



# MACARTHUR BOULEVARD

## Phase I Study



### ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Launches Phase I for MacArthur Boulevard

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently launched a Phase I study of MacArthur Boulevard. The study includes a 1.5 mile corridor between Wabash/Stanford Avenue and South Grand Avenue. This study will evaluate the current conditions of the corridor and develop alternatives that will improve safety, traffic flow, pedestrian and multi-modal accommodations, ADA requirements and drainage.

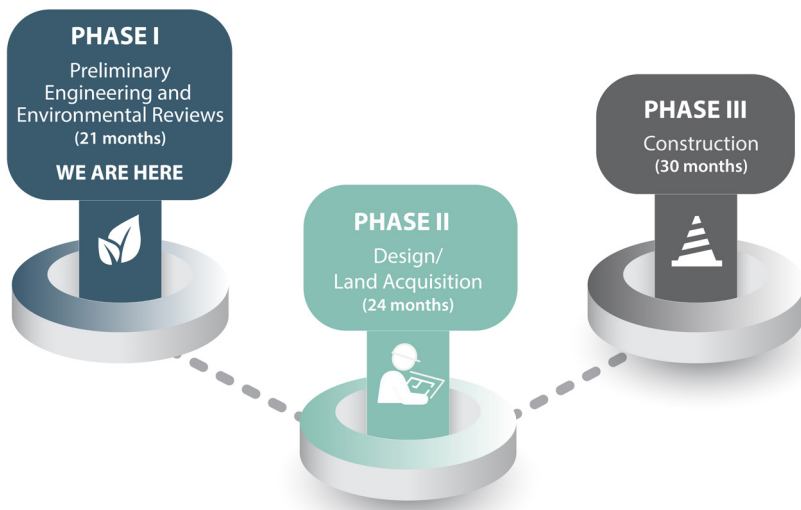


## UNDERSTANDING the IDOT Process

The Illinois Department of Transportation utilizes a three Phased process for project implementation. Phase I, completes Engineering and Preliminary Design which evaluates the project corridor, determines environmental impacts, develops and analyzes alternatives, and selects a preferred alternative. Phase II completes final design and if required, land acquisition takes place during this Phase. Phase III is the construction phase and completes the project.

For some projects, a feasibility study will be completed. A feasibility study identifies problems along a roadway corridor as well as multiple alternative solutions and cost estimates all of which are used to secure funding for the next phase(s).

A feasibility study was previously completed for the MacArthur Boulevard project. The project is currently in Phase I.



## National Environmental Policy Act – NEPA

Projects utilizing federal funding must comply with NEPA. This requires an evaluation of how a project may affect the natural, built and livable environment. Many elements will be evaluated to determine if the project will cause any adverse effects. The adverse effects will be studied to determine if mitigation is necessary. The public will have the opportunity to comment on any proposed improvements and the impacts they may have.

### ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS TO BE EVALUATED:

- Socio-Economic
- Social Justice
- Cultural and Historic Resources
- Solid and Hazardous Waste
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Water Resources
- Flooding/Stormwater Runoff
- Land Use

# Community Advisory Group Established

A Community Advisory Group (CAG) has been established to provide ideas and local knowledge to IDOT and the consultant team. This group is made up of local officials, transportation professionals, community leaders, businesses, and residents. The first meeting of this group was held on June 16, 2021 and included a workshop to gather input to be used to develop the project's Purpose and Need. It is anticipated the CAG will meet approximately three additional times throughout the study.



This Project is following IDOT's **Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)** policy. CSS provides a collaborative approach that involves all stakeholders to develop a facility that fits into its surroundings and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources while maintaining safety and mobility.

## Purpose and Need

A project Purpose and Need is a statement required for projects going through the federal process. The statement describes the goals the project will meet and lists the issues that prove the project is necessary.

### THE DRAFT PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THIS PROJECT IS:

The **purpose** of this project is to provide a consistent corridor that improves route condition and access, improves drainage, considers all roadway users, and supports economic development, while meeting current design standards and minimizing impacts to the environment and surrounding area.

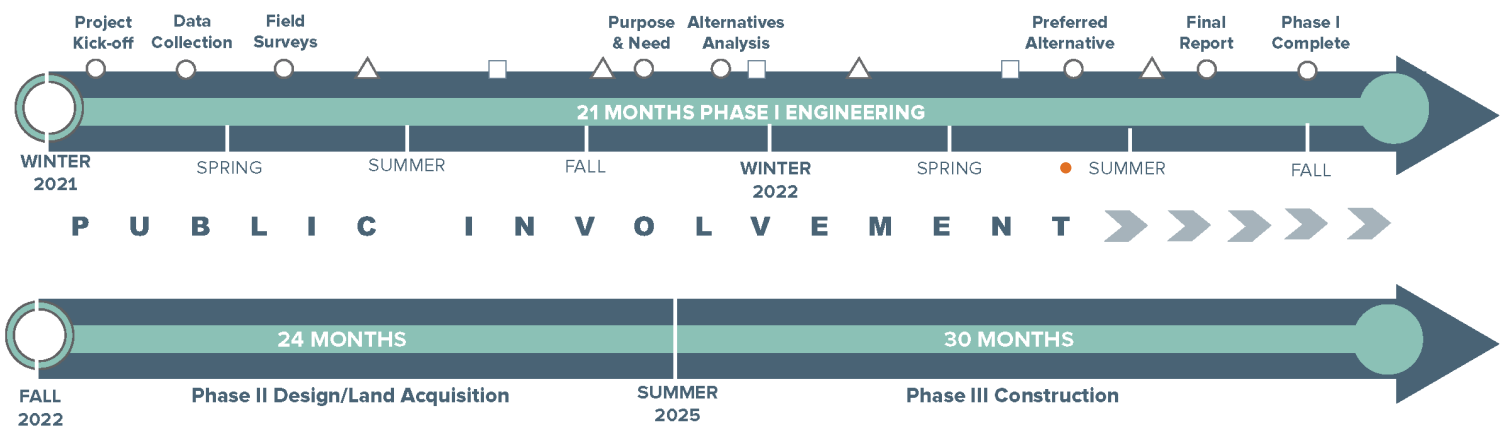
The **need** for this project will address the existing roadway condition, the inconsistent number and width of traffic lanes, substandard intersection geometrics, corridor safety for all users, and areas prone to flooding.



*Your comments on this statement are encouraged. All comments will be evaluated, and the statement may be revised for submission to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).*

# Project Timeline

**SPRING 2022** Short term pavement rehab



- △ Community Advisory Group (CAG)
- Public Informational Meeting

## Get Involved!

Public participation is an important component of this project. We strongly encourage you to attend public meetings. Tell your friends and neighbors. Visit the project web page at [www.IDOT.Illinois.gov/projects/Sangamon-County--MacArthur-Blvd](http://www.IDOT.Illinois.gov/projects/Sangamon-County--MacArthur-Blvd) to learn about this project as well as previous studies.

**SUBMIT A COMMENT** [www.MacArthurBlvdSpringfield.org](http://www.MacArthurBlvdSpringfield.org)

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