

McANA

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Position on Public Process for Proposed Expansion of Brookville Road

adopted May 2, 2001

One of the most critical citizen rights advocated by MCANA is that of full, meaningful, and timely engagement in actions which determine and shape the future of our communities. In keeping with a philosophy of the right to public process, MCANA has taken the following position on current plans to expand Brookville Road.

The Marion County Alliance of Neighborhood Associations prevails upon the Indiana Department of Transportation and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization to institute an immediate initiative to fully engage in all phases of the proposed Brookville Road expansion those property owners and residents within Marion County, as well as adjoining counties, who will be most immediately impacted by the project. Further, we call upon INDOT and the MPO to create a process for the project which will ensure that any future plans serve an identifiable and beneficial purpose which is integrated into appropriate land use and infrastructure development practices.

In our opinion, a revised protocol and process should, at a minimum, include:

*A full assessment of the benefits/detriments of the proposed expansion.

*Exploration of alternative methods to facilitate motor travel.

*Regular meetings with all impacted property owners, residents, business operators, elected officials and other stakeholders, with full disclosure of all information and availability of pertinent technical and engineering advisors.

*A draft of any proposed expansion/changes with the full scope of impacts summarized (i.e., land and rights-of-way acquisition, environmental and drainage impacts, estimation of changes in property values, increases in traffic counts, costs of the project, time line for project completion, impacts on surrounding land use, etc.)

*An adequate period of time for review of and public comment on any plan draft

*Review and incorporation of public comment.

*Notification to stakeholders of any changes in the proposed project, with sufficient time for review and comment by the public.

We believe it is incumbent upon those agencies and individuals who have authority in this matter to correct the process by which decisions concerning this proposed project are made and to include those who will most have to bear the consequences of the project.
