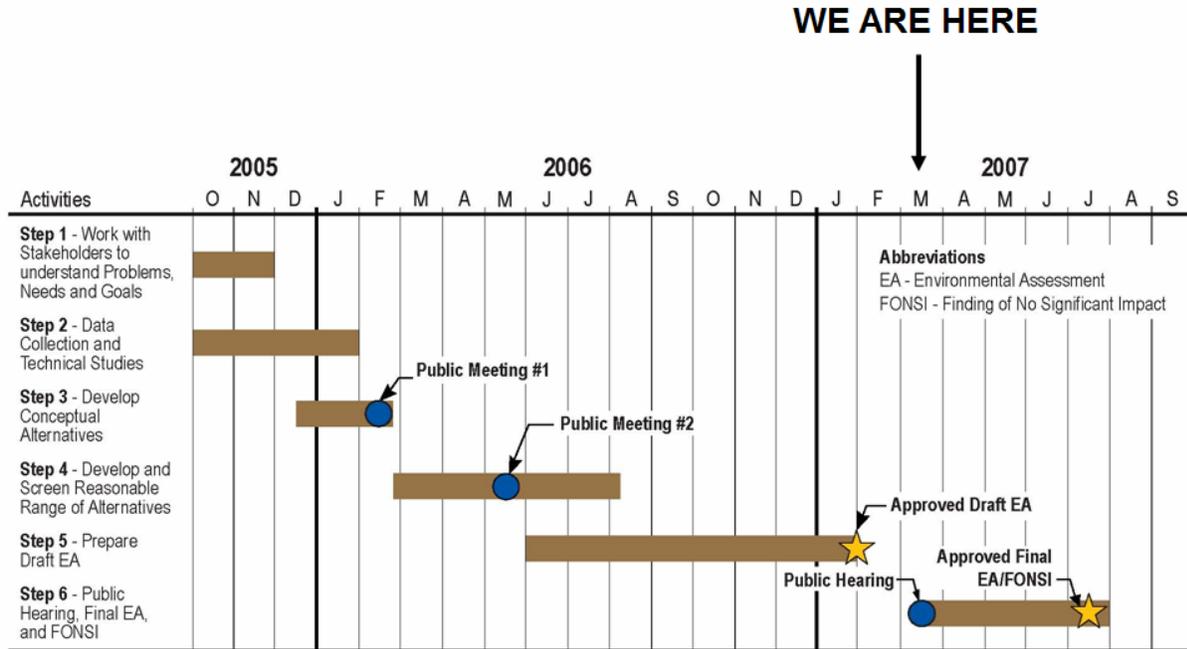
Boonslick Regional Library

102 East Jackson Street, Warsaw





Project Schedule



Preferred Alternative*

The study team has identified the Preferred Alternative* and presents in detail its impacts to the natural and human environment. The results of this analysis are presented at tonight's meeting. Key features of the Preferred Alternative* are as follows:

North of Lincoln

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

* The recommended preferred alternative has been identified based on public input and analysis performed to date. Additional analysis and refinements to the preferred alternative performed subsequent to the last public meeting are discussed in the approved Draft Environmental Assessment and presented here tonight.





Preferred Alternative* Drainage System

The Preferred Alternative* uses an enclosed drainage concept through Lincoln. Engineering studies conducted at this stage of the project indicate that such a drainage system can work. Due to the very flat terrain in Lincoln and lack of design-level mapping, these studies are not conclusive. The team will be able to confirm that the proposed system can work during the next phase of the project when more detailed data will be gathered and analyzed.

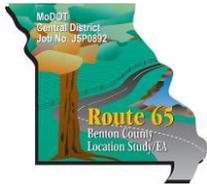
In the unlikely event that the proposed drainage system is not feasible, one of the other two reasonable alternatives through Lincoln (LT-E or LT-W) will be designed and constructed instead. Both of these alternatives would use an open drainage system, and consequently have wider footprints. Ultimately, this would result in more impacts to the properties along Route 65 in Lincoln.

Please see the exhibit entitled “The Preferred Alternative and Drainage Within Lincoln” for a depiction of LT-E and LT-W and their respective impacts.

At this time, MoDOT feels that enclosed drainage will be feasible. Considering alternate scenarios at this time, however, will minimize delays should future work reveal that enclosed drainage is not feasible.

* *The recommended preferred alternative has been identified based on public input and analysis performed to date. Additional analysis and refinements to the preferred alternative performed subsequent to the last public meeting are discussed in the approved Draft Environmental Assessment and presented here tonight.*





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. Announcements 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 compensate property owners justly and assist them in relocation. Final assessment of impact will not be made until the next phase of the project, when final right-of-way needs are calculated in greater detail.

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

A. Yes, the preferred alternative presented tonight has been identified based on public input and analysis performed to date. Additional analysis and refinements to the preferred alternative performed as a result of comments received at the last public meeting are discussed in the approved Draft Environmental Assessment and presented here tonight.

Q. When will construction begin?

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



Project Contacts

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

Mike Dusenberg, P.E.
Planning Manager
MoDOT Central District
1511 Missouri Blvd., P.O. Box 718
Jefferson City, MO 65102
1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636)

Or

Buddy Desai, P.E.
Project Manager
CH2M HILL
727 North First Street, Suite 400
St. Louis, MO 63102-1761
314-421-0900
Email: buddy.desai@ch2m.com



Missouri
Department
of Transportation



Pete K. Rahn, Director

105 West Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-2551
Fax (573) 751-6555
www.modot.org

July 20, 2007

Ms. Barbara Johnson
City Clerk, City of Lincoln
P.O. Box 17
Lincoln, MO 65338

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Thank you for your comments in regard to the Benton County Route 65 Location Study and Environmental Assessment (Job No. J5P0658). You are correct in stating that Frame 7 does not include the east entry of the Osage Street Extension. The exhibits showing the selected alternative depicts only the connections to existing roadways. Because of the importance of access management through Lincoln, we used a separate exhibit with more detailed scale. If you turn to Exhibit II-4 of the Environmental Assessment, you will be able to view the Proposed Access Management Plan for the City of Lincoln. In this exhibit the East Osage Street Extension is shown and labeled as an access point.

As it is shown in Exhibit II-4, our intention is to provide access to all existing parcels in Lincoln. The details associated with providing this access will be finalized during the final design process. As the Route 65 Project progresses into the final design stage, MoDOT designers and engineers will take into account your concerns regarding the East Osage Street Extension, and will work with the City to develop the plans to appropriately connect with City improvements.

If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact Mike Dusenberg, the MoDOT project manager, at (573)751-7699.

Sincerely,

Kevin Keith, P.E.
Chief Engineer

cc: Mr. Glen Nelson-Mayor, City of Lincoln
Mr. Mike Dusenberg-5
Ms. Carole Hopkins-de