



ILLINOIS 336

# Peoria to Macomb Highway Newsletter

February 2007

## Study Progress

- August 2003 Corridor Public Meeting
- February 2004 Corridor Public Hearing
- June 2004 Corridor Report Approved
- December 2004 Public Meeting Presenting Initial Alignments
- March 2006 Public Meeting Alternatives to be Carried Forward

In March of 2006, IDOT held three open house public meetings to discuss alternative highway alignments, freeway/expressway locations and access issues. About 1,000 people attended the meetings and IDOT received over 250 written comments. These were the highest attended meetings to date for the project, however, the number of written comments has remained consistent with the past meetings. As with the past comments, most pertained to preferences of one alignment verses another within each segment. Also, some have taken a stance of either opposed to or in favor of the entire project. Of those that expressed an opinion on the overall project, about half supported and half opposed the project. Following that meeting work has progressed in these areas:

- Alignments were reviewed based on public comments, engineering, environmental impacts, socio-economic assessments.
- Field environmental inventories and surveys were conducted.
- A preliminary preferred alignment was selected for further study and more detailed development.
- Final decisions have been made regarding which parts of the new facility will be freeway and which parts will be expressway.
- The preliminary preferred alignment was presented to federal and state agencies who will ultimately need to approve the project Environmental Impact Statement.

## Public Meeting Announcement

The Illinois Department of Transportation will hold three public meetings to recommend a Preliminary Preferred Illinois Route 336 Four-Lane Highway Alignment for further study for the corridor extending from I-474 in Peoria to Macomb, IL. The study area includes portions of Peoria, Fulton and McDonough Counties. The meetings will focus on reviewing the remaining preliminary preferred alignment. Maps and exhibits of the alignments as well as assessment data will be presented. IDOT will use public input at the up-coming meetings to refine the preferred alignment. Three identical meetings will be held in Peoria, Macomb and Canton on the following dates and locations:

Tuesday February 20, 2007 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM	ITOO Society Hall 4909 W. Farmington Road Peoria, Illinois
Wednesday February 21, 2007 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Canton High School Gym 1001 N. Main Street Canton, Illinois
Thursday February 22, 2007 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM	VFW Post 1921 1200 E. Jefferson Street S. Candy & E. Washington Macomb, Illinois

The public are invited to attend any of these meetings at any time during the open house hours. Discussions will be informal. Written and oral comments will be accepted. The meetings are accessible to disabled individuals. For special needs, call the numbers listed at the end of the newsletter.

## Next Steps

Detailed engineering studies and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared and approved for public presentation. A public hearing will be scheduled in the spring of 2008 to present the preferred alignment and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Federal Transportation Bill signed in August of 2005 included continued funding for further studies on IL 336. These funds will be used for construction plan preparation and soils studies. The location of the first construction sections is currently under review by IDOT.

## Project Website

A project website has been created at [www.peoriatomacomb.com](http://www.peoriatomacomb.com). After the public information meetings in February the Preliminary Preferred Alignment, assessment data and comment forms will be posted to the website.

**Please direct your comments or questions to:**

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Illinois Department of Transportation