

# The Daily Ledger

Fulton County's Home Newspaper Online

## ILLINOIS WELDING SCHOOL

5901 Washington St.  
Bartonville, IL 61607



*Welcome to the New Year in the  
Home of Your Dreams.*

Home Page

Local News

Sports

Obituaries

Agriculture

Senior Living

Fulton Co. Guide

Classifieds

Business Directory

About Us

Archives

Health

Food

World News

Stocks

News

Alignment studies for Route 336 viewed at meeting

By JOHN FROEHLING/of the Daily Ledger  
Wednesday, December 8, 2004 1:08 PM CST

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) held a public meeting Tuesday at Canton High School about alignment studies for Route 336 to connect a four-lane highway from Peoria to Macomb. Similar meetings are planned today and tomorrow at Peoria and Macomb.

IDOT formally approved a preferred corridor for the route June 23. The corridor ranges from about 2.5 to 7.5 miles wide. The purpose of alignment studies is to narrow that to a swath at least 300 feet wide. Several options for that roadway path were presented at the meeting.

The route was broken into three sections for consideration: from a planned bypass at Macomb to Marietta, from Marietta to Norris, and from Norris to Interstate 474 near the airport in Peoria. Five possible alignments were noted on the first section, six in the second and three from Norris to Peoria.

Maps displaying the options also featured "impact tables" comparing construction costs, rights of way that must be obtained, relocations required and bridges that must be built for each possible alignment. Since no decision has been made on the kind of highway to be built, costs of construction included both expressways (which can be accessed directly by side roads) and freeways (which require entrance and exit roads for access).

"I think they've got several good alternatives. Every option is acceptable where the road comes close to Canton," commented Paul Vonderhaar, executive director of Canton Area Chamber of Commerce. He added the chamber's position is that the route come as close to the city as possible. That would be to the city's advantage, in part because travelers would be more likely to detour into Canton for various reasons.

Coleman Pontiac
<u>\$14000.00</u>
2002 Chevrolet Camaro
<a href="#">More Coleman Pontiac</a>

Real-Time Quotes  
&  
a FREE Lexus



"Naturally, development occurs around interchanges," Vonderhaar pointed out. Bu also noted officials must figure in land costs and construction alternatives.

"We're going to be happy to have the road," he continued. He said the chamber and Route 336 Coalition both have confidence in IDOT and feel comfortable that IDOT officials are doing the best they can. He said they are giving people ample opportunities to provide input about the project. He added he was encouraged by the local interest shown by the number of people in attendance.

The moderate-sized crowd at the high school's north gym seemed constant as new people arrived while others left.

A Web site for the project is being created at [www.peoriatomacomb.com](http://www.peoriatomacomb.com). After the public meetings conclude this week, the alternative alignments, assessment data and comment forms will be posted to the Web site.

Briefly, heading west to east, all options in the first section appear to converge in Fulton County in an area near Marietta. A northern option in that section approaches Bushnell, and a southern one reaches U.S. Route 136.

In the second section, most of the options approach Smithfield. From there, two paths seem to emerge with one heading south of the new Cuba High School and the other skirting north of Cuba and then following the Cuba-Canton blacktop. The southern option runs to a point east of Ingersoll Airport on Route 9. The northern option meets Route 9 west of the airport, then loops north around Lakeland Park and intersects Route 78 between Norris and Brereton. Another option meets Route 78 just north of Norris.

In the last section, all options head to a general area east of Farmington. Moving east from there, one option runs south of Trivoli, and two others merge north of Trivoli and then separate. One option then runs north of Hanna City, and the others run south of Hanna City.

Mike McLuckie, liaison engineer for IDOT District 4 based in Peoria, noted not all the alignment options will be studied in detail. Input from the public will help IDOT eliminate some options. The others will receive more study, development and refinement, ultimately helping the department make a final alignment selection. The studies will take around three years to complete.

Another public meeting is expected to be held next fall, as the process continues, to solicit further public review and input and in turn help IDOT narrow down the number of options.

Asked if financial cost comparisons might serve as a practical guide to an eventual outcome, McLuckie said, "It's hard to tie one option down as the cheapest. We're still figuring the big-picture dollars." He pointed out that a lot of differences in options seem to balance out financially. For example, where construction costs for one possibility outweigh another, more bridges may have to be built and rights of way purchased for the option that appears cheaper to build.

"We'll try to use money wisely," but the focus at this stage is to look at the options preferred most by the public and try to narrow those down to two or three alignments, McLuckie said.

Public comments or questions may be directed to: Eric Therkildsen, P.E., Program Development Engineer, Illinois Department of Transportation, District 4, 401 Main

St., Peoria, IL 61602; or call (309) 671-3333 or TDD: (309) 671-3450.

Ads by Google

**Phoenix New Homes**

New home communities from \$210K Spacious floor plans up to 3781 SF

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

**Peoria Home Builders**

Search & Compare New Homes Here. Receive 1% Cash Back When You Buy!

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

**\$300/Hr in Peoria?**

21 Side-by-side Comparisons of Fun Jobs Paying Up To \$300/Hour.

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

**Peoria Area Information**

Comprehensive in-depth Web portal Live, Work, Play, Shop & Learn

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

---

[ [Home Page](#) ] [ [Local News](#) ] [ [Sports](#) ] [ [Fulton County Guide](#) ] [ [Classifieds](#) ] [ [Business Directory](#) ]  
[ [About Us](#) ] [ [Health](#) ] [ [Entertainment](#) ] [ [Town Hall](#) ] [ [World News](#) ] [ [Stocks/Market](#) ]

---