

PROJECT STATEMENT

**FOR THE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
CONCERNING THE DESIGN AND RIGHT OF WAY
DETAILS FOR THE PROPOSED I-35/ NE 36TH STREET
INTERCHANGE IN ANKENY AND SITE
ALTERNATIVES FOR THE REST AREA RELOCATION**

**PROJECT NUMBER: POLK COUNTY
IM-35-4(153)94--13-77**

**MEETING LOCATION:
TRAINING/CONFERENCE ROOM
ANKENY FIRE STATION
120 NW ASH DRIVE
ANKENY, IOWA**

December 21, 2009

**Prepared by
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION**

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

POLK COUNTY
IM-35-4(153)94--13-77

DATE OF MEETING: DECEMBER 8, 2009
MARK KERPER
OFFICE OF LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENT
HIGHWAY DIVISION
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
800 LINCOLN WAY, AMES, IOWA, 50010
515-239-1225

To view information concerning this project please go to the following Web site:

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

INTRODUCTION

The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) is conducting this Public Information Meeting to acquaint the people of Ankeny and vicinity with details concerning the proposed construction of an interchange on I-35 at NE 36th Street in Ankeny and the site alternatives for the rest area relocation. This public meeting offers mutual benefits. It gives the Iowa DOT an opportunity to explain the design of the proposed project and allows the public to express their opinions regarding the proposed improvement. Consideration will be given to all suggestions.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Travel demands in the Des Moines metropolitan area are increasing and recent studies determined that capacity improvements are warranted in the I-35 corridor in the Ankeny area. In October 2001, the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization developed models that forecasted traffic on I-35 in the year 2030 with and without an interchange at NE 36th Street. The traffic forecasts indicated that an

interchange would eventually be needed at or near NE 36th Street to provide reasonable interstate system access for existing and planned development in north and east Ankeny. In January 2004, the City of Ankeny adopted a comprehensive plan that identified the NE 36th Street corridor as an important element of the future local transportation network.

An I-35 and E 1st Street/NE 36th Street Interchange Justification Report (IJR), undertaken in January 2004, examined a range of options for accommodating future capacity needs in the I-35 corridor in the Ankeny area. It was determined that it would not be possible to reconstruct the E 1st Street interchange and construct a new interchange at NE 36th Street at the same time. The IJR concluded that the preferred order of construction would be to build the NE 36th Street interchange first. The IJR was submitted in March 2008 and was subsequently approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in June 2008.

A Public Information Meeting was held January 6, 2005, to present to the public possible alternatives for the I-35 corridor improvement. A Location Design Public Hearing was held October 28, 2008, to discuss the Environmental Assessment (EA) completed for this project, the various alternatives considered, and the preferred alternative for the improvement.

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed project provides for the construction of an interchange on I-35 at NE 36th Street in Ankeny and for relocation of the rest areas resulting from construction of the new interchange. The new interchange would utilize a compressed diamond configuration on a 200 foot easterly alignment shift of I-35. The compressed diamond concept, similar to a traditional diamond, features reduced ramp intersection spacing to

minimize right-of-way and environmental impacts. This reduced spacing results in a pinched configuration with longer ramps to achieve appropriate acceleration and deceleration distances.

The IJR determined that a rest area south of the NE 36th Street interchange cannot be maintained in its current location when the interchange is constructed. The Iowa DOT views the rest area as an important safety feature of the interstate system and is currently evaluating rest area site alternatives at the I-35/IA 210 interchange. The relocation of the rest areas will be developed as a separate project independent of the schedule for the NE 36th Street interchange project. The Iowa DOT will evaluate the environmental impacts of the rest area relocation site alternatives.

Access rights were previously acquired for I-35. Access rights would be acquired on NE 36 Street through the interchange. Traffic would be maintained on I-35 during construction.

PRESENT FACILITY AND TRAFFIC VOLUMES

I-35 in the project area is a four-lane access controlled divided highway constructed in 1965. The 2008 annual average daily traffic (AADT) using I-35 between the E 1st Street and County Road F-22 (Elkhart) interchanges was 37,200 vehicles per day (VPD).

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the NE 36th Street interchange project was approved for public availability on August 14, 2008. This EA concludes that the proposed project is necessary for safe and efficient travel within the project corridor and that the project will have no significant social, economic or environmental impacts of a level that would warrant an environmental impact statement. A Finding of No

Significant Impact (FONSI) was signed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on February 26, 2009.

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.

PROJECT SCHEDULE AND COSTS

Following are the anticipated schedule and costs for the I-35/NE 36th Street interchange construction:

ACTIVITY	2010	2011	2012	2013
Right of Way	1,200,000			
Grade and Bridge		8,500,000		
Pave			18,100,000	
Erosion Control				300,000
Total Programmed: \$28,100,000*				

*The State share of the proposed interchange construction is \$8,000,000. The remaining costs (\$20,100,000) will be provided by the City of Ankeny and federal funds.

The rest area relocation is included in the 2010 - 2014 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program for fiscal year 2012 with a cost of \$10,759,000.

RIGHT OF WAY

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.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

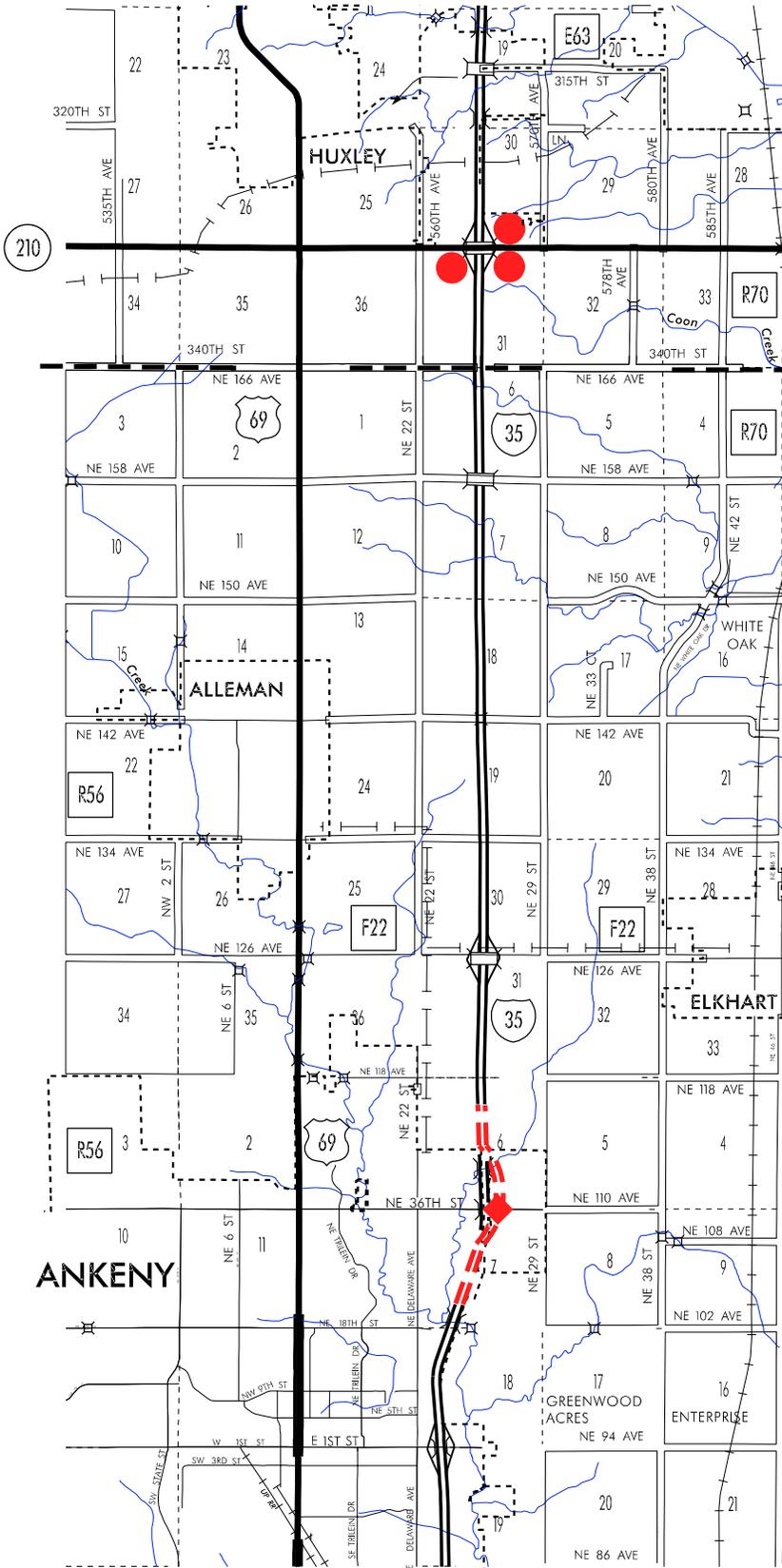
If you have any comments on the proposed project or questions about its development, please make your comments known at this meeting or forward them on the attached self addressed Citizen Comment form. A comment form is also available at the following website: <http://www.iowadot.gov/pim>.

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.

Proposed construction of an interchange on I-35 at NE 36th Street at Ankeny and site alternatives for the rest area relocation

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2009



STORY COUNTY

POLK COUNTY



Proposed Improvement



Proposed Interchange



Rest Area Relocation Site Alternatives



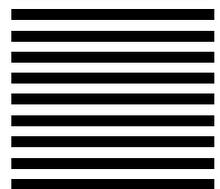
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