

## LEGAL NOTICE OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENT

DES. NO. 1902832

The Town of Chesterton is developing plans for the proposed Westchester-Liberty Trail (WLT) Phase III project (Des. No. 1902832) which would construct a new shared-use path connecting previously constructed segments of the Westchester Liberty Trail in Chesterton, Porter County, Indiana.

The project would connect WLT 1 and WLT 2, and consists of the construction of 0.99-mile long, 8-foot wide, shared-use paths over three connected segments. The first segment (Segment 1) begins at the intersection of CR 1100 North and North CR 50 East and extends approximately 0.45 mile east along the north side of CR 1100 North before ending where an existing sidewalk begins. This segment includes modification to two existing roadway stream crossings. The second segment (Segment 2) exists between CR 1100 North and Laurel Creek Drive, beginning 0.21 mile west of the intersection of CR 1100 North and North CR 100 East and extends south approximately 0.30 mile on a new alignment through a wooded area before connecting to Laurel Creek Drive within the Tamarack Subdivision Park. This segment would include construction of an 8-foot wide boardwalk through portions of the forested area and includes a new stream crossing. The third segment (Segment 3) begins where Segment 2 ends, along the north side of Laurel Creek Drive, and extends east 0.20 mile to the intersection of North CR 100 East and Laurel Creek Drive. The existing sidewalk along Laurel Creek Drive will be removed and replaced with the shared-use path. Segment 3 then extends south approximately 0.05 mile along the west side of North CR 100 East to the intersection with Rail Road where it will end. ADA-compliant curb ramps and crosswalks will be constructed as needed.

The proposed construction of this project will require 1.60 acres of new permanent right-of-way, 0.006 acre of temporary right-of-way, and the reacquisition of 0.68 acre of right-of-way. No relocations are anticipated. The cost associated with this project is approximately \$1,942,000.

The maintenance of traffic (MOT) plan will include temporary lane closures while curb ramps are being constructed adjacent to roadways. There will also be temporary sidewalk and trail closures throughout the project area. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction. School corporations and emergency services will be notified of closures prior to construction. Construction is anticipated to occur in Spring 2024.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and INDOT have agreed this project falls within the guidelines of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Level 3 environmental document. Preliminary design plans along with the CE document and other project documents are available for review at the following locations:

1. In-Person at:  
Chesterton Town Hall Municipal Complex, 1490 Broadway Ave Chesterton, IN 46304  
Westchester Public Library, 200 W Indiana Ave Chesterton, IN 46304
2. Online at the American Structurepoint, Inc. Website:  
<https://www.structurepointpublic.com/wlt>

Persons with limited internet access may request the project information be mailed, please contact Meghan Hinkle at (317) 547-5580 or [mhinkle@structurepoint.com](mailto:mhinkle@structurepoint.com). A copy of the CE may also be mailed upon request to interested persons.

**All interested persons may request a public hearing be held and/or submit comments to the attention of Meghan Hinkle, of American Structurepoint, Inc, 9025 River Road, Suite 200, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240, (317) 547-5580, or [mhinkle@structurepoint.com](mailto:mhinkle@structurepoint.com) on or before March 1, 2023.**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in alternative formats are encouraged to contact Meghan Hinkle at (317) 547-5580 or [mhinkle@structurepoint.com](mailto:mhinkle@structurepoint.com). In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, persons and/or groups requiring project information be made available in another language are encouraged to contact Meghan Hinkle at (317) 547-5580 or [mhinkle@structurepoint.com](mailto:mhinkle@structurepoint.com).

This notice is published in compliance with: 1) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Section 771 (CFR 771.111(h)(1)) stating, "Each State must have procedures approved by the FHWA to carry out a public involvement/public hearing program."; 2) 23 CFR 450.210(a)(1)(ix) stating, "Provide for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate."; and 3) The *INDOT Project Development Public Involvement Procedures* approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.