# What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?









DRAFT EIS RELEASED

December 30, 2016

45 DAY COMMENT PERIOD ENDS February 13, 2017



- > It describes the process for developing a transportation project.
- > The most rigorous level of analysis for a transportation project.

- Includes consideration of reasonable alternatives.
- > Analyzes potential impacts resulting from alternatives.
- Demonstrates compliance with environmental laws and executive orders.
- > IDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are joint lead agencies for preparing the EIS.

## RECORD OF DECISION **Summer 2017**





# Environmental Effects Preferred Alternative



I-290 is an urban corridor with the existing environment mature and established with limited space for new development

#### **Environmental Justice**

- No disproportionate impacts to low income or minority populations
- No residential or business displacements
- No impact

### Historic Properties

- No adverse effects anticipated, coordination ongoing
- > Final determination in Final EIS

#### Noise

- > Existing noise levels are sufficiently high to consider noise walls
- > Preferred alternative generally DOES NOT cause noticeable change in noise levels
- > Community Noise forums were held Fall 2015 and Summer 2016
- > 46 of 63 walls studied are favored by voters
- > Noise wall decisions will be revisited with communities during final design

#### Air

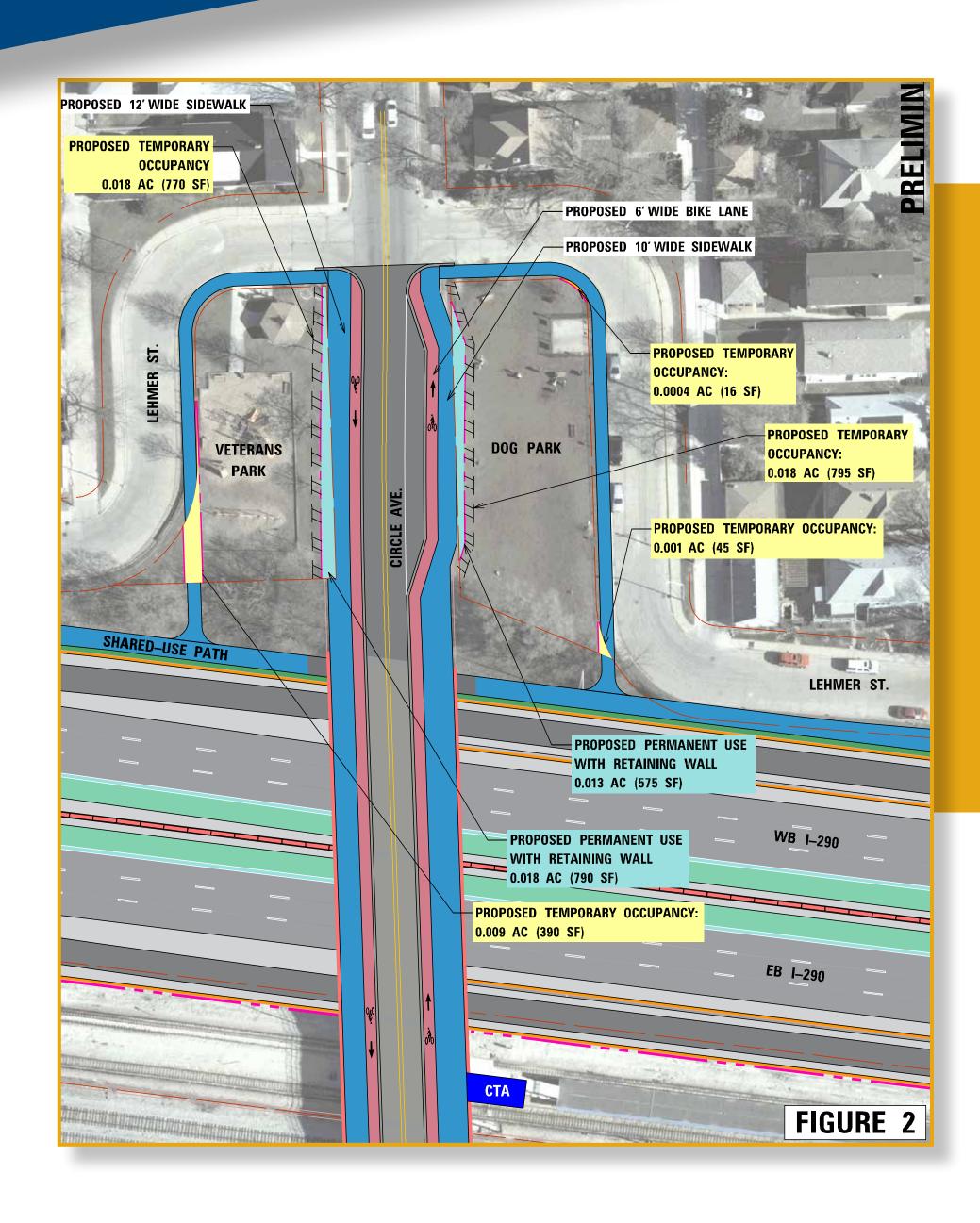
- > Air quality *slightly improved* due to reduced congestion
- > Over 700 fewer tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



# What are the Environmental Effects?

## Preferred Alternative





### Special Lands

- ✓ Two pocket parks affected in Forest Park along Circle Avenue
- ✓ Veterans Park (0.018 ac.) and Dog Park (0.013 ac.)
- ✓ Proposed improvements include bike and pedestrian improvements on Circle Avenue, Transit kiss-n-ride pull out and temporary occupancy also required for shared use path connections

### Park District of Forest Park affected

- Park District recently purchased Roos Property and will be developed prior to I-290 construction
- ✓ 10-ft. Temporary Use construction easement will be required for Circle Avenue retaining wall

