

**Bass Road Reconstruction – Phases 3B and 3C
Bass Road from Scott Road to 1800-feet east of Wescott
Drive
Allen County, Indiana**

**Designation Nos. 1901699 (Lead) and 1401273
(Parent Des. No. 0400582)**

INFORMATION PACKET



Commissioners of the County of Allen

Prepared By:

American Structurepoint, Inc.
9025 River Road, Suite 200
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240
(317) 547-5580

July 14, 2022

Dear Concerned Citizen, Local Resident, or Public Officials,

The Commissioners of the County of Allen and American Structurepoint, Inc. have put together the following information packet regarding Phases 3B and 3C of the Bass Road Reconstruction project from Scott Road to 1800-ft east of Wescott Drive in Allen County, Indiana.

The Bass Road Reconstruction Project is an approximate 4.4-mile-long project consisting of seven phases beginning just west of Scott Road and extending east to the intersection of Hillegas Road. A Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 4 was approved on August 22, 2012 for the overall (Scott to Hillegas) project. Four subsequent Additional Information (AI) documents have been approved in 2016, 2019, 2020, and 2021 describing modifications to the project. Additional information on phasing can be found in the Environmental Documentation Section below.

Currently two phases (Phase 1B and Phase 3A) are under construction and two additional phases (Phase 3B and Phase 3C) remain to be constructed. Phases 3B and 3C are anticipated to move to construction in Spring of 2023 under one contract. Construction is anticipated to continue through 2025.

The purpose of this information packet is to update the public and interested parties on Phases 3B and 3C of the proposed project as well as provide a general overview of the overall project. This information packet along with project plans and mapping can be accessed at <https://www.structurepointpublic.com/BassRoad>. Comments, concerns, and suggestions regarding the Phase 3B and Phase 3C undertaking will be taken through August 1, 2022. Submit comments to the project team

- Fill in the comment form on the project website <https://www.structurepointpublic.com/BassRoad>
- Mail a letter to Josh Iddings at American Structurepoint, Inc. 9025 River Road, Suite 200 Indianapolis, Indiana 46240
- Email Josh Iddings of American Structurepoint, Inc. at jiddings@structurepoint.com
- Call Josh Iddings of American Structurepoint, Inc. at 317.547.5580

Please have all comments submitted or postmarked by August 1, 2022.

Project Description – Phases 3B and 3C

The Commissioners of the County of Allen are developing a federal-aid project to reconstruct Bass Road near Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana. The current phase of the project, Phase 3B and Phase 3C, as noted in the table below, will be moved to construction under one contract under the Lead Des. No. 1901699. The purpose of the project remains unchanged from the 2012 CE 4. The purpose of the project is to improve vehicular and pedestrian/bicycle safety along Bass Road, to increase the corridor's capacity at intersections, improve traffic flow, and to improve the

substandard vertical sight distance. The need for the proposed project is based on substandard roadway widths and deteriorating conditions, traffic volumes along Bass Road, lack of sufficient turn lanes, substandard sight distances, and increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic which have contributed to an increased number of crashes and fatalities along the project corridor.

As presented in the 2012 CE 4, the proposed undertaking will consist of widening Bass Road to consist of two 12-foot-wide travel lanes (one in each direction) divided by a 12 to 14-foot-wide auxiliary lane or median, as well as 7-inch-wide curbs and 2-foot curb offsets. A 10-foot-wide shared use path will be constructed along the southern side of the roadway starting at Scott Road and would be separated from Bass Road by a grassed buffer strip ranging from 1 to 10 feet in width. Driveways would be reconstructed to tie into the new roadway as necessary. This typical section matches the previously completed portions of Bass Road to the east. The intersection of Bass Road and Scott Road within Phase 3C would be reconstructed as a single lane roundabout as previously presented in the 2016 AI. Additionally, left and right turn lanes would be provided at the intersections of Brenton Glens Drive, Woodland Pass, Lone Oak Boulevard, and Wescott Drive. Drainage would be conveyed by curbing to drainage inlets and then discharged to streams within the project area.

Description of Right of Way

Existing apparent right of way extends approximately 25 feet north and 25-60 feet south of the existing centerline of Bass Road. Proposed right of way for the project extends 60 feet north and south from the centerline of Bass Road. Right of way acquisition is currently in progress and is anticipated to be completed this summer (2022). Phases 3B and 3C required the acquisition of 11.244 acres of permanent and 0.356 acre of temporary right of way. The proposed project does not require any relocations.

Phase	Permanent R/W (Acre)	Temp. R/W (Acre)
Phase 3B	7.043	0.160
Phase 3C	4.201	0.196
Total	11.244	0.356

Maintenance of Traffic

The maintenance of traffic for Phases 3B and 3C will consist of a full road closure and use of an official detour. An official detour will route through traffic on Bass Road south on West Hamilton Road, to Illinois Road (SR 14), to Hadley Road, and back to Bass Road, a distance of approximately 5.9 miles. Access to all properties within Phases 3B and 3C along Bass Road will be maintained during construction. Additionally, the existing shared-use path along the south side of the roadway will be closed at Hadley Road for the duration of construction of Phase 3B. No detour is planned for pedestrians as there are no existing pedestrian facilities along Bass Road within Phases 3B and 3C. For the latest information on Maintenance of Traffic, please refer to the Allen County Highway Department website <https://www.allencounty.us/road-closures>.

Project Schedule

Milestone	Expected Dates
Right-of-way Acquisition	Completed Spring 2022
Construction Start	Spring 2023
Construction Completion	Winter 2025

Estimated Project Cost and Summary

The current estimated cost for the right of way acquisition, engineering, and construction for Phases 3B and 3C of the Bass Road Reconstruction project is approximately \$11,962,500. Both federal and local funding sources will be used. The project is included in the 2022-2026 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and 2022-2026 Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Right-of-way	\$337,500
Engineering	\$1,125,000
Construction	\$10,500,000
Total Cost	\$11,962,500

Environmental Documentation

Please see the table below for information regarding environmental approvals for the Bass Road Reconstruction Project.

Des. No.	Phase	Work Type	Limits	CE/AI Approval Date(s)	Status
0400582	Overall	Center Turn Lane Improvement	Bass Road from Hillegas Road to Scott Road	2012 CE 4	Phased, see below
0902238	Phase 1A	Intersection Improvement, Roundabout	Intersection of Bass Road and Hadley Road	2016 AI	Completed 2019
1383241	Phase 2B	Bridge Improvements	Bass Road over I-69	2016 AI	Completed 2019
1382493		Road Reconstruction	Bass Road from Shakespeare Boulevard to Clifty Parkway		
1173657		Bridge Improvements	Bass Road over I-69		
1401272	Phase 2A	Road Reconstruction	Bass Road from Thomas Road to Hillegas Road	2019 AI	Completed 2021
1382492	Phase 1B	Road Reconstruction	Bass Road from Clifty Parkway to Thomas Road	2020 AI	Under Construction Opening Winter 2021
Continued Below					

Des. No.	Phase	Work Type	Limits	CE/AI Approval Date(s)	Status
1901884	Phase 3A	Road Reconstruction, Bridge Construction	Bass Road from 1800 feet east of Westcott Drive to Hadley Road	2016 AI 2021 AI	Under Construction Opening Winter 2023
1901699 (Lead)	Phase 3B	Road Reconstruction	Bass Road from 767 feet west of Brenton Glens Drive to 1800 feet east of Westcott Drive	2016 AI 2021 AI	Construction Spring 2023
1401273	Phase 3C		Bass Road from Scott Road to 767 feet west of Brenton Glens Drive	Current Document (2022 AI)	

Due to modifications during final engineering and utility coordination for Phases 3B and 3C, an Additional Information (AI) documenting is currently being prepared to address any updated impacts to the natural and human environment since the 2021 AI. No areas of potentially significant impacts have been identified.

Water Resources

The proposed project was examined for the presence of wetlands and “waters of the U.S.” No streams were identified within Phases 3B or 3C. No wetlands were identified in Phase 3B and one wetland was identified within 3C. A total of 0.093 acre of wetland will be impacted in Phase 3C. No changes to water resource impacts has occurred since the 2021 AI.

A Section 401 Individual Water Quality Certificate from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management was renewed for the overall project (including Phases 3B and 3C) on April 12, 2022. A Section 404 Regional General Permit was also approved for the overall project on November 30, 2020. Wetland and Stream mitigation was required for the overall Bass Road Reconstruction project (from Scott Road to Hillegas Road) and was constructed in 2018 at the Pehkokia Woods Nature Preserve in Huntington County, Indiana. A separate CE document for the *Bass Road Environmental Mitigation Site* was approved on March 7, 2016.

Endangered Species and Terrestrial Habitat

The Phase 3B and 3C project area consists of primarily residential landuse with scattered agricultural and forested areas. A total of 1.75 acres of trees will be cleared as a result of the construction of Phases 3B and 3C. This includes 1.33 acres in Phase 3B and 0.42 acre in Phase 3C. The project is within the range of the federally protected Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat. No other threatened or endangered species are present within the project area. Recoordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service has been completed and the project was determined to May Affect but is Not likely to Adversely Affect the aforementioned bat species.

