



Welcome to the January 2008 US 51 Public Information Meeting

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) District 7 welcomes you to this Public Information Meeting for the proposed improvements of US Route 51 from the Shelby/Christian County line to the IL-177 interchange east of Irvington.

We invite you to inspect the project exhibits on display and visit with personnel from IDOT and their consultant (The US 51 Partners), who are in attendance at today's meeting. Your comments and opinions are an important part of this meeting and you are encouraged to provide them in writing or discuss them with staff in attendance. Written questions or comments should be directed to Jerry Payonk and placed in the comment box or mailed to the address shown in this brochure. Mailing information is on the other side of this handout.

PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING

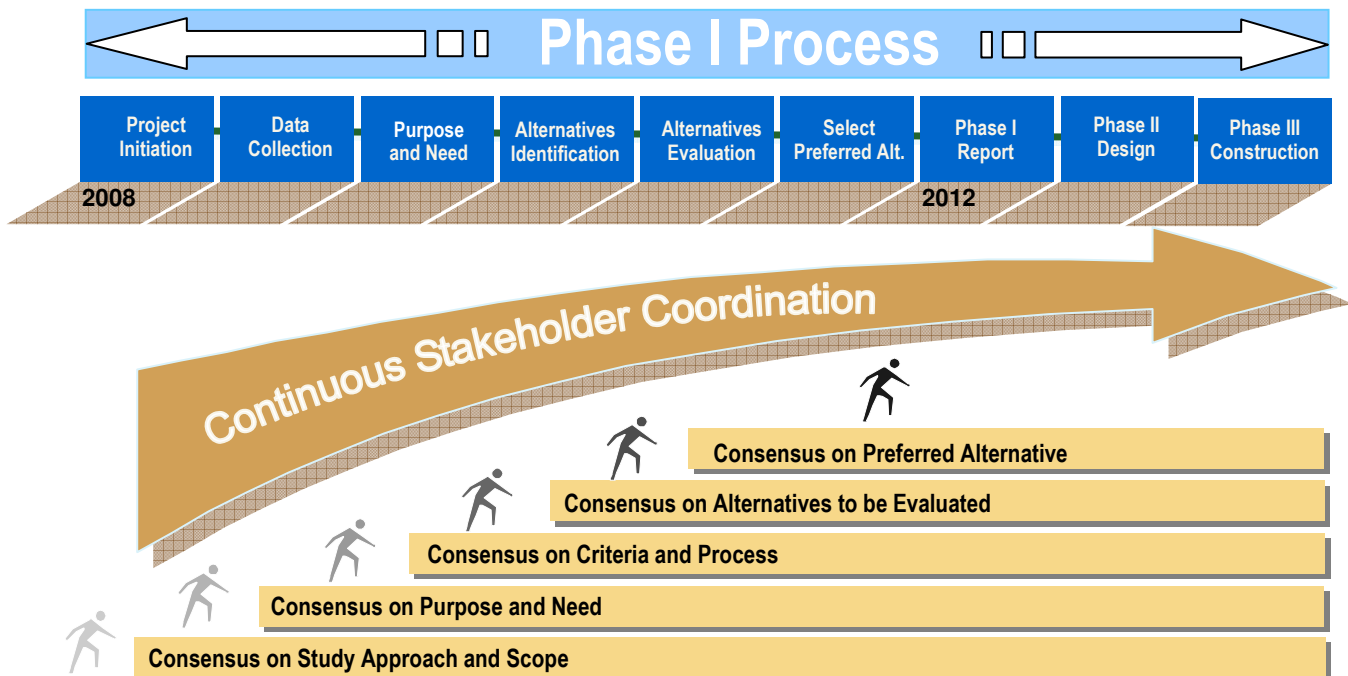
The purpose of this meeting is to:

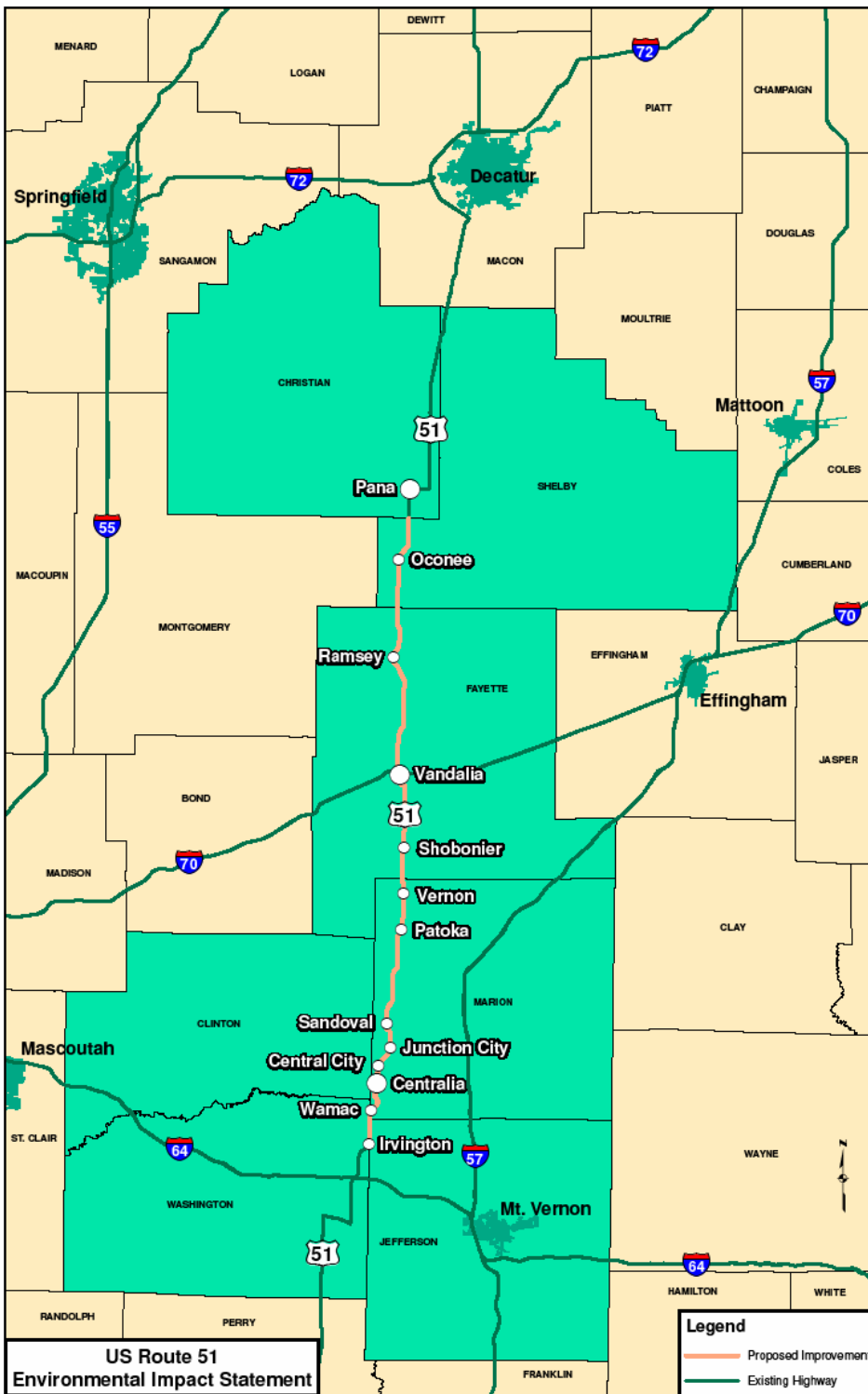
- Introduce the communities to the project, the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process and the project schedule.
- Kickoff the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) public involvement process.
- Provide residents, business owners, and other interested persons an opportunity to provide comments to the project team regarding the project's purpose along with social, cultural and/or environmental issues.
- Identify potential Regional and Citizen Advisory Group Members.

The project team realizes individuals living close to the project want to be informed of the possible effects of the project on their homes and businesses. However, exact information is not available at this stage of the planning process. More detailed information will be available as the project moves forward so that input from the stakeholders/residents can be incorporated into the project.

PLANNING PROCESS

The US 51 EIS involves preparing a report which focuses on an alternatives analysis and environmental evaluation. After the alternatives evaluation process is complete, a Preferred Alternative is selected. Through IDOT's CSS procedures, there will be opportunities for stakeholders to get involved and provide input throughout the entire study process. Refer to the *Phase I Process* diagram below to see the level of coordination that will take place.





PROJECT LOCATION MAP

The US 51 study corridor is approximately 70 miles in length and extends from the Shelby/Christian County line to the IL-177 interchange east of Irvington. The study corridor is contained in the Illinois counties of Christian, Shelby, Fayette, Marion, Clinton, Jefferson, and Washington.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND INFORMATION

Written comments and opinions may be submitted during the Public Information Meeting or mailed to the address below *no later than February 15, 2008* in order to become part of the official Public Meeting Record. Correspondence should be addressed to:

Clark Dietz, Inc.
 Attn: Jerry Payonk
 1817 South Neil Street, Suite 100
 Champaign, Illinois 61820

We're on the web! Please visit the US 51 EIS website for project status, updates and ways to get involved:

www.us51-idot.com