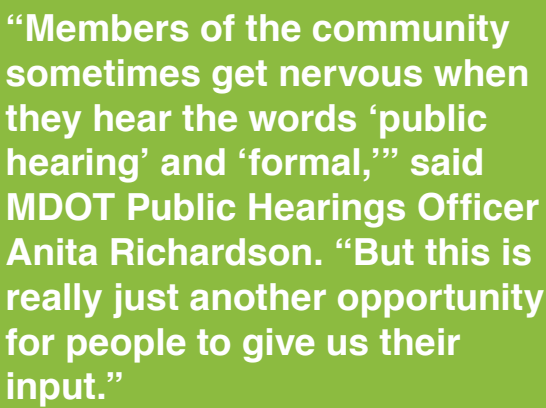




Your Guide To The I-94 Public Hearing and Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

IN THIS ISSUE:

How Community Input was Used to Modify the Project Design



Thank you for your help! From Kim Avery, Metro Region Engineer

Members of the **I-94 Project Local and Government Advisory Committees** served as our sounding board for

We thank all of you – and we are eager to see this collaboration continue. Please read this newsletter for

Please keep in touch!



Nearly 30 years ago, MDOT recognized the need to reconstruct I-94 in Detroit. In the 1990s, the department conducted an extensive **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** aimed at (among things) building a consensus on how to

repair I-94.

In 2005, the Federal Highway Administration issued a **Record of Decision** (called the **Approved Selected Alternative or ASA**) that approved:

- Reconstruction of 6.7 miles of the freeway in Detroit from the I-94/I-96 interchange to east of Conner Avenue.
- Improving 67 bridges and six railroad overpasses.
- New interchanges at I-94/M-10 (Lodge Freeway) and I-94/I-75.
- Elimination of left-lane exit and entrance ramps.
- Continuous I-94 service drives from Conner Avenue to Trumbull Avenue.

In 2017, MDOT announced plans to prepare an **Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)** to study alternatives proposed by stakeholders that focused on:

- Using existing city streets as local connections instead of building new, continuous service drives adjacent to the freeway as proposed in the original plan.
- Modifying local access ramps to and from I-94, M-10 and I-75.
- Adding **Completed Streets** bridges to provide multi-modal access, making them user-friendly for cars, bikes and pedestrians with wider walkways/paths separated from traffic and landscaping.

The **SEIS** considers the impacts of changes and/or planned improvements to the project. It also reviews the purpose and need for improvements and describes the alternatives that were considered.

“The goal is to ensure that final decisions on the project are made in the best overall public interest, taking into consideration the need for fast, safe and efficient transportation, public services, and eliminating or minimizing adverse effects,” said Terry Stepanski, P.E., I-94 senior project manager.

During the **SEIS** process, an analysis of effects on minority and low-income populations and the indirect effects of the project also were studied, along with alternatives proposed by stakeholders to improve local connectivity and mobility

for the residents of Detroit.

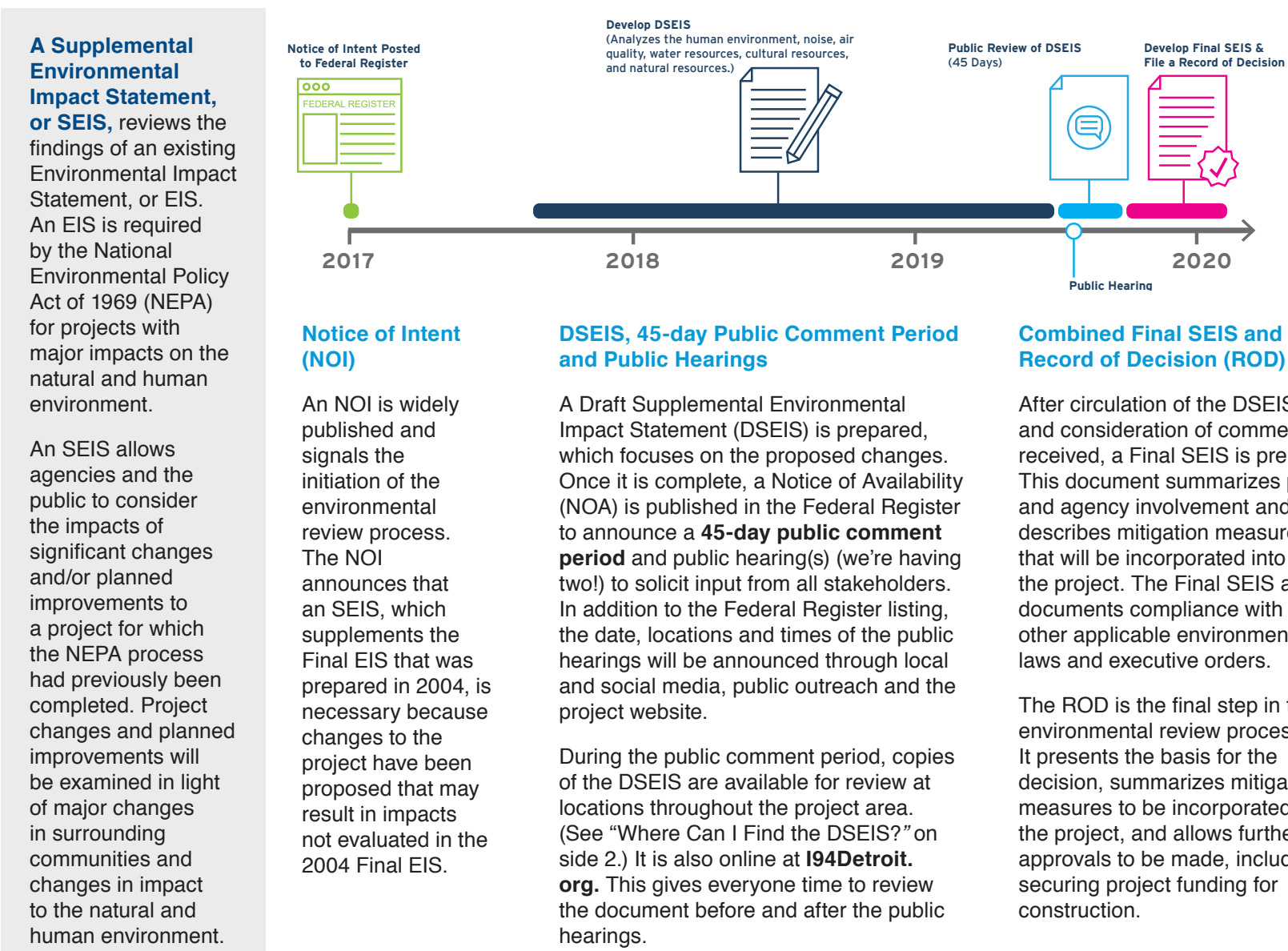
"The I-94 team has analyzed the project's effects on community services, traffic through neighborhoods, noise and vibration impacts, and aesthetics," Stepanski said.



Now that a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) has been prepared, a Notice of Availability (NOA) has been published, and the draft is being circulated. (See “Where Can I Find and Comment on the DSEIS?” on the back page.) Two public hearings to gather public and agency comments on the DSEIS will take place on Thursday, Oct. 10. (See the back page for locations and details.)

“At the public hearing, there will be a lot of information about the content of the DSEIS and staff on hand to answer questions, so we encourage everyone to participate,” said Stepanski. “We look forward to meeting with you and hearing your thoughts.”

The SEIS Process— From Draft to Final



Public Hearings Explained

What is a public hearing?

A public hearing is a **more formal event than a public meeting**. Held prior to key project decision points, public hearings gather comments and positions from all community stakeholders for the public record and input into decisions. Public hearings are required by the **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)** and are held by the organization sponsoring the project—in this case, MDOT.

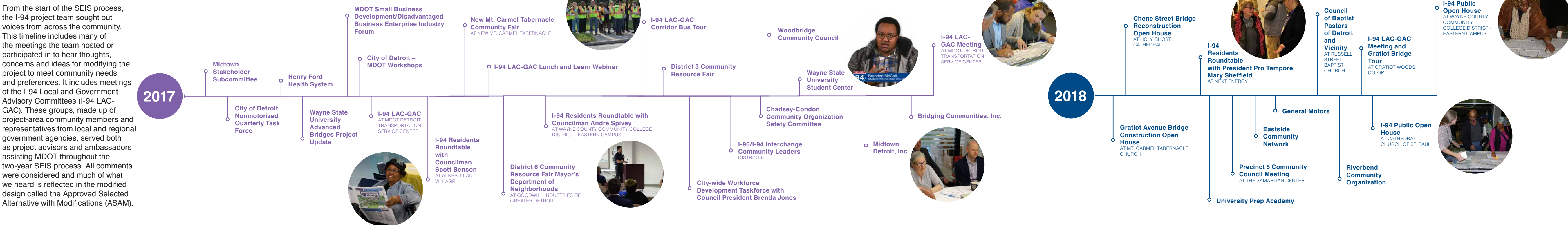
What will happen at the public hearing?

At the public hearing:

- The public will be provided an opportunity to share comments.
The DSEIS will be available for review.
A certified court reporter will be on hand to record comments shared both publicly during the open mic period and privately in one-on-one sessions.
The first part of the hearing will provide an opportunity to view displays and speak one-on-one with project team members to ask questions.
The public will then be invited to the microphone to make comments.
All who wish to speak will be asked to fill out a speaker request form.
The court reporter will remain available after the open mic to record comments in private for the record.

With advance notice of seven days, accommodations can be made for persons with disabilities and/or limited English-speaking ability, and persons needing auxiliary aids or services of interpreters, signers, readers, or large print. Call Anita Richardson at 517-335-4381 to make an accommodations request.

The Importance of Public Engagement





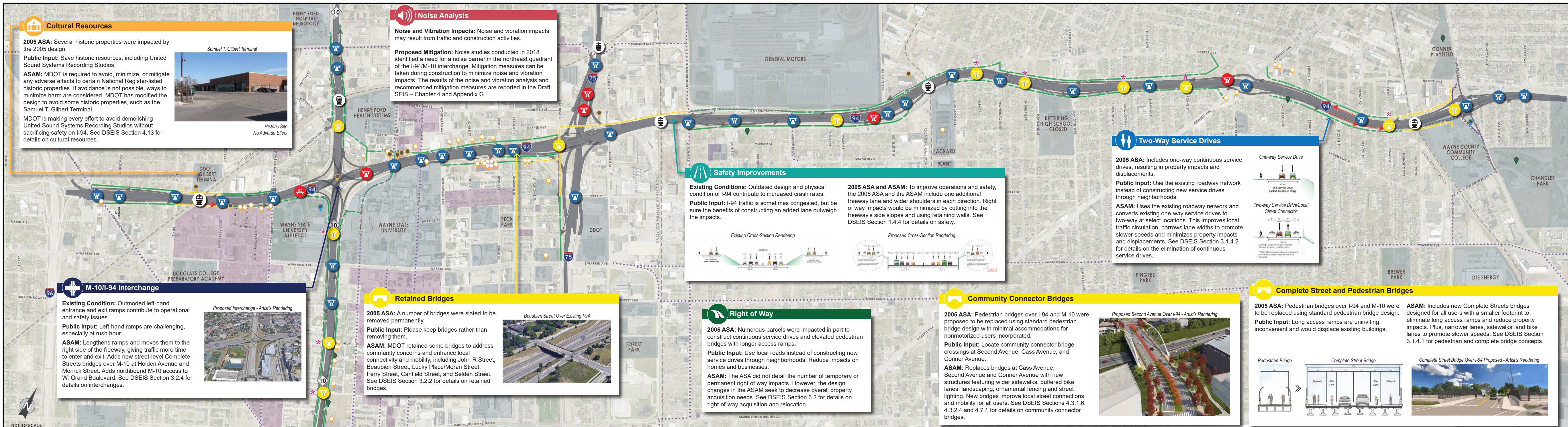
I-94 Modernization Project

VOLUME V

FALL/WINTER 2019

How did MDOT engage the community in decision-making?

I-94 Modernization Project | Preferred Alternative



About this Map

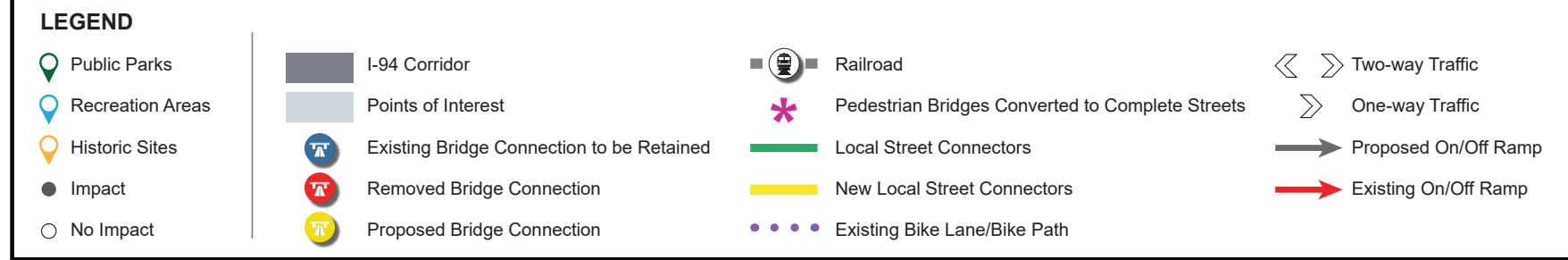
The information on the map will tell you about:

- The design of the 2005 Approved Selected Alternative, or **ASA**.
- Public input** from the community about how the 2005 ASA could be improved
- The modifications MDOT made to the 2005 ASA based on public input, called the Approved Selected Alternative with Modifications, or **ASAM**

The ASAM reduces community impacts by:

- Minimizing relocations
- Increasing connectivity and mobility

The ASAM is MDOT's preferred alternative. FHWA will also need to approve the ASAM before construction.



Public Hearings: Date, Times and Locations

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019

Detroit Historical Museum

5401 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI 48202

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Stop in any time!

Formal Public Hearing
begins at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019

Wayne County Community College District - Eastern Campus

5901 Conner Ave.
The Cooper Room
Detroit, MI 48213

4 – 8 p.m.
Stop in any time!

Formal Public Hearing
begins at 6:30 p.m.

Special Accommodations

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Adaptaciones Especiales

Se pueden hacer adaptaciones para personas con necesidades especiales y capacidad limitada para hablar inglés. Materiales impresos en grande, ayudas auxiliares o servicios de intérpretes, personas que hablan el lenguaje de señas o lectores están disponibles bajo solicitud previa. Para hacer una solicitud, comuníquese con Anita Richardson por teléfono al 517-335-4381 o por correo electrónico a richardsona13@michigan.gov al menos siete días antes de la reunión.

التسهيلات الخاصة

يمكن إجراء تسهيلات خاصة للأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة والقدرة المحدودة على التحدث باللغة الإنجليزية. تتوفر المواد المطبوعة بأحرف كبيرة والمساعدات الإضافية وخدمات المترجمين الفوريين أو مترجمي لغة الإشارات أو لقراءة النص عند الطلب. لتقديم الطلب، اتصل بـ أنيتا ريتشاردسون عبر الهاتف على الرقم 517-335-4381 أو عبر البريد الإلكتروني على العنوان RICHARDSONA13@MICHIGAN.GOV وذلك قبل الإجتماع بسبعة أيام على الأقل.

Where Can I Find and Comment on the DSEIS?

Here are the DSEIS Review Locations

You may review a paper copy of the DSEIS at any of the community locations listed below, or see it on the project website at I94Detroit.org. So that everyone has the opportunity to review the document, paper copies may not be removed from their designated locations.

Hard copies can be found at these locations (see map):

- Divie B. Duffield Detroit Public Library**
2507 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, 48208
- I-94 Project Office**
3031 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, 48202
- Alkebu-lan Village Community Center**
7701 Harper Ave., Detroit, 48213
- Chandler Park Detroit Public Library**
12800 Harper Ave., Detroit, 48213
- Douglass Detroit Public Library**
3666 Grand River Ave., Detroit, 48208
- Wayne County Community College Eastern Campus**
5901 Conner Ave., Detroit, 48213

OFF MAP

The Matrix Center

13560 E. McNichols Road, Detroit, 48205

MDOT Detroit Transportation Service Center

1060 W. Fort St., Detroit, 48226

MDOT Lansing Office

425 West Ottawa St., Lansing, 48909

Guidelines for Submitting Comments

You may comment on the DSEIS anytime during the 45-day public comment period beginning Saturday, Sept. 14, and ending Monday, Oct. 28, 2019. Written statements and comments can be mailed or emailed.

All statements and comments sent by U.S. mail must be postmarked no later than Oct. 28, 2019. E-mailed comments must be received by the same deadline.

Written statements and comments may also be submitted at any time during the public hearings on October 10, 2019.

