

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Item # 1-100.00 & 1-1140.00

U.S. 51 Ohio River 'Cairo' Bridge

Replacement Project

Public Meeting

July 11 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Cairo High School

4201 Sycamore Street • Cairo, IL



The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet will hold a public meeting for the U.S. 51 Ohio River 'Cairo' Bridge Replacement Project on Thursday, July 11, from 5-8 p.m. at Cairo High School in Cairo, IL. The purpose of this meeting is to share a project update with the public, including the selected bridge type.

The meeting will be held in an open house format with a formal presentation at 6 p.m. Staff from KYTC and members of the project team will be available to answer questions.

The team will unveil the selected bridge type, show renderings of the future bridge, and have a right-of-way display for affected property owners. Handouts containing information about this project, comment sheets, and displays will be available for review at the meeting.

The new crossing, approximately 1,000 ft. north of the existing structure, will feature a roundabout for U.S. 51, U.S. 60, and U.S. 62 at the Illinois end of the bridge. Roadway for the new bridge will tie to existing roadway near the Minor Slough Bridge in Kentucky.

Written and oral comments will be accepted during the meeting. Meeting materials and displays shared on July 11 will be available on the project website at www.US51bridge.com after the meeting.

The project team will soon begin a new round of geotechnical exploration and analysis to determine soil strength under the river. Construction of the new bridge is tentatively scheduled to start in 2028, with a final start date to be determined by funding levels.

The existing bridge between Wickliffe, KY, and Cairo, IL, carries U.S. 51, U.S. 60, and U.S. 62 traffic across the Ohio River at U.S. 51 Kentucky mile point 7.372 and Illinois mile point 0.0. Also known as The Cairo Bridge, it is the longest bridge in Kentucky and the westernmost bridge over the Ohio River. The bridge carries about 6,600 vehicles per day between KY and IL, with 40 percent of that commercial trucks.

The existing U.S. 51 Ohio River "Cairo" Bridge opened to traffic on Nov 11, 1936. The highway departments of Kentucky and Illinois took over maintenance of the structure in November 1948 when tolls were removed.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if anyone has a disability and will require assistance, please notify Austin Hart no later than Tuesday, July 9, 2024. Please call 270-898-2431 or mail a request to KYTC District 1 Office, 5501 Kentucky Dam Rd, Paducah, Kentucky 42003.

Scan the QR Code to learn more:



US 51 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT