

# GOUGAR

## ROAD STUDY

Public Information Meeting

June 1, 2021

### WHAT IS THIS PROJECT?

The Will County Division of Transportation (WCDOT) is undertaking roadway improvements along the Gougar Road corridor. Gougar Road (CH 52) is a county highway located in parts of Joliet, New Lenox, and Will County. The limits of the study are from the intersection of Laraway Road (CH 74) to Francis Road (CH 64), which is approximately 3.3 miles long. The intent of the project is to accommodate future traffic demands while ensuring a safe and efficient traffic flow.

### WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING?

This Public Information Meeting contains the following information. All the exhibits listed below are available on the project website at [www.GougarRoadStudy.com](http://www.GougarRoadStudy.com) and printed copies are available at the Will County Division of Transportation office.

- Location Map
  - See the Gougar Road Study limits and the boundaries of the City of Joliet and the Village of New Lenox
- Project Phasing Schedule
  - Learn about the 3 phases of a transportation project and the current status of the project
- Strip Map
  - See the proposed improvement from a bird's-eye point of view with the surrounding environmental resources.
- Existing and Proposed Cross Section
  - Compare the existing and proposed features of the roadway improvement
- Average Daily Traffic and Level of Service
  - Observe the current daily traffic and intersection delays. Then, see how the proposed improvements will mitigate these delays in the future.
- Gougar Road Crash History
  - Gain knowledge of the different types of crashes and where they have occurred along Gougar Road over the last 5 years
- Land Acquisition Process
  - Understand the process that will be followed to acquire land needed to complete the project as well as the different types of land acquisitions
- NEPA/Section 4(f) Information
  - Gain an understanding of the environmental considerations and the best management practices that are being considered
- Bike and Pedestrian Accommodations
  - Learn about the location of future bicycle and pedestrians pathways and this project's compliance with the American with Disabilities Act.
- Noise Abatement
  - Learn about the feasibility and reasonableness of noise abatement and how someone can benefit from noise abatement measures



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How is this project being funded?

Gougar Road between Laraway Road and US Route 6 is owned and maintained by the Will County Division of Transportation. The Gougar Road project is funded in the County's 2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and includes all phases, including this study (Phase I), design (Phase II), right-of-way acquisition, and construction (Phase III).

### What about US Route 6 (Maple Road), the railroad grade separation, and I-80?

Below is a summary of projects, adjacent to or within the limits of the Gougar Road Study, that are in progress.

#### Gougar Road (CH 52) at Wisconsin Central LTD Railroad Grade Separation Phase I Study

This study is being conducted by the Village of New Lenox and includes proposing a Gougar Road grade separation over the Wisconsin Central (CN Railroad) at-grade crossing, located on Gougar Road just south of Lincoln Way West High School. The Phase II (Engineering Design) is anticipated to begin in 2022 and has been added to the County's 2022-2027 TIP. However, Phase III (Construction) is not currently funded.

#### US Route 6 (Maple Road) at Gougar Road

This project is being performed by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The project will reconstruct the existing four-way stop intersection to a signalized intersection with dedicated turn lanes, new lighting, and ADA compliant ramps. Construction began in April 2021 and is expected to be completed in late November 2021. Any questions regarding construction or the US Route 6 intersection project should be directed to IDOT.

#### I-80 from Ridge Road to US Route 30

The I-80 project included a Phase I Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies project and Phase II design plans for near-term improvements. The scope of these near-term improvements was developed based on the project's bridge inspections and traffic and crash analyses. The near-term study focused on specific existing corridor conditions that needed correction, rehabilitation, or reconstruction before the long-term project can be funded for construction. Near-term conditions included operational and safety deficiencies, pavement deficiencies, and structure rehabilitation/reconstruction needs that are present due to effects of use, time, and weather. As part of the planned improvement is the replacement of the Gougar Road over I-80 bridge.

## QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND INFORMATION

Your comments are valuable to us. To submit a comment, fill out the comment form at [GougarRoadStudy.com](http://GougarRoadStudy.com), or pick up a printed copy from the Will County Department of Transportation office and send or email to:

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Visit the project website  
for more information:

[GougarRoadStudy.com](http://GougarRoadStudy.com)

