



INDOT's Project Completion Process

Large, complicated, and state-of-the-art highway construction projects can involve as many as 55 different steps, including months or years of planning, design, land acquisition, surveying, engineering, contracting, and construction.

Once planned and funded, all projects include close coordination with federal and state agencies and local governments, organizations, and community groups.

All projects involve surveying, environmental assessment, soil investigation, and stormwater mitigation. Most projects require coordination with existing utilities, roads, railroad lines, or nearby businesses and property owners. New projects also may require land appraisal, acquisition, or condemnation, as well as consideration of economic impact and land use.

Preparation of construction documents, bids, and bid evaluations must also be completed before contracts are awarded and construction can begin.



A large highway construction project can involve as many as 55 different steps and take years to finish.

During construction, careful planning and staging is necessary to ensure that construction elements are completed in sequence and on time. Utility coordination, environmental mitigation, grading, excavation, roadbed preparation, and construction of drainage facilities and other structures must be completed before paving can begin. Construction of bridges or retaining walls also can significantly extend a project timeline.



Litigation, inspections, manpower shortages, or weather can also add to a project's timeline.

National experience indicates that it takes an average of seven years to construct a new roadway from the time when the route location is selected. When safety standards, quality, and environmental considerations are examined, INDOT completes major highway and bridge construction projects at about the same speed as other state departments of transportation.

The Highway Planning & Construction Process

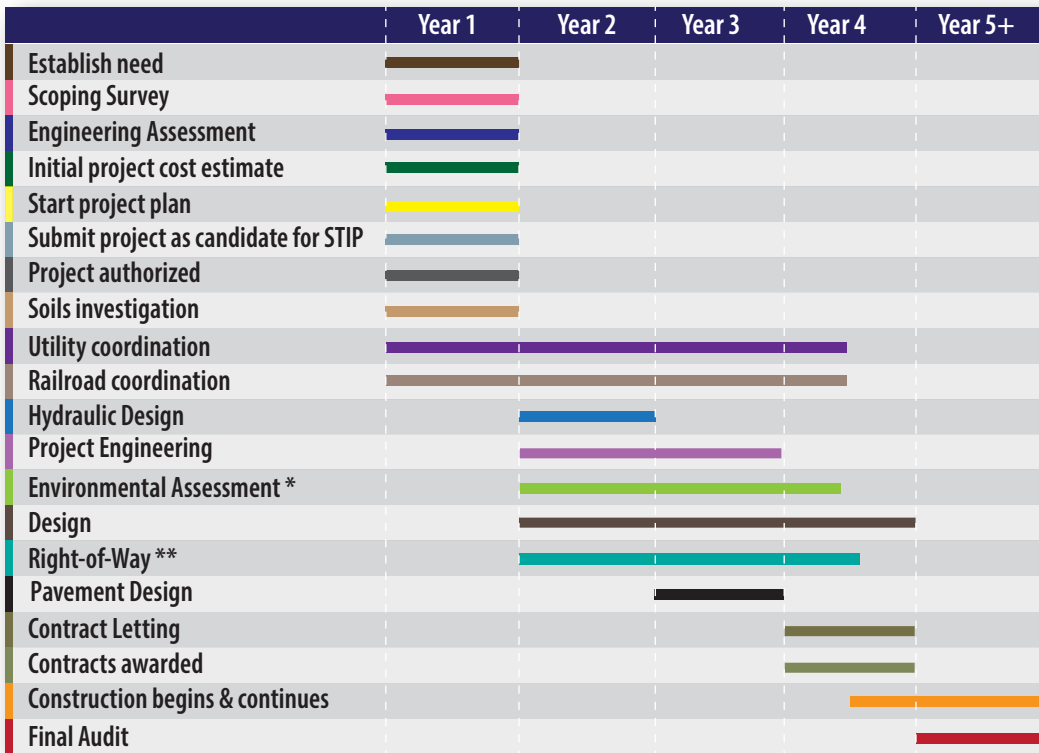


A major construction project involving a new highway can take from five to 20 years to complete all the steps. Rehabilitating a highway may take up to five years or more.

Completion of a project is dependent upon reviews by INDOT partners, including various federal, state, and local governmental agencies, as well as public, private, and community organizations.

Each step of a project may involve many smaller steps, which must be completed in the correct sequence. For example, environmental work and documentation involves multiple steps and may take two years or more to complete.

Time to Rehabilitate an Indiana Highway



* Environmental Assessment Process


Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
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- Red Flag Investigation: 45 days
- Field Work: April-October
- Waters Report: 12 months
- Early Coordination: 12 months
- Permits: 6-12 months
- Documentation: 3 months

** ROW Process

Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
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- Abstracting: 60 days
- Engineering: 60 days
- Appraising: 150 days
- Buying: 120 days
- Condemnation: 180 days
- Clearing: 30 days



Indiana Department of Transportation
 100 North Senate Avenue, Room N758
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
www.in.gov/indot

INDOT4U INDOT Customer Service:
 855-463-6848
 INDOT4U.com
 INDOT@indot.in.gov

