



# Illinois Department of Transportation

## PUBLIC HEARING

### IL 18 RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT MARSHALL AND PUTNAM COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

**DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2024**

**TIME: 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION: Henry-Senachwine High School  
1023 College Avenue / Henry, Illinois 61537**

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has scheduled an open house public meeting to present the preferred alternative alignment for the IL 18 River Bridge Project. The study limits extend along IL 18 from the intersection of School Street and 3rd Street on the west to the intersection of IL 18 and IL 26 on the east. The IL 18 Bridge is a critical transportation link providing access across the Illinois River for the City of Henry, Marshall and Putnam counties, and the surrounding region. The bridge is 90 years old and is approaching the end of its repairable life.

This meeting will provide an update on the status of the IL 18 River Bridge Project; present the Preferred Alternative alignment for the project; and obtain public input on the IL 18 River Bridge Project and removal of the Historic Bridge as a result of this project. All persons interested in this project are invited to attend. The meeting will be conducted on an informal basis with project displays and other information available for viewing. IDOT representatives will be available to explain the project and answer questions. No formal presentation will be given.

The existing IL 18 River Bridge is considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places which provides it protection under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The Illinois Department of Transportation is proposing the replacement and demolition of the bridge. The public hearing will provide an opportunity to provide comments about potential cultural resources, in compliance with Section 106 and to assist in consultation with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office. The IL 18 River Bridge is also afforded protection under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

The project impacts Duck Ranch, a fish and wildlife area owned by Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Riverfront Park, a recreational park owned by the City of Henry. Duck Ranch access road will temporarily be closed to the public during construction. Riverfront Park will be regraded. No land will be purchased from either property. The public will be able to review and comment on the effects of the project on the activities, features and attributes that qualify these resources for protection under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

The project will displace five homes and two businesses. The acquisition of these properties will be accomplished in accordance with the Uniform Act. The Uniform Act provides for uniform, fair, and equitable treatment of persons whose real property is acquired or who are displaced in connection with federally funded projects.

The public is encouraged to submit comments. Comments can be submitted in writing or electronically. Written correspondence can be mailed to the address listed below. Comments received by March 27th will become part of the public hearing record.

State COVID guidelines at the time of the meeting will be followed, which may require precautions such as facial coverings, social distancing, and room occupancy limits. The location of the meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If special accommodations or assistance are needed, please contact Mr. Greg Larson, IDOT, by Friday February 23, 2024, at 309-671-3479, by email at [Greg.Larson@Illinois.gov](mailto:Greg.Larson@Illinois.gov), by telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY) at 309-671-3450, or in writing to the address listed below.

**Ms. Karen Dvorsky, IDOT Studies and Plans Engineer**  
**Re: IL 18 River Bridge Project**  
**Illinois Department of Transportation**  
**401 N. Main Street**  
**Peoria, Illinois 61602**

[www.IL18RiverBridgeProject.com](http://www.IL18RiverBridgeProject.com)