

APPENDIX L: RESOURCE AGENCY, STAKEHOLDER & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY #3 – ADDENDUM 1



US 31 South

Resource Agency, Stakeholder & Public Involvement Summary #3

Addendum 1 – September 2025



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1. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The ProPEL US 30 and 31 studies were an Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) initiative for transportation planning. The studies were conducted from August 2022 to August 2025. These studies used the collaborative planning approach of the Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) process to consider environmental, community, and economic goals early in the planning process. Throughout the PEL studies, INDOT sought to offer communities and residents the opportunity to envision transportation solutions to create smarter transportation systems that build stronger communities.

The ProPEL US 30 and 31 study areas spanned 180 miles across 12 counties. The ProPEL US 31 South study area extended from 276th Street in Hamilton County to just south of the Eel River in Miami County, excluding the US 31 Kokomo bypass. It included Hamilton, Tipton, Howard, and Miami counties.

This report provides a summary of the public engagement activities for the final phase of the study from December 14, 2024, to August 1, 2025. These activities included a virtual public information meeting, 17 in-person community office hours, and online and in-person feedback collected from the public through August 1, 2025.

Continued public feedback was encouraged and accepted through the completion of the PEL study.

2. OUTREACH AND ADVERTISEMENT

To conclude the study, the study team completed both its regularly scheduled public outreach activities as well as a final round of activities (June 24, 2025, to August 1, 2025) to inform and collect feedback on the Final Level 3 Screening Report and the Final PEL Study Report. Table 1 below lists those outreach activities.

Table 1: ProPEL US 31 South public outreach

Outreach Efforts		Date(s)
Community Office Hours	Tipton County Public Library	1/15/2025
		2/19/2025
		3/12/2025
		5/22/2025
		7/9/2025
		7/14/2025
	Peru Public Library	1/15/2025
		2/19/2025
		3/12/2025
		5/22/2025
		7/9/2025
		7/14/2025
	IU Kokomo	3/20/2025
	Dutch Cafe	4/22/2025
		6/19/2025
	Tipton County Fairgrounds	4/22/2025
		6/19/2025
Public Information Meeting	Virtual meeting	6/23/2025 – 8/1/2025
US 30/31 Coalition Briefing	Virtual meeting	6/25/2025

3. RESOURCE AGENCY & TRIBAL COORDINATION

Throughout the study, the US 31 South study team has coordinated with resource agencies and Tribal nations.

During the final study phase, the study team distributed the Final PEL Study Report and Final Level 3 Screening Report to federal, state, and local resource agencies via email on June 24, 2025, and to Tribal nations via email for review on July 2, 2025. The study team received one response from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Resource agency and Tribal nations coordination can be found in Appendix D.

4. VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

The US 31 South study team conducted a virtual public information meeting that was posted on the study website from June 24 through August 1, 2025. The purpose of the meeting was to provide the public with an opportunity to learn about the PEL Study Report and the Final Level 3 Screening Report.

Virtual attendees were able to view a recorded presentation and review the final study materials. In total, 24 people visited the virtual public information meeting.

5. COMMENT SUMMARY

The study team received a total of 27 comments between December 14, 2024, and August 1, 2025. Six of those comments were registered during the open comment period for the final virtual public information meeting. Public comments were encouraged outside of the formal comment period at community office hours and via the study website. A breakdown of the comments by topic is below in Figure 1, and a breakdown of comments by location is following in Figure 2. A full list of comments received appears in Appendix G.

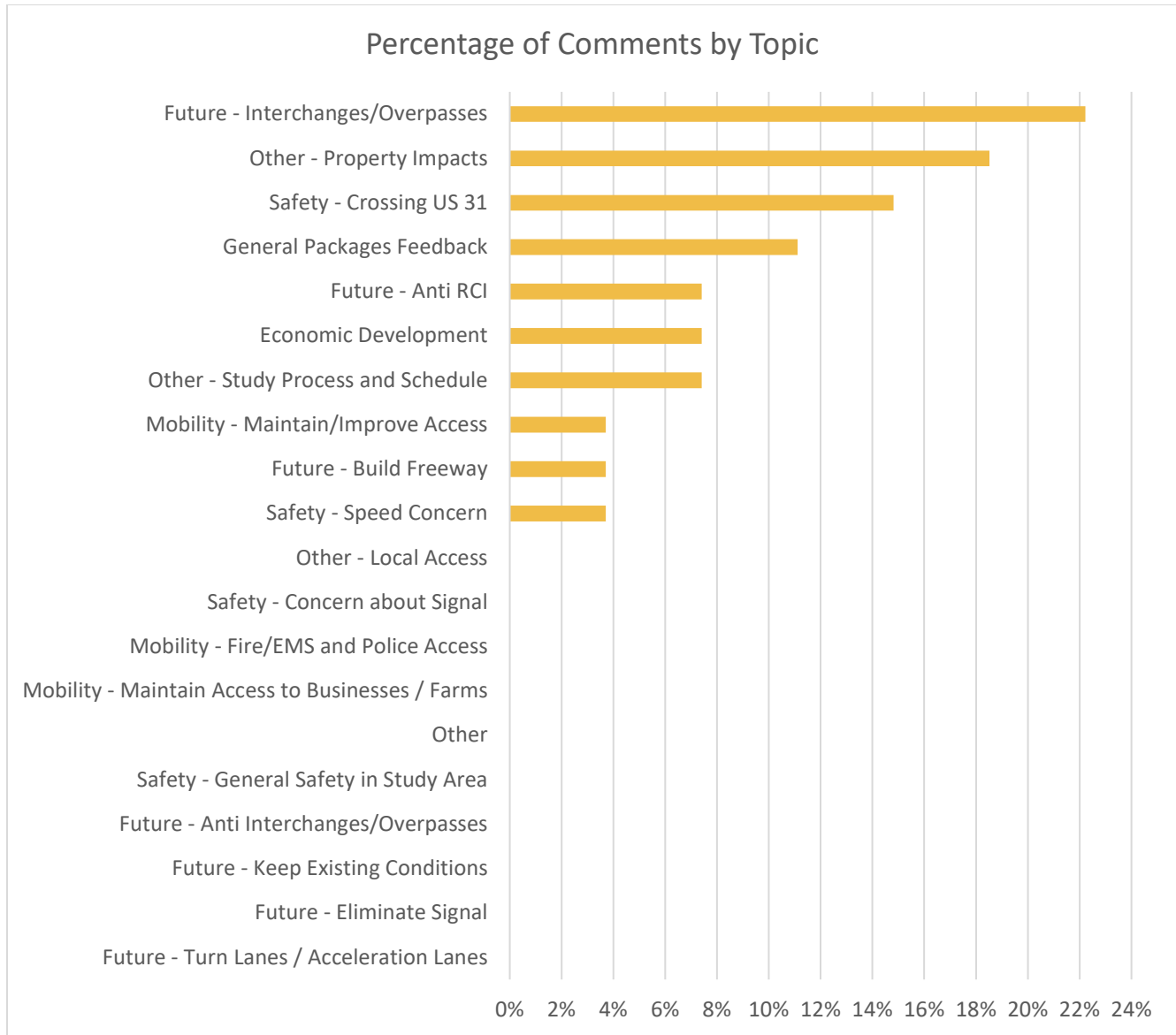


Figure 1: Comments by topic

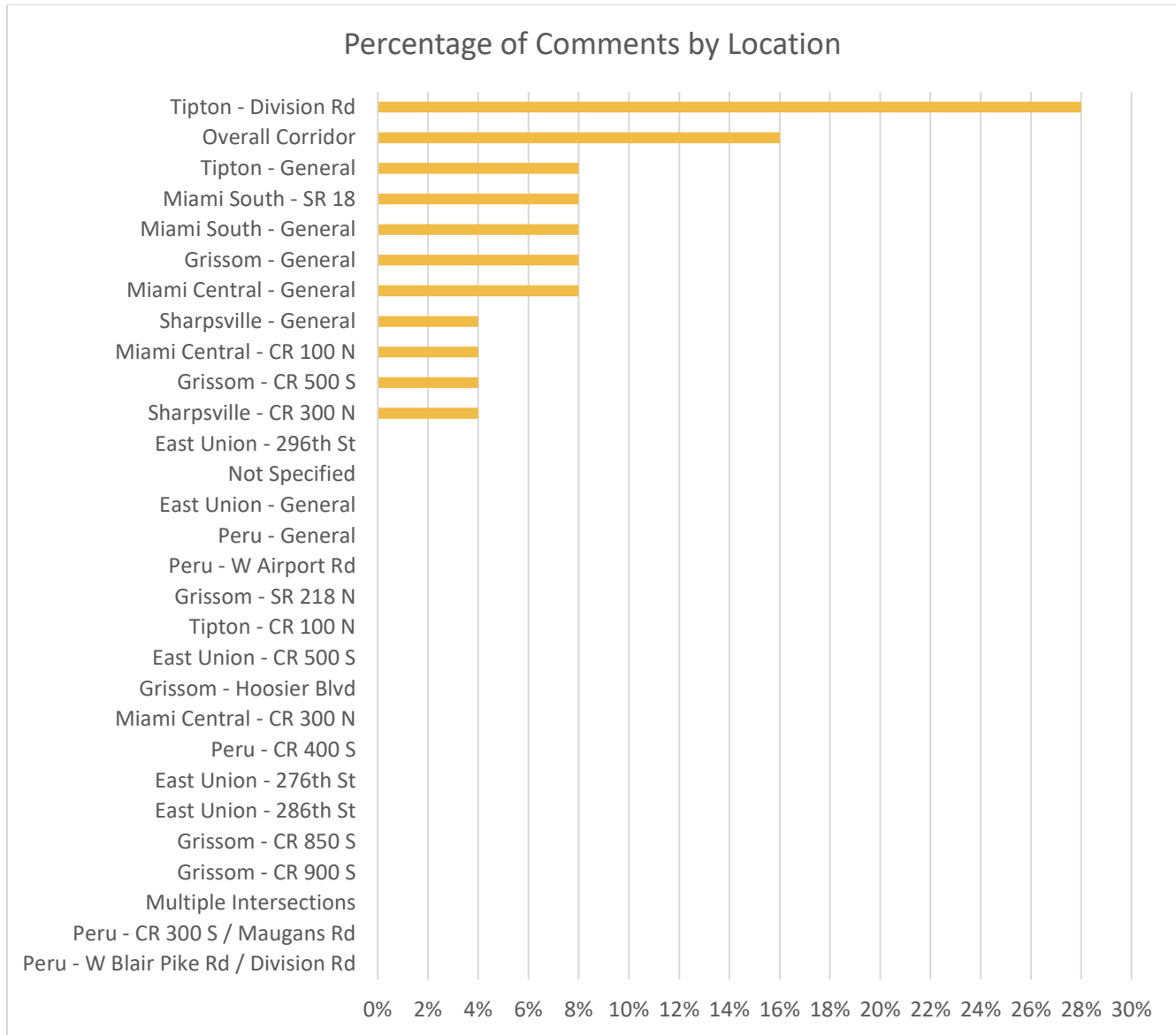


Figure 2: Comments by location



US 31 South

Resource Agency, Stakeholder & Public Involvement Summary #3 Appendices

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APPENDIX A: PRESS RELEASE



Media Contact: Natalie Garrett
812-525-0571
nagarrett@indot.in.gov

INDOT releases final reports for US 30 & US 31 planning studies

INDIANAPOLIS – June 24, 2025 – The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has released final reports for its ProPEL US 30 and 31 studies, which will inform the next 20 years of transportation planning and development along the two corridors in northern Indiana.

The Final Level 3 Screening Reports and the PEL Study Reports for each of the four study areas – US 30 East and West and US 31 North and South – are available at ProPELUS30.com and ProPELUS31.com. The Level 3 screening reports evaluate potential improvements in each study area. The PEL Study Reports, which mark the completion of these studies, summarize and document the planning efforts from start to finish.

“We asked for input early and often and were pleased to receive nearly 3,500 comments throughout the studies,” said INDOT project manager Sandra Flum. “Engagement from more than 3,700 community members across both studies helped our efforts remain data-driven and fueled by feedback.”

The study teams made several changes to the draft Level 3 screening reports based on public input. Public feedback has been vital to the success of the studies, which began in 2022.

“The ProPEL US 30 and 31 studies allowed us to engage with the public earlier in the planning process than a typical transportation project,” INDOT project manager Jonathan Wallace said. “INDOT scopes and funds projects five years into the future, so the first projects could be three to five years away. These studies were able to shape a vision for US 30 and 31 while providing important data to inform and streamline future efforts.”

Each of the study teams will host community office hours, which are informal, in-person conversations where community members can engage directly with the study team. The public is also invited to attend virtual, on-demand public meetings for each of the study areas. Additional details are available on the [ProPEL US 30](https://ProPELUS30.com) and [ProPEL US 31](https://ProPELUS31.com) websites.

The Level 3 screening evaluated improvement packages in smaller sections of each study area based on qualitative and quantitative factors to assess costs, benefits, and impacts. Examples of changes to the Level 3 screening report based on public feedback include:

US 30 East

- In Columbia City, all improvement packages feature full access at State Road 205. This change better accommodates traffic to and from the hospital and the surrounding region.
- In Warsaw, the freeway alternative was updated to include local service roads. This change provides access to and from businesses situated between Old US 30 and County Road 250 East.



US 30 West

- In Wanatah, an overpass at LaPorte County Road 1100 West was replaced with a [directional intersection](#), and Condon Street was changed from right-in/right-out to a directional intersection. In addition, dedicated median openings were added to allow U-turn movements. These changes improve access for emergency services and local connectivity.
- In West Plymouth, an overpass was replaced with an interchange at Union Road in one of the expressway alternatives. This change improves access for those traveling to Marian University's Ancilla College and the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Center at Donaldson complex.

US 31 South

- In Sharpsville, an overpass was added at the intersection of US 31 and County Road 300 North in one of the arterial alternatives and the expressway lite alternative. These changes improve east-west mobility and connectivity.
- In the Grissom area, the expressway lite and freeway alternatives include an interchange alternative at the US 31 and County Road 800 South intersection rather than at the County Road 850 South intersection. This change promotes east-west mobility by improving traffic flow while also improving safety.

The study teams also clarified language in the Final Level 3 Screening Reports to better identify which packages warrant further consideration by INDOT after the PEL studies. All improvement packages were rated as either “Eliminated” or “Carried Forward.”

Besides the final reports, the [ProPEL US 30](#) and [ProPEL US 31](#) websites include an updated interactive map that illustrate changes in each study area.

Study teams will continue to visit communities along the US 30 and 31 corridors for community office hours through July. Dates, times and locations for community office hours are available on the ProPEL US 30 and ProPEL US 31 websites and social media channels.

The ProPEL US 30 and US 31 studies span 180 miles across 12 counties and include US 30 from Valparaiso to the Ohio state line, excluding I-69 and I-469 around Fort Wayne, as well as US 31 between Hamilton County and Plymouth, excluding the Kokomo bypass. Counties within the study areas include Allen, Fulton, Hamilton, Howard, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Miami, Porter, Starke, Tipton, and Whitley.

ProPEL US 30

ProPELUS30.com

Facebook.com/PropelU.S.30

X: [@ProPELUS30](https://twitter.com/ProPELUS30)

Instagram: [@propelus30_31](https://www.instagram.com/propelus30_31)



ProPEL US 31

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Instagram: [@propelus30_31](https://www.instagram.com/propelus30_31)

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About the Indiana Department of Transportation



INDOT is responsible for planning, constructing, maintaining, and operating the State of Indiana's more than 29,000 highway lane miles and 5,700 bridges, and providing support for 4,500 rail miles and 127 aviation facilities throughout the Hoosier State. With six district offices and over 3,500 employees, INDOT works to ensure safe, efficient, and reliable transportation infrastructure while supporting the state's economic vitality. The department is committed to fostering innovation, sustainability, and safety in transportation planning and development, in addition to collaborating with local governments and private sector partners to meet the state's transportation needs. For the eighth consecutive year, Indiana has placed in the top ten in the nation for infrastructure in CNBC's "America's Top States for Business" rankings. Learn more at in.gov/indotin.gov/indot.

APPENDIX B: SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Date	Post Text	Visual
Tuesday, June 24	<p>We've reached the final step of the ProPEL US 31 study! After extensive data analysis, engineering evaluations, and community outreach, the Final Level 3 Screening Report and the PEL Study Report are now available. Visit ProPELUS31.com to view the reports. Comments received will be documented for future consideration as part of any projects that may result from this PEL study will be accepted until July 24, 2025.</p>	
Thursday, June 26	<p>Your voice helped guide the future of US 31 South. Here's a look at what we accomplished together over the years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 924 stakeholders 797 public comments 534 email subscribers 14 109 outreach events <p>From town halls to county fairs, we've listened—and you've led. Thank you for being a part of the journey with us.</p>	
Friday, June 27	<p>The ProPEL US 31 South study followed a thoughtful, step-by-step process—from research and community feedback, to screening alternatives and shaping solutions. Take a look at the key milestones that guided our journey toward the Final Level 3 Screening Report and the PEL Study Report. Every step was informed by public input and data-driven analysis.</p> <p>Explore the full timeline and reports at ProPELUS31.com</p>	

<p>Thursday, July 3</p> <p>US 31 S COH promo #1</p>	<p>Join the ProPEL US 31 South study team next week on Tuesday, July 8 for community office hours in Tipton and Peru. Stop by and share your feedback on the Final Level 3 Screening Report and the PEL Study Report.</p> <p>ProPELUS31.com</p> <p>#ProPELUS31 #CommunityEngagement</p>	
<p>Friday, July 4</p> <p>Independence Day</p>	<p>Happy Independence day from the ProPEL US 31 study team! Have a safe and fun holiday.</p>	
<p>Monday, July 7</p> <p>US 31 S COH promo #2</p>	<p>Join the ProPEL US 31 South study team for community office hours this Tuesday, July 8 in Tipton and Peru.</p> <p>ProPELUS31.com</p>	

<p>Tuesday, July 8</p> <p>Watch Virtual PIM</p>	<p>The virtual public information meeting is live. Head to ProPELUS31.com/us-31-south/ to watch the presentation.</p> <p>#ProPELUS31</p>	 <p>A graphic for the ProPEL US 31 South Virtual Public Information Meeting. It features the ProPEL logo at the top, followed by the title 'ProPEL US 31 South Virtual Public Information Meeting'. Below the title is a laptop screen showing a website with the text 'Welcome to the fourth and final ProPEL US 31 South Public Information Meeting'.</p>
<p>Thursday, July 10</p> <p>US 31 S COH promo #1</p>	<p>Join the ProPEL US 31 South study team next week on Monday, July 14 for community office hours in Peru and Tipton. Stop by and share your feedback on the Final Level 3 Screening Report and the PEL Study Report.</p> <p>ProPELUS31.com</p> <p>#ProPELUS31 #CommunityEngagement</p>	 <p>A graphic for Community Office Hours for US 31 South. It features a large date 'JULY 14 MONDAY' and the title 'COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS US 31 SOUTH'. Below the title, it lists two locations: 'PERU PUBLIC LIBRARY' with a time of '2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (EST)' and 'TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY' with a time of '5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (EST)'. The ProPEL logo is at the bottom.</p>
<p>Sunday, July 13</p> <p>US 31 S COH promo #2</p>	<p>Join the ProPEL US 31 South study team for community office hours on Monday, July 14 in Peru and Tipton.</p> <p>ProPELUS31.com</p>	 <p>A graphic for Community Office Hours for US 31 South, similar to the previous one but with photos of the libraries. It features the date 'JULY 14 MONDAY' and the title 'COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS'. Below the title, it lists two locations with photos: 'PERU PUBLIC LIBRARY' (102 E. MAIN STREET, PERU, IN 46970) with a time of '2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (EST)' and 'TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY' (127 E. MADISON STREET, TIPTON, IN 46072) with a time of '5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (EST)'. The ProPEL logo is at the bottom.</p>

<p>Friday, July 18</p> <p>Next Steps</p>	<p>Now that the Final PEL Report is complete, INDOT will consider the recommended improvements—ranging from intersection upgrades to larger projects—through its annual Call for Projects process. This competitive process helps determine which projects move forward, based on need, impact, and available funding. Selected projects typically move into planning and design before construction.</p> <p>This isn't the end—it's the beginning of what's ahead for the US 31 corridor!</p> <p>Stay connected at ProPELUS31.com</p>	
<p>Monday, July 28</p> <p>Thank you</p>	<p>To everyone who attended a meeting, submitted a comment, or shared an idea – THANK YOU from the ProPEL US 31 study team. Your involvement has helped build smarter, safer, more connected communities along US 31 in Northern Indiana.</p>	

APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER EMAIL BLAST



Final reports for ProPEL US 31 South study released

Final Level 3 Screening Report and PEL Study Report available for review

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has completed the Final Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) Study Report for the US 31 South PEL Study, and the ProPEL US 31 South study team will host a virtual, on-demand public information meeting as it concludes the study along the US 31 corridor in Hamilton, Tipton, Howard, and Miami Counties in northern Indiana. Specifically, the ProPEL US 31 South study area extends from 276th Street in Hamilton County to just south of the Eel River in Miami County.

The meeting is now available on the study website, www.ProPELUS31.com. The purpose of the study's final public meeting is to share updates made to the Final Level 3 Screening Report based on public input and discuss the PEL Study Report. The meeting will be available until July 24, 2025. Public and agency comments received during that time will be documented for future consideration as part of projects that result from this PEL study.

The ProPEL US 31 South Final PEL Study Report is available for your information and records on the study website: www.ProPELUS31.com. The Final PEL Study Report does not contain any new information or analysis. It summarizes and documents the study planning efforts from start to finish. The Final Level 3 Alternatives Screening Report is also available on the study website, www.ProPELUS31.com.

Hard copies of the reports also will be available for review at the following locations:

Tipton County Public Library

127 E. Madison Ave.
Tipton, IN 46072

Peru Public Library

102 E. Main St.
Peru, IN 46970

Kokomo Howard County Public Library, Main Branch

220 N. Union St.
Kokomo, IN 46901

Kokomo Howard County Public Library, South Branch

1755 E. Center Road
Kokomo, IN 46902

Sharpsville Town Hall

124 S. Main St.
Sharpsville, IN 46068

The ProPEL US 31 South study team will host upcoming community office hours, which are informal, in-person conversations where community members can engage directly with the study team. Dates, times, and locations for community office hours are available on the study website. They will be held:

Tuesday, July 8

12 – 2 p.m.

Tipton County Public Library
127 E. Madison St.
Tipton, IN 46072

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Peru Public Library
102 E. Main St.
Peru, IN 46970

Monday, July 14

2 – 4 p.m.

Peru Public Library
102 E. Main St.
Peru, IN 46970

5 – 7 p.m.

Tipton County Public Library
127 E. Madison St.
Tipton, IN 46072

Follow us on social media

Stay up to date on the ProPEL US 31 study progress and get information about upcoming events on our website and social media channels:

www.ProPELUS31.com

Facebook: [/PropelU.S.31](https://www.facebook.com/PropelU.S.31)

Twitter: [/PropelUS31](https://twitter.com/PropelUS31)

Instagram: [/propelus30_31/](https://www.instagram.com/propelus30_31/)

APPENDIX D: RESOURCE AGENCY & TRIBAL COORDINATION

From: [Cassidy Hunter](#)
To: [Cassidy Hunter](#)
Subject: INDOT releases final reports for ProPEL US 31 South planning study
Date: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 10:19:22 AM

Dear Resource Agency or Cultural Resources Stakeholder,

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has completed the Final Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) Study Report for the US 31 South PEL Study. As a reminder, the ProPEL US 31 South study area is approximately 31.5 miles long, extending along US 31 from 276th Street in Hamilton County north to the State Route (SR) 931 south junction in Tipton County, and from the SR 931 north junction in Howard County north to County Road (CR) West 300 North in Miami County. The US 31 Kokomo bypass is excluded from the ProPEL US 31 South study.

The ProPEL US 31 South Final PEL Study Report is available for your information and records on the study website: www.ProPELUS31.com. The Final PEL Study Report does not contain any new information or analysis. It summarizes and documents the study planning efforts from start to finish.

The ProPEL US 31 South study team will also host a virtual, on-demand public information meeting as it concludes the PEL study. The meeting will be available on the study website, www.ProPELUS31.com, beginning June 24, 2025. The purpose of the study's final public meeting is to share updates made to the Final Level 3 Screening Report based on public input and discuss the PEL Study Report. The meeting will be available until July 24, 2025. Public and agency comments received during that time will be documented for future consideration as part of projects that result from this PEL study.

The Final Level 3 Alternatives Screening Report is also available on the study website, www.ProPELUS31.com.

We thank you for your interest and involvement throughout the US 31 South study.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Cassidy Hunter
Public Engagement & Communications Manager
Planning Group

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To: [Cassidy Hunter](#)
Subject: RE: INDOT releases final reports for ProPEL US 31 South planning study
Date: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 8:26:48 PM
Attachments: [Notice of Revised Corps Civil Works Boundaries--Indiana.pdf](#)

External Email: Use caution when clicking on links, replying, or opening attachments.

Hi Cassidy,

The US31 South study area is completely outside of Detroit District (see attached notice of Corps boundaries in Indiana). Most of it is in Louisville District regulatory and Chicago District civil works.

In general, it appears the ProPEL studies (US 30 West, US 30 East, US 31 North, and US 31 South) are not down to specific projects yet. When specific projects are proposed, we would take another look. Generally we would review for effects on Corps' civil works projects and the need for Department of the Army permits:

Potential to affect a Corps' civil works project (e.g., the levee/floodwall project in Fort Wayne) under the Section 408 program is explained here:

<https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Section408/>

Also any proposed work that occurs within a water of the United States or adjacent wetlands, will likely require prior authorization through a Department of the Army Permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Information on our Regulatory Program is provided here:

<https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/wetlands-permits/>

Other than that we recommend that you coordinate specific project proposals with local officials and with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) regarding the applicability of a floodplain permit prior to construction. This coordination would help ensure compliance with local and state floodplain management regulations and acts, such as the Indiana Flood Control Act (IC 13-2-22). If you obtain information that any part of your project would impact the floodplain, you should consider other alternatives that, to the extent possible, avoid or minimize adverse impacts associated with use of the floodplain.

Thanks,

Planning Branch, Environmental Analysis Section
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
477 Michigan Ave., Detroit MI 48226-2550
www.lrd.usace.army.mil

From: Payne, Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 9:36 AM
To: Larus Longie
Cc: Kia Gillette; Tait, Erica (FHWA)
Subject: INDOT ProPEL US 31 South - Final PEL Report - Email to Tribal Nation Partners

External Email: Use caution when clicking on links, replying, or opening attachments.

Dear Tribal Nation Partners,

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has completed the Final Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) Study Report for the US 31 South PEL Study.

The ProPEL US 31 South Final PEL Study Report is available for your information and records on the study website: www.ProPELUS31.com. The Final PEL Study Report does not contain any new information or analysis. It summarizes and documents the study planning efforts from start to finish.

The ProPEL US 31 South study team will also host a virtual, on-demand public information meeting as it concludes the PEL study. The meeting will be available on the study website, www.ProPELUS31.com, until July 24, 2025. The purpose of the study's final public meeting is to share updates made to the Final Level 3 Screening Report based on public input and discuss the PEL Study Report. Public, agency, and Tribal Nation comments received during that time will be documented for future consideration as part of projects that result from this PEL study.

The Final Level 3 Alternatives Screening Report is also available on the study website, www.ProPELUS31.com.

We thank you for your interest and involvement throughout the US 31 South study.

Tribal Nation representatives please respond to INDOT's Tribal Liaison, Taylor Payne, at [REDACTED] with any responses pertaining to this study, including to provide INDOT/Indiana FHWA additional information about Tribal resources/concerns and questions/comments regarding cultural resources. The FHWA point of contact is Erica Tait at [REDACTED].

Thank you,

Kia Gillette

Environmental Project Manager, AVP

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This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you are NOT the intended recipient and receive this communication, please delete this message and any attachments. Thank you.

APPENDIX E: PUBLIC NOTICE



DES# 2100113

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

The ProPEL US 31 South study team will host a virtual, on-demand public information meeting as it concludes the Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) study along the US 31 corridor in Hamilton, Tipton, Howard, and Miami Counties in northern Indiana. Specifically, the ProPEL US 31 South study area extends from 276th Street in Hamilton County to just south of the Eel River in Miami County.

The meeting will be available on the study website, ProPELUS31.com, beginning June 24, 2025. The purpose of the study's final public meeting is to share updates made to the Final Level 3 Screening Report based on public input and discuss the PEL Study Report, which summarizes the planning efforts from start to finish. The meeting will be available until July 24, 2025. Public comments received during that time will be documented for future consideration as part of projects that result from this PEL study.

Links to the Final Level 3 Screening Report and the PEL Study Report are available at ProPELUS31.com. Copies of the reports also will be available for review at the following locations:

Tipton County Public Library

127 E. Madison Ave.
Tipton, IN 46072

Peru Public Library

102 E. Main St.
Peru, IN 46970

Kokomo Howard County Public Library, Main Branch

220 N. Union St.
Kokomo, IN 46901

Kokomo Howard County Public Library, South Branch

1755 E. Center Road
Kokomo, IN 46902

Sharpsville Town Hall

124 S. Main St.
Sharpsville, IN 46068

The ProPEL US 31 South study team will host upcoming community office hours, which are informal, in-person conversations where community members can engage directly with the study team. Dates, times, and locations for community office hours are available on the study website. They will be held:

Tuesday, July 8

12 – 2 p.m.

Tipton County Public Library
127 E. Madison St.
Tipton, IN 46072

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Peru Public Library
102 E. Main St.
Peru, IN 46970

Monday, July 14

2 – 4 p.m.

Peru Public Library
102 E. Main St.
Peru, IN 46970

5 – 7 p.m.

Tipton County Public Library
127 E. Madison St.
Tipton, IN 46072

In accordance with 23 CFR 450, INDOT intends to use the information, analysis, and recommendations from the PEL study process to inform decisions about the statewide infrastructure program which will require future federal environmental reviews conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, persons and/or groups who require project information in alternative languages or formats should contact Cassidy Hunter at cahunter@HNTB.com or 317-439-0924.

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 Manual (PIPM) approved by the Federal Highway Administration on July 7, 2021.

See Proof on Next Page

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Tipton County Tribune
116 S Main St, Tipton, IN 46072
(765) 675-2115

HNTB Corporation
111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204

State of Florida, County of Orange, ss:

I, Edmar Corachia, of lawful age, being duly sworn upon oath depose and say that I am an agent of Column Software, PBC, duly appointed and authorized agent of the Publisher of Tipton County Tribune, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Tipton, Tipton County, Indiana; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates.

Publication Dates:

- Jul 2, 2025
- Jul 9, 2025

Notice ID: ulahQJGVmReAzHIWP2PQ

Notice Name: ProPEL US 31 South Final PEL Report Notice

Publication Fee: \$170.04

Edmar Corachia

Agent

VERIFICATION

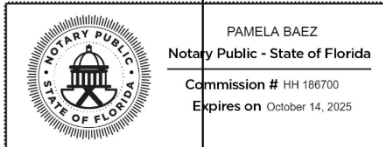
State of Florida
County of Orange

Signed or attested before me on this: 07/11/2025



Notary Public

Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.



LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING DES# 2100113

The ProPEL US 31 South study team will host a virtual, on-demand public information meeting as it concludes the Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) study along the US 31 corridor in Hamilton, Tipton, Howard, and Miami Counties in northern Indiana. Specifically, the ProPEL US 31 South study area extends from 276th Street in Hamilton County to just south of the Eel River in Miami County.

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**Kokomo Howard County
Public Library, Main Branch**
220 N. Union St.
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**Kokomo Howard County
Public Library, South Branch**
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Kokomo, IN 46902

Sharpville Town Hall
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Monday, July 14

2 – 4 p.m.

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5 – 7 p.m.

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In accordance with 23 CFR 450, INDOT intends to use the information, analysis, and recommendations from the PEL study process to inform decisions about the statewide infrastructure program which will require future federal environmental reviews conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

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Published in the Tipton County Tribune
Date: July 2 and 9, 2025
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General Form No. 99P (Revised 2009A)

Tax I.D. 82-2664009
To: Kokomo Tribune
P.O. Box 9014, Kokomo, Indiana 46901

Propel US South Study Team PEL study
(Governmental Unit)
Howard County, Indiana

PUBLISHER'S CLAIM

K- 479

Ad # 1935051

LINE COUNT

Display Master (Must not exceed two actual lines, neither of which shall total more than four solid lines of the type in which the body of the advertisement is set) - number of equivalent lines

Head - number of lines

Body - number of lines

Tail - number of lines

Total number of lines in notice

COMPUTATION OF CHARGES

134 lines, 2 columns wide equals

268 equivalent lines at 0.8104 cents per line \$108.59

Additional charge for notices containing rule or tabular work
(50 percent of above amount)

Charge for extra proofs of publication
(\$1.00 for each proof in excess of two)

Total Amount of Claim \$108.59

DATA FOR COMPUTING COST

Width of single column in picas 9.5 Size of type 7 point.

Number of insertions 2

Pursuant to the provisions and penalties of IC 5-11-10-1, I hereby certify that the foregoing account is just and correct, that the amount claimed is legally due, after allowing all just credits, and that no part of the same has been paid.

I also certify that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, of the same column width and type size, which was duly published in said paper 2 times. The dates of publication being as follows:

June 26, 2025 July 3, 2025

Additionally, the statement checked below is true and correct:

____ Newspaper does not have a Web site.

☒ Newspaper has a Web site and this public notice was posted on the same day as it was published in the newspaper.

____ Newspaper has a Web site, but due to technical problem or error, publish notice was posted on _____

____ Newspaper has a Web site but refuses to post the public notice.

Date: July 3, 2025


Title: Legal Advertising Clerk

LEGAL ADVERTISING

See table of legal rates in the applicable State Board of Accounts Bulletin

Claim No. _____ Warrant No. _____
I have examined the within claim and hereby
certify as follows:

IN FAVOR OF _____

That it is in proper form.

That it is duly authenticated as required by law.

That it is based upon statutory authority.

\$ _____

That it is apparently
correct
Incorrect

ON ACCOUNT OF APPROPRIATION FOR

Appropriation No. _____

I certify that the within claim is true and
correct; that the services there in itemized
and for which charge is made were ordered
by me and were necessary to the public
business

ALLOWED _____

IN THE SUM OF \$ _____

Attest

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Attest

AFFP
NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION M

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF IN }
COUNTY OF MIAMI,
HUNTINGTON, AND
WABASH }

SS

Meagan Hall, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Accounting Clerk of the Plain Dealer, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Miami, Huntington, and Wabash County, IN; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

July 02, 2025
July 09, 2025

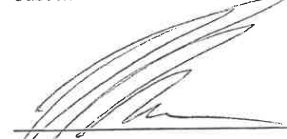
Publication Fees: \$ 140.69

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Subscribed to and sworn to me this 9th day of July 2025.



Heather Purk, Notary Public 11/22/2030

HEATHER PURK
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
My Commission Expires November 22, 2030
Notary in the County of *Van Buren*

70033953 71258882

Daniel Curtis
HNTB Corporation
111 Monument Circle, Suite 1200
Indianapolis, IN 46204

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HSPAXLP

APPENDIX F: PUBLIC MEETING PRESENTATION

Virtual public information meeting recording can be found at: <https://vimeo.com/1091026582/e6ffd7e0d2>.



APPENDIX G: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dates highlighted in yellow below denote comments received during the open public comment period following the final virtual public involvement meeting.

Date	Message
12/16/2024	<p>Miami Central:</p> <p>Of the packages that were recommended... What I like most is Package 2 What I like least is Package 3</p> <p>Of the packages that were carried forward... What I like most is no build What I like least is package 4</p> <p>Do you have other comments to share with the study team regarding the packages? Please preserve as much access as possible at 100 N</p>
12/16/2024	<p>A) Does your model include the following: 1) Kokomo is getting a battery factory. It is supposed to be over 2 football fields long. Just getting material in and out will add traffic. 2) IN28 & US31 factory is reopening as a solar panel factory. 3) Two water towers are being built, one at 276th St other at 236th St. Commercial or residential, that will add traffic to US31. If it doesn't have those 3 items, add them and redo the numbers. B) How close is US31 to being unsafe to cross - requiring bridges? Looking at some of the streets, there are cars backed up now and US31 is supposed to get worse. How soon will you be needing to build bridges? Might be cheaper to do today. C) Sharpsville needs a full interchange on US31. However, it does not need to be due West of the town. People going North can go to IN26. People going South are of interest. Putting the interchange a little further South would be okay- just don't make them go all the way to IN28/Division Rd.</p>
12/26/2024	<p>ENSURE ANY IMPROVEMENTS enhance access & highly encourage development of Grissom. These enhancements must allow for ease of Large Truck traffic which enhances property values and encourage Industrial Development. Manufacturing facilities must see potential for growth as traffic on 31 increases.</p>
1/17/2025	For the Sharpsville Segment, I strongly agree with Package #2. I do not like package #3 or package #5.
2/13/2025	NO MICHIGAN LEFTS U TURNS AT DIVISION ROAD
3/5/2025	<p>I am writing to inquire about the possibility of my property being considered for the Indiana Department of Transportation's Voluntary Purchase Program related to the US-31 project. My home, located at 1804 S Sease Dr., Peru, IN 46970, is solely accessible via US-31, and given the changes and impacts associated with the project, I would like to explore whether it qualifies for voluntary purchase under the program. If you are not the appropriate contact for this request, I would greatly appreciate it if you could provide the email contact information of the person who handles inquiries related to this program. Thank you for your time and assistance. I look forward to your response.</p>

3/27/2025	When is the final report coming out? For those who may be effected by this project, it is very difficult to see the light at the end of the tunnel. You say continue on as if nothing is going on but how do you put your heart into your home when it could end up in a dumpster one day! I feel if this is going to take my property we should get this done so we can move on with our lives and you can start your project. I would appreciate your feedback soon...thank you.
4/1/2025	Waste of money. Businesses will suffer. This j turn crap does not work and has been proven! Scott Have cost a brilliant retired engineer has documentation of failed work done. By indot. Who is getting the kickbacks from this project?
4/9/2025	Has anything happened since the last public meeting, specifically around CR 1050 N in Miami County? When will the next public meeting be?
4/17/2025	For the Miami South Segment, I would like to comment in support of Package 2. Based on the Cost Effective Index, Package 3 seems to cost significantly more without much gained. Package 2 also appears to have less of an impact on wetlands, wildlife and properties adjacent to US-31.
4/23/2025	I am 88 years old. I need to know some kind of timeframe if my property is to be purchased. There is also a small trailer park on my property. Probably 20 cars or so use this drive every day.
4/23/2025	I would like you help with lack of proper public safety in regards to INDOT plans for US31 & Division Road. This intersection keeps getting the run around by INDOT. Their lack of action has resulted in countless accidents and fatalities. This is a major intersection that is largely ignored by INDOT. They are proposing even a worse design than the current traffic lights. We need a full overpass and interchange. Nothing less is acceptable.
4/24/2025	As a landowner that could be directly impacted by these plans, concerned with access being limited or even permantly closed directly across for Grissom Aeroplex.

4/25/2025	Several residents have told me that they would like to see an overpass rather than an interchange at Division Road and U.S. 31 in Tipton County. We also need an overpass at 500 S. It was said to me that we just need a way to get from one side of U.S. 31 to the other. Tipton County Commissioner Nancy Cline
5/2/2025	Mr. Mark Hebert with Sands Investment Group is calling to ask what the intersection of US-31 and SR-18 in Kokomo will look like when ProPEL US-31 is complete. He is working with people who are thinking about putting in a Casey's in the northwest corner there and they need to know if it will be an overpass or what the plan is. He needs to know what the interchange is going to look like when our project is done or when we will have that information so he can ask then please.
5/6/2025	My comment is in regard to Sharpsville planning segment Package 5. Selection of 300N for the only new overpass send flawed. This is the most populated road (among 300N, 375N, 450N and 550N). Placing overpass here routes ask the cross-highway traffic onto the most populated cross road. With safety in mind this seems to be a flawed choice compared to 450N. I am glad to see this alternative is not "recommended".
6/11/2025	A right turn lane was installed at Ell Cemetery Road. Does this mark the beginning of the project for this stretch of 31 in Miami county?
6/12/2025	I work by the JJ Truck plaza on 31 and use it frequently. On June 11 the parking lot was such a disaster that trucks were blocking intersection trucks were trying to leave and turn in that parking lot. It was a bottle neck surprised no one had a serious accident that day.
6/21/2025	Package 5 is still the best package proposal that you have provided
6/21/2025	I don't like this option with this many cross overs and the state road 18 intersection will never work with all the big trucks that go across that intersection
6/24/2025	I cannot wait for US31 to be a freeway. It is getting SO DANGEROUS with all the crossroads and the terrible/inattentive drivers nowadays. THE WORST is Division Road and US31 Miami County. This CROSSOVER should be blocked off!!!! Have people turn north or south onto 31.... There is NO turn lane southbound and people use the intersection all the time it is SO dangerous especially after the light at 100N turns green..... people just don't think. Can't WAIT!

6/24/2025

concern for intersection 500s after stop lights at sr218 & business 31 are eliminated

7/10/2025

Seeking clarification on the Tipton portion of this project, specifically Figure 11, package 4 and 6. There is an interchange symbol at W. Division Road on both packages. Can you please provide additional information on the details of what is planned for this interchange. Will for example it be like the current interchange on E. 276th Street (in Figure 12)? Or will it be different? If different, what are the details for the interchange for W. Division Road and is there a similar sample interchange that is built somewhere that we could review?

7/16/2025

What is going to happen with the Division Rd and US 31 intersection and the homes on that corner?

7/27/2025

Level 3 shows package 1 & 2 with changes to all intersections, Eel cemetery road, 200 north and 300 north. All would have access to 31. 1 & 2 shows little to no impact to my property at the intersection of 31 and 200 north. Package 3 shows 31 being raised over 200 north and closing access to 31 from Eel cemetery and 300 north. Recently a right turn lane was installed going south on 31 to Eel cemetery road. Does this indicate that a decision has been made and package 3 is no longer considered? Meaning that 31 WILL NOT be raised over 200 north, thereby not affecting the two private landowners at 31 and 200 north on the west side of 31.

7/30/2025

I was encouraged to write to you about the proposed improvements to US 31 in Tipton County. I have been interested in this corridor for many years wearing different hats. Today, I write you after participating in and then reviewing the recent ProPEL study results. I am a Tipton County farmer and have to cross US 31 for fields at different places between SR 26 and the Tipton / Hamilton County line. I have personal and often harrowing experiences doing so in semi trucks, combines, and tractors pulling planters and other equipment.

The ProPEL study was a good exercise. One recommendation does alarm me and that is the proposed use of RCIs. If the Tipton County segment receives the RCI treatment, I believe the highway will become more dangerous to cross than it is now. Driving a tractor into the fast lane to make a left turn only to have to cross into yet another fast lane to enter the slower lane to make a right turn is a horrendous option, as an operator weaves at very slow speeds in heavy traffic running 70 mph with few openings available to maneuver our large, long, and wide equipment.

As examples of current issues, my last time crossing US 31 at the Division Road stoplight, the light turned green for me to go, there was one vehicle in front of me that accelerated normally and before I even reached the median, the light was red. Terrifying!

The US 31 median at the county road crossings are not wide enough to accommodate our equipment length, so there is no safe space to wait in the median for traffic to clear. We literally have to enter the opposing turn lane if we have to wait in the median for a chance to cross, which is frequent. Even with some extra turn lane capacity in a RCI, there is not going to be any safe way to cross at grade because of the speed discrepancy.

RIRO is a little better, so long as we do not have to cross the fast lane as we access fields on the same side of the highway. The ProPEL proposed overpasses (300 N and 500 S) and an interchange at Division Road creates the ultimate safety option for farmers.

I truly do not want to cross US 31 at grade any more in large equipment. My farmer friends are all full of stories about crossing the highway. We dread it.

The overpass at 600 N is often cited as a "safe" place for farm equipment to cross but 600 N west of US 31 is too narrow. The last time I used this crossing, I had to drive my tractor into a field that was not mine because opposing traffic occupied the road with no room to meet and pass. Even the sight lines are hard to cope with when crossing on the 600 N overpass bridge. We have no idea of oncoming traffic on the other side. I hope the county can be assisted with issues such as this as the project moves forward. An overpass that is not functional for farm equipment is not any help.

I am a firm advocate of improving the US 31 corridor and I look forward to witnessing the positive outcomes therein.

I have recently shared a couple topics of concern with the Governor's email account. First, the Propel report on US 31 for Miami County is in my view quite deficient. This is a project that when done properly should connect Indy to South Bend without lights and limited surface access points. Unfortunately, the project seems to have gone from full steam ahead in every other portion of the route to a drawn-out process in Miami County which appears to be more focused on how little can be spent rather than finishing the project at a consistent level with the remainder of the route. For example, the report is not 100% clear on the final determination though does address the options still being considered from C.R. 850 S to Business 31 near Peru. Particularly concerning is the very limited work proposed in front of Grissom Air Reserve Base at C.R. 800 S and Hoosier Boulevard. This is a busy stretch of highway and the second largest community in the County along with a federal facility which is very important to the economy of North Central Indiana. To have no real access improvements planned other than to potentially limit the access in some manner is short sighted at best. Admittedly, the stretch is complex from C.R. 850 S to Business 31, but that doesn't justify not fixing it properly. The upsides are safety improvements, economic impact, time savings and supporting Indiana's largest military aviation base. I would encourage the DOT to take a long look at this stretch and recalculate what should be done to facilitate proper access to the Aeroplex South Industrial Park and Hoosier Boulevard along with the difficulties considered at the 218 intersections and C.R. 800 S & 850 S.

7/30/2025

Second, I would encourage the governor to take an active role in influencing the location of military assets to Grissom. Since the BRAC in the early 90's it has not gained any additional use in terms of air frames. The new tanker fleet has been located in states with better political ties under the previous administration and other air frames have gone to even Michigan where the Governor is no friend of the current administration in Washington D.C. ironically. The current Secretary of the Air Force was stationed at Grissom early in his career. The governor has strong ties in Washington. Taken together the stars are aligned for something to happen to anchor Grissom into the future.

My inputs are mine alone as a citizen of Miami County and do not represent my employer or any other person/entity. However, I worked in the early days of redevelopment at Grissom when the community was saddled with assets meant for another purpose making reuse difficult. Over those 30 years development has been slow. At the same time the military unit has been steady though could be in a difficult position with an aging airframe being replaced by new ones. The support of a willing administration with proper infrastructure improvements along U.S. 31 and political alignment could result in a successful growth of Grissom and North Central Indiana. Hopefully, the governor is solidly aware of this opportunity in time and actively working to support Grissom. It is a lot more than a place that provides aircraft to fly over the Brickyard 400. Please take any and every opportunity to communicate to Governor Bruan the unique opportunity.