
FIVE POINTS INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

DECATUR, ADAMS COUNTY, INDIANA
DES. NO. 1600708

PROJECT INFORMATION PACKET



AMERICAN
STRUCTUREPOINT
INC.

Contact: Sarah Everhart, American Structurepoint, Inc.

(317) 547-5580 or severhart@structurepoint.com

November 24, 2021

Welcome Concerned Citizens, Local Residents, and Elected/Local Public Officials to the City of Decatur's public hearing regarding the proposed Five Points Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No 1600708).

The purpose of this public hearing is to offer all interested persons an opportunity to comment on current design plans and the environmental document for this project. There are several ways your comments may be presented this evening and following tonight's public hearing. You may submit comments in the following manner:

1. **Complete a comment form** and return it to American Structurepoint, Inc. (see below) Comment forms are available at the sign-in table and also included in your information packet. Comment forms are also available at the project website at www.structurepointpublic.com/fivepoints.
2. **Participate as a speaker** during the comment session following tonight's presentation.
3. **Complete the digital comment box** on the project website at www.structurepointpublic.com/fivepoints.
4. **E-mail comments** to Sarah Everhart of American Structurepoint, Inc. at severhart@structurepoint.com.
5. **Mail comments** to Sarah Everhart of American Structurepoint, Inc. at 9025 River Road, Suite 200, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240.
6. **Fax comments** to Sarah Everhart of American Structurepoint, Inc. at (317) 547-2070.

Please submit comments by (or have comments postmarked by) **December 31, 2021**. Comments will be reviewed and considered as part of the decision making process. If you have any questions concerning the proposed project or submitting comments, please contact Sarah Everhart of American Structurepoint, Inc. at (317) 547-5580 or severhart@structurepoint.com.

Preliminary design plans along with the CE document and other project documents are available for review at following locations:

1. In-person at:
 - a. Information stations around the room at the hearing
 - b. Adams County Public Library Decatur Branch, 128 S 3rd St, Decatur, IN 46733
 - c. City Hall, 172 North 2nd Street Decatur, IN 46733
2. Online at the American Structurepoint, Inc. Website - www.structurepointpublic.com/fivepoints

Public Hearing Agenda

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Formal Presentation
3. Public Comment Session
4. Project Open House

All substantive comments received will be evaluated and responded to in writing within subsequent project documentation. The documentation will address concerns presented during the public comment process and describe project decisions reached following careful consideration of views and/or concerns of the public.

The project team will be available at the information stations around the room to explain project details and address questions prior to and following the public hearing.

After the hearing, anyone may view the presented information (formal presentation, environmental document with preliminary project plans, project exhibits, etc.) at the project website:

www.structurepointpublic.com/fivepoints.

Thank you for attending the public hearing for the Five Points Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 1600708)

Project Description

The City of Decatur is developing plans for the proposed Five Points Intersection Improvement Project (Des. No. 1600708) located in Decatur, Adams County, Indiana. The Five Points intersection is comprised of Adams Street, Winchester Street, Mercer Avenue, and South 2nd Street.

The need for this project is evidenced by the combination of the roadway skew, five intersection approaches, the number of existing conflict points at the intersection (21), sight distance concerns, and lack of a clear pedestrian route at the intersection, which combine to create a difficult travel situation for both vehicles and pedestrians. One key deficiency noted in the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) Roadway Safety Audit was the confusion experienced by motorists regarding where southbound traffic on South 2nd Street is directed. This confusion, in addition to the number of existing conflict points, is likely one reason the intersection experiences many near miss accidents. It was also noted in the Safety Audit that many of the curb ramps are not Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant and must be addressed.

The purpose of the project is to improve the mobility of vehicles and pedestrians, reduce vehicle conflict points, and improve the existing curb ramps to meet ADA standards at the intersection.

As proposed, the project involves reconstructing the existing five-legged intersection to a five-legged single-lane roundabout. The roundabout will have single entry and exit lanes for all roadway approaches. The center of the intersection will be shifted approximately 34-feet to the southwest to avoid impacts to historic properties in the remaining corners of the intersection. The roundabout typical section will consist of one 15-foot wide travel lane with curb and gutter, a 6-foot wide sidewalk, an 8-foot wide truck apron, and a 68-foot wide raised center island. The design of the roundabout will accommodate larger vehicles such as buses.

Decorative lighting and landscaping will also be installed around the roundabout. Concrete splitter islands will be constructed at all approaches for channelization except for the east approach of Adams Street. Instead, the existing curb ramp will be extended south to provide channelization. Marked pedestrian crosswalks will be added at all approaches of the intersection and pedestrian refuge islands will be constructed at the approaches with concrete splitter islands. Additionally, ADA compliant curb ramps will be constructed

The Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan for the project involves full closure of the intersection during construction with local detours established to route traffic around the closure. MOT details will be presented during the public hearing. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. The City of Decatur will coordinate with emergency services, local school corporation officials and project stakeholders to ensure potential disruptions and impacts are minimized as much as possible.

Project Schedule

| Milestone | Completed/Expected Dates |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Environmental Document Release for Public Involvement | October 26, 2021 |
| Public Comment Opportunity | November 24 – December 31, 2021 |
| Right-of-Way Appraising Begins | Spring 2022 |
| Anticipated Construction Start | Summer 2023 |

Description of Right-of-Way

The project will require the acquisition of right-of-way. Acquisition information can also be viewed at the project website at www.structurepointpublic.com/fivepoints or http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/real_estate/. The project will require approximately 0.178-acre acre of permanent new right-of-way from a gas station in the southwest corner between Adams Street and Winchester Street. This acquisition will result in the relocation of the gas station.

Estimated Project Cost

The estimated cost for this project is \$3,568,399 which includes design, right-of-way, and construction costs. Both federal and local funding will be used. The project is included in the 2020-2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

Maintenances of Traffic (MOT)

The MOT plan for the project involves full closure of the intersection during construction with local detours established to route traffic around the closure. MOT details will be presented during the public hearing. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. The City of Decatur will coordinate with emergency services, local school corporation officials and project stakeholders to ensure potential disruptions and impacts are minimized as much as possible.

Environmental Documentation

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) have reviewed the Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 4 environmental document prepared by American Structurepoint, Inc. for this project and released the document for public involvement on October 26, 2021. The CE evaluates the impact of the Five Points Intersection Improvement Project on the natural and human environment. No area of potentially significant impacts have been identified.

Cultural Resources

A Phase 1a Archaeological Records Check and Field Reconnaissance was prepared and no archaeological sites were found within the project area. A Historic Property Report was prepared and two historic district were identified as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): the Decatur

Commercial Historic District (IHSSI Nos.: 001-155-21001 through 001-155-21091) and the Five Points Historic District (IHSSI Nos.: 001-155-21001 through 001-155-22083).

FHWA has determined a finding of “Adverse Effect” is appropriate for this project. Specifically, the project will have “No Adverse Effect” to the Decatur Commercial Historic District and an “Adverse Effect” to the Five Points Historic District. The Five Points Historic District will be adversely affected due to the installation of a single-lane roundabout in place of the district’s original five-way intersection. Additionally, the project will install new sidewalks, curb lines, and decorative lighting around the new roundabout and tie those into the existing street and sidewalk network; a non-contributing gas station (IHSSI No.: 001-155-22006) will be acquired to construct the roundabout. However, no permanent or temporary right-of-way from contributing-rated structures within the historic district will be acquired. These changes will alter the district’s setting and appearance which will “diminish the integrity of the property’s significant historic features.”

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was prepared that outlined the “Adverse Effect” the proposed project would have on the Five Points Historic District, as well as the proposed mitigation for those adverse effects. The MOA was signed by all signatories and finalized on April 22, 2021. The fully executed MOA was sent to consulting parties and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on April 26, 2021. The MOA stipulations consisted of photo and video documentation of the existing streetscapes of the Five Points Historic District prior to the project’s letting and submission of that documentation to the SHPO, the Indiana State Archives, and at least one local repository (local historical society, library, or local government agency).

For more information regarding the project plans and potential impacts of the proposed project, please refer to the CE document, which is available at the following locations:

1. In-person at:
 - a. Information stations around the room at the hearing
 - b. Adams County Public Library Decatur Branch, 128 S 3rd St, Decatur, IN 46733
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