



PUBLIC MEETING – U.S. 61 FROM IOWA 78 NORTH TO 130TH STREET

APRIL 24, 2014 5-7 P.M.

BRIGGS CIVIC CENTER, 317 N. WATER STREET, WAPELLO, IOWA

To view additional information concerning this project please access the following website:

<http://www.iowadot.gov/pim>

Welcome to the Iowa Department of Transportation's Public Information Meeting for the proposed improvement of U.S. 61 in Louisa County from just north of Iowa 78 north to 130th Street. The purpose of this meeting is to present to you details of the proposed alternatives, to listen to your thoughts and ideas as well as answer your questions regarding the project.

PROJECT HISTORY

A Public Information Meeting was held October 15, 2009, to discuss initiation of environmental and field studies for the U.S. 61 corridor in Louisa County from north of Iowa 78 north to the existing four-lane roadway south of the Muscatine County line. On October 18, 2012, a Public Information Meeting was held to discuss details of the alternatives for the improvement of the segment of U.S. 61 from Iowa 78 north to 130th Street.

PRESENT FACILITY

Existing U. S. 61 in Louisa County is a two-lane highway. It was originally constructed 18 feet wide in 1932 and was widened to 21 feet in 1955. In 1996 the roadway was reconstructed 24 feet wide from the Des Moines County line north through Wapello. Various segments of the roadway were resurfaced in 1957, 1958, 1983, and 1994. The 2011 traffic on this section of U.S. 61 ranged from 3,600 vehicles per day to 6,300 vpd.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would upgrade U.S. 61 to a four-lane roadway from one mile north of Iowa 78 north to 130th Street. At Wapello, the alternatives provide for construction of four lanes on new alignment to the west of Wapello with an interchange at Wapello.

The completed project would upgrade and modernize the existing two-lane section of U.S. 61, to provide for a safer and more efficient roadway, lane continuity and economic development.

PROJECT SCHEDULE AND COSTS

This project is not currently included in the 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program, and therefore, no construction schedule has been established. Once funding is committed, the DOT can develop design plans so the project can then be constructed.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

As part of the project development process, various field studies are being conducted within the U.S. 61 project study area. These field studies typically include archeological sites, historic buildings, wetlands, threatened or endangered plants and animals, hazardous waste sites, and land surveys.

The Iowa DOT is requesting your comments about possible impacts this project may have on known historic properties. The term historic property includes a prehistoric or historic site, building, structure, object, or district that is listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This request is based on the federal regulations known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

This project will continue to be monitored by the Iowa DOT and FHWA throughout all development stages and construction to ensure that all possible environmental effects are identified.

RIGHT OF WAY

As part of the proposed improvements, additional right-of-way may be required. The Iowa DOT's policy provides for appraisal of property and/or property rights needed for each project. These appraisals use professional techniques and methods to determine "just compensation" in accordance with Federal and State constitutions, laws and regulations. The appraisals are prepared to assure fair treatment for both the property owner and the public.

After the appraisals are completed, each owner is contacted by a right of way agent for the purpose of explaining the plans and appraisals and for contracting the required right of way. In instances where an agreement cannot be reached through negotiations, the property may be acquired by the laws of eminent domain.

CONTACT US

If you have any comments or concerns regarding the project presented today, please contact:

Jason Huddle, District 5 Planner
Iowa Department of Transportation
307 W. Briggs
Fairfield, IA 52556
Phone: 641-472-4171 or 800-766-4368
E-mail: jason.huddle@dot.iowa.gov

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

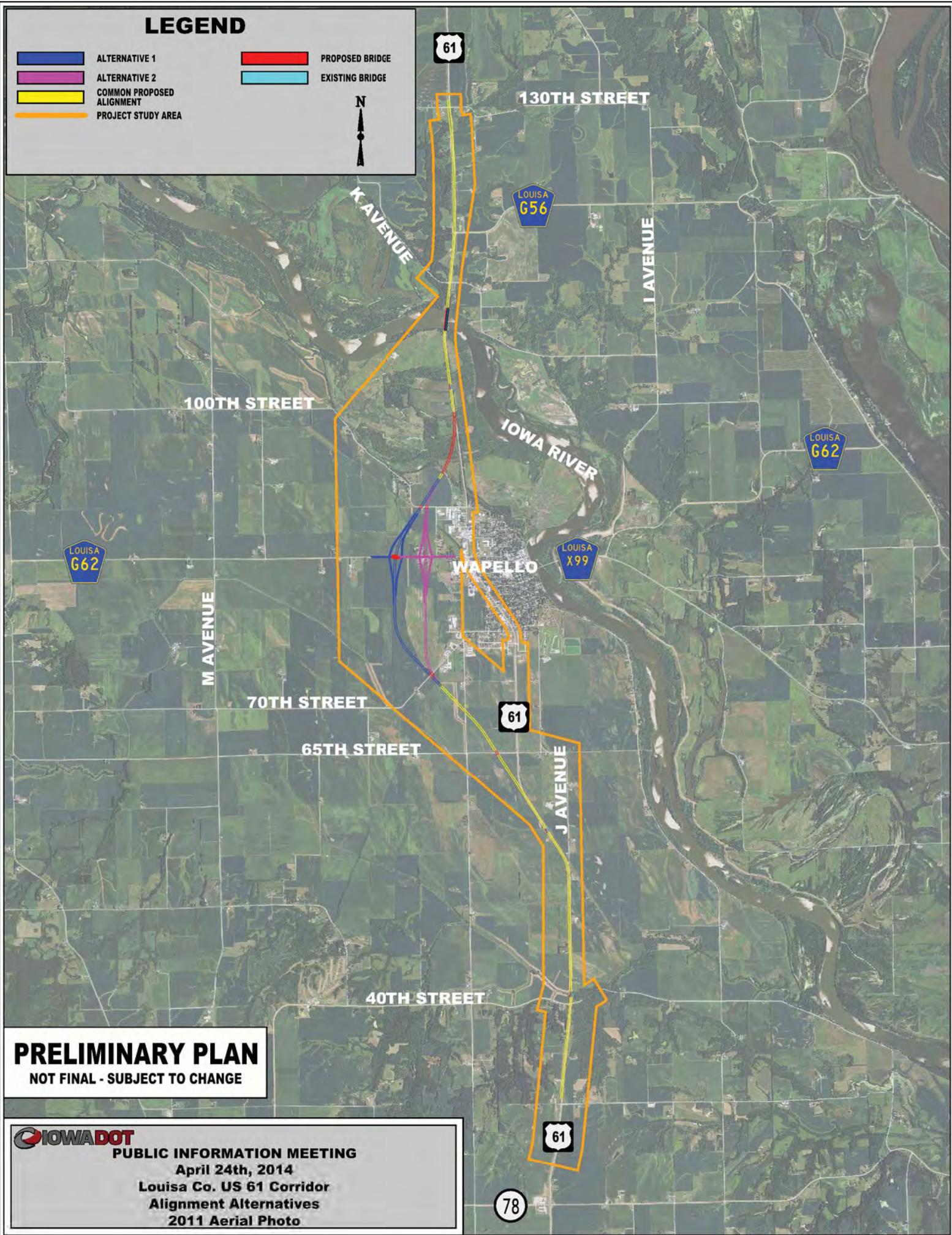
Please share your ideas with us today, submit them using the attached comment form (self-addressed and pre-paid for your convenience), email your comments to the District Planner above or through the following website <http://www.iowadot.gov/pim>. All comments and information provided will be given consideration as the project development process continues. Other opportunities for input, throughout the process, will be provided through additional future public meetings.

Thank you for your participation in this meeting.

Federal and state laws prohibit employment and/or public accommodation discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender identity, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or veteran's status. If you believe you have been discriminated against, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 800-457-4416 or Iowa Department of Transportation's affirmative action officer. If you need accommodations because of a disability to access the Iowa Department of Transportation's services, contact the agency's affirmative action officer at 800-262-0003.

LEGEND

- ALTERNATIVE 1
- ALTERNATIVE 2
- COMMON PROPOSED ALIGNMENT
- PROJECT STUDY AREA
- PROPOSED BRIDGE
- EXISTING BRIDGE



PRELIMINARY PLAN

NOT FINAL - SUBJECT TO CHANGE



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
April 24th, 2014
Louisa Co. US 61 Corridor
Alignment Alternatives
2011 Aerial Photo

78

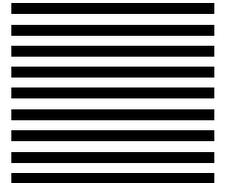
Fold first.

(TAPE--Do NOT Staple.)



(TAPE--Do NOT Staple.)

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 651 AMES, IA.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SECTION
OFFICE OF LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENT
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
800 LINCOLN WAY
AMES IA 50010-9902



Fold last