

The I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Task 1.3
Public and Community Outreach,
Year 2000

April 4, 2001



Year 2000 Community Outreach Summary

I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study

Public involvement and community outreach were integral aspects of the I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis study in 2000. The push to engage community groups, public officials and advocacy organizations in the study process began strongly in February with Jim Dittoe of Winning Communities meeting face-to-face with many stakeholders. Organizations on all sides of the I-69 extension issue were introduced to the study and encouraged to participate in it. During the year, Dittoe conducted more than 70 such meetings. Dittoe's personal summaries of the individual meetings are contained later in this report, followed by an index.

In February, the first groups to meet with Winning Communities were Voices for I-69, I-69 Mid-Continent Coalition and Citizens for Appropriate Rural Roads. At the CARR meeting, Thomas and Sandra Tokarski were asked to join the Steering Committee of the Issue Involvement Team, an advisory team of representatives of diverse stakeholder groups. Topics of discussion included future public involvement meetings. The Tokarskis and Voices for I-69 were asked for a list of names to add to the study's mailing list.

Dittoe held many other meetings to introduce the study, including those with Environmental Law and Policy Center, West Central Economic Development District, the Hoosier Environmental Council, Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce, Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, Indiana State Chamber of Commerce and Indiana Farm Bureau.

Those invited to join the IIT Steering Committee included CARR, Indiana Farm Bureau, Hoosier Environmental Council, Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce, Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Voices for I-69 and the Evansville Chamber of Commerce..

In late March, CARR, Bloomington Chamber of Commerce and Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez were asked to participate in a joint news conference to promote public involvement in public scoping meetings, held April 6 in Bloomington. Other public scoping meetings were April 13 in Evansville and March 16 in Terre Haute. In Bloomington and Terre Haute, attendance was between 600 and 800. In Evansville, 1000 people attended.

In May, Dittoe met with members of the Steering Committee of the Issue Involvement Team about future advisory team meetings. Dittoe spoke of the importance of developing trust among



the group in spite of the history of the project. The Steering Committee decided in June to add groups to the IIT that would represent the two initial route concepts. At that time, members of the Steering Committee were asked to formulate questions that would be answered in the factual discovery phase of the study. The committee was asked to help develop information regarding the study to share with their members.

The IIT was formed in July and was composed of members from the following stakeholders:

Citizens for Appropriate Rural Roads, Davies County Farm Bureau, Hoosier Environmental Council, Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, Metropolitan Evansville Chamber of Commerce, Sunshine Gardens Neighborhood Association, Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce, Voices for I-69 and Vanderburgh County Farm Bureau.

The May 11, 2000, written description of the IIT set forth the mission of the advisory group. It stated: "The Issue Involvement Team will serve as a conduit of information to and from the stakeholders, organizations and people, provide questions and feedback about the issues of the project and help facilitate public involvement activities. A purpose of the team is to foster communication and trust among stakeholders."

The memo designates the Issue Involvement Team responsible for assisting to determine times, locations and methods of public involvement in public meetings for the study. Other duties: determining team ground rules and team composition, number of meetings and communication methods. In addition, the team is to develop questions regarding the project and topics for discussion.

On June 7, the Steering Committee of the IIT met to clarify the participation and the direction of the group, to receive questions on the project, to discuss methods of involvement and to set the next meeting.

The group decided by consensus for the IIT initially to consist of 10 organizations holding varying opinions concerning I-69. Questions from some members were distributed and were sent to INDOT and BLA for response.

On July 6, the IIT met in Indianapolis to assist in planning Purpose and Need public meetings, which the team decided would be the week of Aug. 28 with a single meeting beginning at 6 p.m. in Jasper, Vincennes and Indianapolis. The IIT also changed the format to emphasize the public comment period over one-on-one or small group educational sessions.



INDOT Commissioner Cristine Klika met with the IIT on July 26, urging all to spread the word to their members about the next round of public information meetings. Vince Bernardin of BLA discussed the complexities of the Purpose and Need Statement. Bill Malley, legal counsel for INDOT on the project, gave a presentation about Corridor 18, citing U.S. Highway Administration and Congressional Sources.

The team supported a no-food policy at public meetings. Malley drafted reports addressing two of the IIT's questions in detail. One was the designation of Corridor 18. The other was the funding available for Corridor 18. Those were the only questions to which answers were currently available.

In late July and early August, Winning Communities met with many groups concerning the Purpose and Need Public Information Meetings set for the week of Aug. 28. Dittoe encouraged people to promote attendance. A total of 400 people attended the meetings in Jasper, Vincennes and Indianapolis on Aug. 28, 29 and 30.

Later, Dittoe updated community leaders and advocacy groups on the public meetings and encouraged them to participate in the process.

In the fall, the Indiana Association of Indiana Manufacturers, the Indiana Motor Truck Association, Indiana Audubon Society, the Indiana Hospital and Health Association, Indiana Primary Care Association, Indiana AFL-CIO, Indiana Tourism Council and the Indiana Wildlife Federation were invited to join the Issue Involvement Team.

On Dec. 1, 2000, new members met with remaining members of IIT. Four groups that resigned in October were asked to reconsider. They continue to be invited to all team meetings. The team was briefed on an introduction to modeling for decision making. Vince Bernardin of BLA gave a power-point presentation on projecting travel in the future.

Representatives from the Corporation for Educational Communications were present and explained that schools will be involved in learning more about the study through class projects using an interactive, closed-circuit television system.

Also, J. Bryan Nicol, Deputy Commissioner for INDOT, discussed the preliminary route concepts with the team.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Voices for I-69

Date: Feb. 10, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/ Individuals Present: John Schwartz, Executive Director

Major Topics: Introduction to the new study process

Summary: Mr. Schwartz and I discussed the past studies of the area under consideration. He informed me of his group's history and interest in the project. He made suggestions as to people and groups to meet. Mr. Schwartz offered to assist in whatever way he could. I told him that there would be many opportunities for the public to be involved in the process and that I would tell him of the series of initial public involvement meetings that would explain the scope of the project and expected outcomes.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: I-69 Mid-Continent Coalition

Date: Feb. 21, 2000

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individuals Present: Jim Newland, Executive Director

Major Topics: Introduction to the new process

Summary: I met with Mr. Newland to explain the new process that has begun. I told him that there was a major emphasis on getting the public involved and working with major stakeholders. He offered to help with information distribution, and I asked him to send me a list of people who might be interested in being on the mailing list from INDOT. I told him that there would be an initial series of meetings to explain the scope of the study and the expected outcomes. The locations would probably be in Terre Haute, Bloomington and Evansville.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Citizens for Appropriate Rural Roads

Date: Feb. 25, 2000

Time: 4 p.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individuals Present: Thomas and Sandra Tokarski and other CARR members

Major topics: Introduction to the new process

Summary: I met with Mr. And Mrs. Tokarski and other members of CARR. They have a very keen interest in the project and have been involved for the past several years. They expressed skepticism regarding the new study. I assured them that this was a new effort, and that INDOT and BLA sought public input from individuals and groups such as theirs. I asked them for a list of names to add to the mailing list, and they said they would send them to me. We discussed the locations of the first public involvement meetings in Terre Haute, Bloomington and Evansville. They gave me copies of letters they had sent to Cris Klika and Steve Cecil. We discussed involvement in the Issue Involvement Team and I asked for a representative on the Steering Committee from their group. They said they would give me a name and possibly an alternative. They work closely with HEC and ELPC, who represents their interests in some of these issues.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce

Date: Feb. 29, 2000

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Terre Haute

Group/Individuals Present: Rod Henry, President

Major Topics: Introduction to the new process

Summary: I met with Mr. Henry and learned that the Chamber is in the forefront of the proponents of the I-70 U.S. 41 alternative. He spoke of mistrust because of previous positions and misunderstandings. He offered to assist in promoting the public involvement meeting to be held in Terre Haute. He also called Bert Williams, a local realtor who has been involved in the project. I met with Mr. Williams and asked him to serve as a member of the Steering Committee of the Issue Involvement Team. He agreed.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: West Central Economic Development District, Inc.

Date: Feb. 29, 2000

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: Terre Haute

Group/Individuals Present: Pat Martin and Jackie Mitchell

Major Topics: Introduction to the new process

Summary: I met with Mr. Martin and Ms. Mitchell and asked for their assistance in involvement of their service area (six counties). They agreed to assist by making contacts and requested that we send news releases and other announcements that they could send throughout the area. They also made calls to many and helped clear the date of the first public involvement meeting to be held in Terre Haute.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Indiana State Chamber of Commerce

Date: March 2, 2000

Time: 3 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individuals Present: Christopher LaMothe, President

Major Topics: Introduction to the new planning process

Summary: I met with Mr. LaMothe and asked for his assistance in the Issue Involvement Team Steering Committee. He was very interested, and I am to call him back for a response and someone from his organization. The State Chamber has a great interest in the transportation needs of the members and the state.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Indiana Association of Cities and Towns

Date: March 2, 2000

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individuals Present: Mike Quinn, Executive Director

Major Topics: Introduction to the new process

Summary: I met with Mr. Quinn who is the executive of the association of more than 450 member cities and towns. I explained to him the process and requested that he serve as a member of the Steering Committee of the Issue Involvement Team. He was leaving for Washington, D.C. the next day and asked me to call him upon his return.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Indiana University

Date: March 3, 2000

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individuals Present: Christopher Simpson, VP Public Affairs

Major Topics: Introduction to the new planning process

Summary: I met with Mr. Simpson, and he informed me that the University has no official position on the project even though President Myles Brand personally endorsed a route through Bloomington. He invited me to attend a meeting of an outreach committee called the Town-Gown Committee on March 22. This has a number of community leaders that will provide me a forum to spread the word on the process.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Evansville Urban Transportation Study

Date: March 6, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Individuals Present: Rose Zigenfus, Executive Director

Major Topics: Public Involvement Process

Summary: EUTS is the MPO for the southwest part of Indiana. I explained to Ms. Zigenfus that we sought public involvement in the study, and she said that she and EUTS would assist to get the word out about meeting times and locations. I told her about the Issue Involvement Team, and she thought that was a good idea. She invited me to the EUTS Public Policy Committee meeting in May to explain the process further and seek more public involvement.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Metropolitan Evansville Chamber of Commerce

Date: March 6, 2000

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Individuals Present: Robert Quick, President

Major Topics: Issue Involvement Team

Summary: I met with Mr. Quick and asked that the Chamber provide a person to participate as a member of the Steering Committee for the Issue Involvement Team. He accepted and will suggest someone to me. I am to call back for that person. We also discussed the coming public involvement meetings, and he will help promote them.



Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Voices for I-69

Date: March 6, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Individuals Present: John Schwartz, Executive Director

Major Topics: Issue Involvement Team

Summary: I asked Voices to participate on the Steering Committee as we establish the Issue Involvement Team. He accepted and will either participate himself or choose a member of the Voices group. We also discussed the meeting date for the first series of public involvement meetings. He offered to assist in spreading the word to the communities involved.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Environmental Law and Policy Center

Date: March 8, 2000

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Chicago

Group/Individuals Present: Alexander Ewing

Major Topics. Introduction to new study

Summary: I met with Mr. Ewing at his office in Chicago to explain the new process, particularly the effort to involve the public more. He mentioned a few things to me. He asked if INDOT can be fair given the history of previous studies. He also raised questions regarding BLA, INDOT, Cutler and Stanfield, and the Governor's previous position. He questioned the process to determine the purpose and need as well as the Tiering Process of the study. He said that they have produced a study done by economic development specialists from the University of Illinois at Chicago which showed that 70-41 was more cost effective.

He urged a study that would consider all the possible alternatives within the area under construction. I told him that this was an entirely new study that welcomed input from many people and organizations. He gave me various articles which they have stating positions and reasons for those positions. He did say that they favor the I-70/US 41 route.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Bloomington Chamber of Commerce

Date: March 30, 2000

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individuals Present: Steve Howard

Major Topics: I-69 Public Meetings

Summary: Mr. Howard and I discussed the Chamber's involvement in helping promote the upcoming meetings in Bloomington. He said that he would be willing to participate in a joint news conference with the CARR group and the Mayor. The focus of the announcement would be to discuss the necessity of people's understanding of the project. We also discussed the Chamber's support for the study and he was pleased that the facts would come to light over the next two years.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: CARR

Date: March 30, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: Bloomington

Group/Individuals Present: Sandra Tokarski

Major topics: Upcoming Public Involvement Meeting

Summary: I asked Mrs. Tokarski if she on behalf of CARR would appear at a joint news conference with the Chamber and the Mayor promoting the attendance and purpose of the coming meetings in Bloomington. She accepted and I said that I would prepare a news release and send it to everyone involved. She accepted. On Sunday evening, April 2, she called and rescinded her acceptance.



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Meeting: Mayor John Fernandez – Bloomington, Indiana

Date: March 30, 2000:

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/ Individuals Present: Mayor Fernandez – City of Bloomington, Indiana

Major Topics: I-69 Public Meeting

Summary: I asked the Mayor to participate in a joint news conference with CARR and the Chamber. He said to get him a copy of the proposed release and meet with him at 7:30 the following day. He also gave me a historical perspective on the previous study as it affected Bloomington.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: City Councilman Andy Ruff

Date: March 30, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/ Individual Present: City Councilman Andy Ruff

Major Topics: The Study History and the Upcoming Meetings

Summary: Mr. Ruff gave me his view of the study and the opposition's perspective on the "new terrain" alternative. He said that he would read a statement encouraging people to attend the public meeting in Bloomington and learn about the study. He asked me to prepare the statement for him. I did and sent it to him, which he read at the next city council meeting.



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Meeting: Mayor – City of Bloomington, Indiana

Date: March 31, 2000

Time: 7:30 a.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individual Present: Mayor Fernandez –City of Bloomington

Major Topics: News release for public meeting

Summary: I gave the mayor a draft of the news release promoting community attendance at the upcoming public involvement meeting. He accepted the draft and agreed to the joint news conference with CARR and the Chamber. I also dropped off a copy of the draft release to the Chamber and it was acceptable to them. On April 2, CARR rescinded their acceptance of the joint promotional news conference that was to encourage the public to attend the open meeting in Bloomington.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: IU Town/Gown Committee

Date: April 6, 2000

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individuals Present: Members of the IU Committee
Christopher Simpson – IU Vice President

Major topics: Introduction to the new study process

Summary: This was the day of the local public information meeting. I gave an update on the process and encouraged the member who represented several sectors of the community to attend the evening's session.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Indianapolis MPO

Date: April 11, 2000

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: Mike Peoni – Executive Director

Major topics: The Study process

Summary: I gave Mr. Peoni an update re: the study. He asked me to attend future meetings of the MPO technical committee and the policy committee. We discussed the importance of this project to the metro Indianapolis area and the apparent lack of interest by the public and stakeholder organizations. He stated that he would help promote the study.



I-69 Evansville-to Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Corporation. for Educational Communications

Date: April 17, 2000

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/ Individual Present: Monica Cougin – project manager

Major topics: Introduction to the I-69 process

Summary: I met w/ Monica Cougin to learn about how the CEC is working w/ the Indianapolis MPO by involving school students in various areas of the metro Indianapolis area. This is accomplished by an interactive fiber optic television system called distance learning. Students are lead by a teacher and develop an understanding of the issue understudy. We discussed the opportunity to use the interactive system for the I-69 study. It has tremendous possibilities.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Central Indiana Regional Citizens League

Date: April 17, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: John Hay – CIRCL Executive Director

Summary: I discussed the Study process w/ Mr. Hay. He told me that CIRCL was working closely w/ the Indianapolis MPO and had developed a “Vision Plan” for transportation for the area. We discussed ways of informing his membership about the I-69 project and he offered to assist.



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Meeting: Mayor John Fernandez – City of Bloomington

Date: April 20, 2000

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individual Present: Mayor Fernandez

Major topics: Study follow up

Summary: The mayor and I discussed how the public reaction was to the local meeting held on April 6 and how to help get the facts known. He offered to develop understanding with other mayors in the state and of the importance of the logical steps of the study.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Corporation for Educational Communications

Date: May 2, 2000

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/ Individuals Present: Monica Cougin and Mel Barney

Major topics: Involvement with the Study

Summary: We discussed the project and the opportunity. I invited them to the monthly INDOT mtg to inform the team of the CEC. Commissioner Klika was knowledgeable because of the Indianapolis MPO Connections Study. The gave me a tour of their facility and informed me of their various outreach programs.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Evansville MPO

Date: May 4, 2000

Time: 4 p.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Individuals Present: Evansville Urban Transportation Study (MPO)

Major topics: The study process

Summary: I met with the EUTS Policy Committee at the invitation of Mr. Zigenfus. I discussed the process with the committee and the timing of various elements of the study. There were few questions since this board was familiar with the study. They asked to be kept informed.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce

Date: May 31, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: Indianapolis Chamber – Christopher Swatts

Major topics: The study and the IIT

Summary: I explained the I-69 study process and the formulation of the Issue Involvement Team. I asked him to participate as a member of the IIT and informed him of the nature of this advisory group. He accepted and asked to be kept informed.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indianapolis MPO Technical Committee

Date: June 7, 2000

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individuals Present: Mr. Peoni and members of the committee

Major Topics: The Study Process

Summary: I gave an overview of the Study process to the committee. They asked how it affected the metropolitan Indianapolis area. Where would it connect from the north and where would it go south? Also would traffic counts for arterials be included in the study? The committee member said that they would like to be kept informed of the process and Mr. Peoni said he would keep in contact with the study team.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Evansville School Superintendent

Date: June 14, 2000

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/ Individual Present: Supt. Of Public Schools –EVV/ Vand. Cty.

Major topics: CEC network

Summary: I introduced the CEC usage for additional participation by the public to the School system. The system would receive the benefits of the CEC network and the study would be available as a learning tool for the students. At the present, the Supt. chose not to participate.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: FHWA

Date: June 19, 2000

Time: 9:15 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/ Individual Present: John Baxter

Major topics: Public Involvement

Summary: Mr. Baxter and I discussed the I-69 study and the public involvement plan to date. We believed that people have had an opportunity to participate and learn about the study. He encouraged me to keep reaching out to all citizens and stakeholders to involve as many people as possible. We discussed various methods.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: FHWA

Date: June 21, 2000

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individuals Present: Tony DeSimone

Major topics: Public Involvement

Summary: Mr. DeSimone and several other members of the FHWA requested an update dealing with the public involvement portion of the study. I briefed them on the past several months and asked for the comments. They remarked that I should keep on with the same kind of programs.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Metropolitan Indianapolis MPO

Date: June 21, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individuals Present: The Policy Committee of the Indianapolis MPO.

Major topics:

Summary: Because their agenda ran over I had only a few minutes to give them a very brief overview of the study and the public involvement part. Mr. Peoni said that I would be invited to a future meeting of the group.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Evansville Catholic School Representatives

Date: July 7, 2000

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/ Individuals Present: School system representatives

Major topic: CEC network

Summary: I presented a representative of the CEC and Ameritech who explained the CEC network and the advantages to the system. The Catholic system reps said that there was a meeting in August and invited us to attend and discuss the proposal to the principals.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Evansville Chamber of Commerce

Date: July 7, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Individuals Present: Education Committee and staff

Major topics: CEC network

Summary: We presented the CEC network program to members of the Chamber and staff and encouraged them to review it with members of the EVV/Vanderburgh School Corp. We asked them to review it so that there could be a decision by September.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Mayor of Bedford

Date: July 13, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Bedford

Group/Individuals Present: Mayor John Williams

Major topics: Study update

Summary: I met with the Mayor to discuss an update of the study process and to ask if there was much interest in that region of the state. I told him that there were going to be public information meetings in August dealing with the Purpose and Need Statement.



I-69 Evansville-to -Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Mayor of Terre Haute

Date: July 21, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Terre Haute

Group/Individuals Present:

Major topics: Status of the study

Summary: I met with Mayor Judy Anderson of Terre Haute and discussed the status of the study. I informed her of the upcoming public information meetings dealing with the Purpose and Need Statement and encouraged her to “talk it up” within her community. She favors a 70/41 route, but will spread the word about the meetings.



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Meeting: Central Indiana Corp. Partnership

Date: Aug. 7, 2000

Time: Noon

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: David Goodrich

Major topics: Update

Summary: I gave Mr. Goodrich an update. He informed me that there still continues to be little interest in the study, but would spread the word. I told him about the coming public info meetings about the Purpose and Need Statement. He said that he would try to attend the one at Decatur Middle school at the end of August.



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Meeting: 231 Coalition

Date: Aug. 23, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Huntingburg

Major Topics: The public information meeting

Group/Individual Present: Hank Menke

Summary: I discussed the upcoming Purpose and Need Statement public information meeting in Jasper on August 28. I encouraged him to promote attendance with the community. I offered to meet with his group as the study progressed to keep them informed of the issues. He said that his group was interested in improvements to 231, but was also interested in I-69.



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Meeting: Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce

Date: Aug. 23, 2000

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Terre Haute

Group/Individual Present: Rod Henry – President

Major topics: Public meetings

Summary: I asked Mr. Henry to promote the Purpose and Need Statement public information and involvement meetings scheduled for next week. He said he would asked if I received a copy of a letter stating approval of the Issue Involvement Team.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce

Date: Aug. 24, 2000

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Terre Haute

Group/Individual Present: Bert Williams

Major topics: Purpose and Need Meetings

Summary: I discussed with Bert Williams the importance of the Purpose and Need Statement public information meetings to be held next week. As a member of the Issue Involvement Team he was aware of the meetings and had a committee meeting scheduled to discuss the issue with the Terre Haute community committee. He stated that he would try to get to the session in Indianapolis.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meetings: Purpose and need Public Information Meetings

Date: Aug. 28, 29, 30

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Jasper, Vincennes, Indianapolis

Group/Individuals Present: Open to the public and stakeholders

Major topics: Purpose and Need Statement Draft Introduction

Summary: I facilitated the public meetings in the above three communities.



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Meeting: Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce

Date: Sept. 7, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Terre Haute

Group/Individuals Present: Rod Henry – President

Major topic: WIBC error

Summary: I discussed the misunderstanding that arose after the last round of Public meetings regarding the Purpose and Need Statement draft. Mr. Bernardin was misquoted by members of the press that added to the difficulty of communication. Mr. Henry was skeptical of reports and I attempted to give him an unbiased update.



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Meeting: Indiana Association of Cities and Towns

Date: Sept. 13, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: Mike Quinn, Executive Director

Major topic: Study update

Summary: I met with Mr. Quinn to give him an update following the Purpose and Need Statement Draft public meetings. They represent hundreds of cities and towns within the study area and were an original member of the IIT Steering Committee. I asked him when the Mayor's roundtables were and when they met. He informed me of the contacts.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Study

Meeting: Citizens for Appropriate Rural Roads

Date: Sept. 18, 2000

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individuals Present: Mr./Mrs. Tokarski et al

Major topics: Update of the study

Summary: I met with members of CARR and attempted to answer their questions regarding the study progress. They were skeptical of the process. I encouraged them to have an open mind and participate.



I-69 Evansville-to -Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce

Date: Sept.18, 2000

Time: 8 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: Christopher Swatts

Major topics: Project update

Summary: Mr. Swatts attended the Purpose and Need Statement public meeting at Decatur Middle School. He told me that it was informational, but that people got “off subject” and didn’t really express their opinion regarding the P & N as much as they should have. He hoped that continued involvement of the IIT could help improve communication to interested citizens and stakeholders.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
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Meeting: Sunshine Gardens Neighborhood Association

Date: Oct.2, 2000

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present:

Major topic: Process update and clarification

Summary: I was scheduled to meet with this group, but they postponed until their November or December meeting.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Daviess County Chamber of Commerce

Date: Oct. 5, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Washington

Group/Individual Present: Ron Arnold – President

Major topics: Study update

Summary: I met with Mr. Arnold and we discussed the resolution the Daviess County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors passed that calls for supporting a highway that would use existing dividers. He offered to help communicate how they were able to tackle a very difficult issue with their county borders and move toward consensus.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Study

Meeting: Mr./Mrs Gillooly

Date: Oct. 5, 2000

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Daviess County

Group/Persons Present: Mr./Mrs. Gillooly

Major topics: Study update and the joint Chamber resolution

Summary: Mr. Gillooly discussed his involvement in the joint resolution passed by the Chamber Board. He read it into the record at the public meeting in Vincennes on August 30. I asked him to help continue as an effective communicator and he stated that he would do what he could.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Mayor Lloyd

Date: Oct. 10, 2000

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Person Present: Mayor Russell Lloyd – City of Evansville

Major topics: Study update

Summary: I met with the Mayor to discuss the status of the study and his impressions of the Purpose and Need Statement draft. He commented that the general public still doesn't understand the complexity of the study. He offered to help communicate with other elected officials.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Evansville Chamber of Commerce and Voices for I-69

Date: Oct. 10, 2000

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Individuals Present: John Schwartz, Sally Rideout Lambert, Paul Tedesco

Major topics: Follow-up to study public meetings

Summary: I met with these officials of the above organizations to discuss the Purpose and Need Statement draft. They assisted in the communications effort and sought to make continual statements of their position. They offered to continue to assist through the Issue Involvement Team and their own newsletters and sources through their news media contacts. They encouraged that the Study Team emphasize the many alternate routes that are under consideration.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indiana Association of Manufacturers

Date: Oct. 17, 2000

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: Pat Kiely – President

Major topics: The Study and the IIT

Summary: I gave Mr. Kiely an update and asked for his organization to be on the Issue Involvement Team. I explained that it was an advisory body established to help communicate to the public and to stakeholders. He said he would supply a staff person and to be kept advised.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Mayor John Fernandez

Date: Oct. 25, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individual Present: Mayor John Fernandez – City of Bloomington

Major topics: Participation by mayors in the study

Summary: I asked the Mayor to assist in helping the communication effort with mayors and other elected officials. He said that there needs to be bi-partisan support and that he would help and for me to get back to him.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indiana Wildlife Federation

Date: Nov. 1, 2000

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Carmel

Group/Individual Present: Paula Yeager –Exec. Dir.

Major topics: Issue Involvement Team

Summary: I met with Ms. Yeager to discuss the participation of the Indiana Wildlife Federation on the Issue Involvement Team. She has an Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Nov. 3, 2000, and will recommend that they participate.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indiana Motor Truck Association

Date: Nov. 2, 2000

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: Ken Cragen – President

Major topics: Issue Involvement Team

Summary: I discussed the Study with Mr. Cragen and explained the purpose of the Issue Involvement Team and asked if the IMTA would like to become a member. I told him of the next meeting and he said that they would participate.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Study

Meeting: Indiana Hospital and Health Association

Date: Nov. 2, 2000

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: Ken Stella – President

Major topics: Issue Involvement Team

Summary: I explained to Mr. Stella the nature and history of the study and the idea of the Issue Involvement Team. He said that he would discuss it with Bob Moore of the staff, but would probably participate. It is an issue that would affect his members.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Valley Watch

Date: Nov. 15, 2000

Time: 4 p.m.

Location: Evansville

Group/Individual Present: John Blair

Major topics: The study and the communication networks

Summary: I met with Mr. Blair, who is the executive for this environmental group, and we discussed the I-69 study. I told him about the communication networks that we were about to establish. He said he would be happy to act as a convener of environmental groups. I told him we would be developing these soon with an expected start date of January, 2001.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: IACT mayor's roundtable

Date: Nov. 16, 2000

Time: Noon

Location: Princeton

Group/Individual Present: IACT mayor's and city officials including Mike Quinn – Executive Director

Major topics: The status of the study

Summary: I was the speaker at the monthly meeting of this southwest mayor's roundtable sponsored by the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns. I discussed the elements of the process and the current drafting of the Purpose and Need Statement and the follow up public meetings to be held in January, 2001. I emphasized there were multiple routes that will be announced soon.



I-69 Evansville--Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Corporation for Educational Communications

Date: Nov. 16, 2000

Time: 3 p.m.

Location: Spencer

Major topics: CEC training and the study

Summary: Tia Agnew addressed the teachers who are charged with the responsibility of developing a study program for following the I-69 study. They were in a day-long training session to learn how to utilize the long distance learning center system for the six schools represented. I spoke very briefly and told them to use me as a resource for additional contacts. Monica Cougin was the trainer for the CEC.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indiana Audubon Society
Chipperwoods Bird Observatory

Date: Nov. 29, 2000

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Major topics: The Study and the Issue Involvement Team

Summary: I met with Dr. Ron Weiss who is the representative of the above groups and informed him of the Study. He was aware of the project, but did not know of the depth of the study. He was very pleased to be asked and will make every attempt to attend the meeting of the Issue Involvement Team as a member on Dec.1, 2000. He will help promote the study and future public meetings in his newsletters. He has an interest in providing input into bird habits when it would be appropriate to have him talk about migratory routes if it would be helpful to the study team if it gets into such subject matter.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce
Infrastructure Committee

Date: Dec.13, 2000

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Major topics: Update of the Study

Summary: I presented an update of the study and the previous year's events at the meeting of the committee. I was invited by IIT member Christopher Swatts to make the presentation. Questions ranged from next public meetings to possible timetables. I spoke of the 14 alternative routes and asked them to check the website for more specific information.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Indiana University Professor Morton Marcus

Date: Dec. 26, 2000

Time: Noon

Location: Indianapolis

Major Topics: Update of the Study

Summary: Morton Marcus is head of the Indiana University Division of Research in the School of Business and speaks throughout the State on matters of economic and community development. I discussed the I-69 Study and the process involved. He also writes a syndicated column that has a focus on statewide development and regional applications. He will encourage people throughout the state to “get the facts” as they make an informed decision on the various alternatives and will recommend that they attend the public meetings to become informed and follow the progress of the study.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Issue Involvement Team Steering Committee

Date: May 11, 2000

Location: Bloomington

Group/Individuals Present: Original members of the Steering Committee

Major topics: Establishment of the Team

Summary: We met with the original members of the steering committee including CARR, the Voices for I-69, IACT, the Evansville Chamber of Commerce, HEC, the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce

We discussed the makeup of the committee, frequency of meeting, the advisory nature of the committee, issues to be discussed, and other appropriate subjects. I spoke of the importance of developing trust among the group in spite of the history of the project.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Issue Involvement Team Steering Committee

Date: June 7, 2000

Time: 4 p.m.

Location: Bloomington, Indiana

Group/ Individuals Present: IIT Steering Committee

Major topics: Follow up to establishment of IIT

Summary: The Steering Committee added groups to represent the two initial routes. We also discussed the issues of the study and I asked that questions be sent to me for response in the factual discovery stage of the study.

We also discussed the format for future public information meetings. I asked that they help develop information regarding the study process and share it with their constituencies.

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I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: Issue Involvement Team

Date: July 6, 2000

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/Individual Present: IIT members, INDOT staff

Major Topics: Purpose and Need Meetings

Summary: The IIT discussed format and locations of the Purpose and Need public information meetings set for the week of Aug.28 at various geographic locations. It was decided that Jasper, Vincennes, and Indianapolis would be good locations.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: The Issue Involvement Team

Date: July 26, 2000

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/ Individuals Present: IIT members, Comm. Klika, members of the Study Team

Major topics: Agenda items

Summary: The Issue Involvement Team was welcomed by Commissioner Klika. The subject matter included a presentation by Bill Malley of Cutler and Stansfield. He discussed “corridor 18” and the implications for the I-69 study. Mr. Grovak and Mr. Bernardin also discussed the “Purpose and Need” statement that was under preparation by the Team. They said that the next rounds of public meetings will deal with the issue. They urged all to assist by spreading the word to their members. We also discussed the future of the Team meetings – location, time of day, purpose.



I-69 Evansville-to-Indianapolis Study
Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement

Meeting: The Issue Involvement Team

Date: December 1, 2000

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Indianapolis

Group/ Individuals Present: IIT members, Deputy Commissioners Cecil and Nicol, members of the Study Team

Major topics: Agenda items

Summary: Mr. Dittoe welcomed all and asked for self introductions. He restated the purpose of the Issue Involvement Team

Mr. Dittoe distributed the purpose statement for the IIT as it was written on May 11, 2000. He welcomed new members who have been added to help develop the understanding of the process of the study.

A question was raised concerning the balance of the IIT. Discussion ensued that many of the members were attending to act as a conduit of information for their members. Effort has been made to have various viewpoints and neutral organizations as members. The four groups that resigned in October have also continued to be invited to the meetings.

Vince Bernardin provided a study update. He spoke of the importance of statistical information gathering. The Purpose and Need Statement is being developed and will be in draft form in the spring.

Mr. Bernardin gave a Power Point presentation concerning information that is being generated that will give projections of travel in the future. This will assist in the decision making as to which of the proposed routes will be recommended.



Representatives from the Corporation for Educational Communications were present and indicated that schools will be involved as class projects in learning more about the subject of the study through an interactive, closed-circuit television system.

Mr. Dittoe said that at the next meeting we will want to discuss the utilization of the website, newsletters, the CEC network, and other forms of communication to stakeholders and the general public.

Mr. Nicol, Deputy Commissioner for INDOT, discussed the preliminary highway route alternative concepts. Mr. Nicol stated that there are three major stages:

1. To identify the alternatives
2. To begin the screening process following the draft of the Purpose and Need Statement
3. To do a detailed analysis of 3-5 route concepts to develop a working alignment.

Mr. Nicol also re-iterated four things:

1. INDOT has challenged the study team to develop a fair and unbiased study.
2. The study is on schedule.
3. Final decisions are on target.
4. Public input has been voluminous.

He distributed a document showing 14 conceptual routes, but also said that rail and a no-build option are also considered alternatives. Mr. Bernardin explained the text that was distributed with the route concepts.

Mr. Dittoe told all that he would call after the first of the year to establish the next meeting and thanked all for their interest.

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