

Appendix C: Public Involvement Synopsis Report

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SYNOPSIS

MDOT JOB NO.
SP-0007-01(102)/109563-101000
US 72 Improvements
Marshall County

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
May 30, 2024 - June 14, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING
May 30, 2024
Marshall County WIN Job Center
4700 Cayce Rd.
Byhalia, Mississippi

PUBLIC MEETING WEBSITE
US72Interchange.TransportationPlanroom.com

//////////////////// PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SNAPSHOT //////////////////////



//////////////////// PUBLIC MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD //////////////////////

Garver, in coordination with the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT), conducted a Public Involvement Meeting to provide the community an opportunity to discuss proposed alternatives to provide safe and efficient access to the Chickasaw Industrial Park in Marshall County. A project website was published: US72Interchange.TransportationPlanroom.com.

- **A public meeting was held Thursday, May 30, 2024 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Marshall County WIN Job Center, 4700 Cayce Rd., in Byhalia, Mississippi.**

This was an open forum public meeting with no formal presentation. The meeting consisted of members of the public visiting the different exhibits and stations and talking with project team members. **A public officials meeting was also held the same day prior to the meeting.** Attendees were invited to view the exhibits and materials and talk directly with project team members.

The comment period was available from Thursday, May 30, 2024 through Friday, June 14, 2024.

QUICK LINKS

[Outreach](#)

[Meeting Material](#)

[Public Meeting and Project Website](#)

[Comment Summary](#)

////// METHODS OF OUTREACH ////////////////////////////////////// MATERIALS AND RESOURCES //

Special efforts to involve the public in the meeting included the following:

- **Letters with project map mailed and emailed** to public officials and key stakeholders (May 16-17, 2024)
- **Postcards mailed** to 71 property owners (May 16, 2024)
- **Display ads** placed in two newspapers
 - South Reporter (May 16 and May 23, 2024)
 - Commercial Appeal (May 16 and May 24 2024)
- **News release** published (May 29, 2024)
- **Website availability email** to individuals who'd requested, via the website, notification when materials were posted (May 30, 2024)
- Multiple rounds of outreach through **various websites and social media platforms**

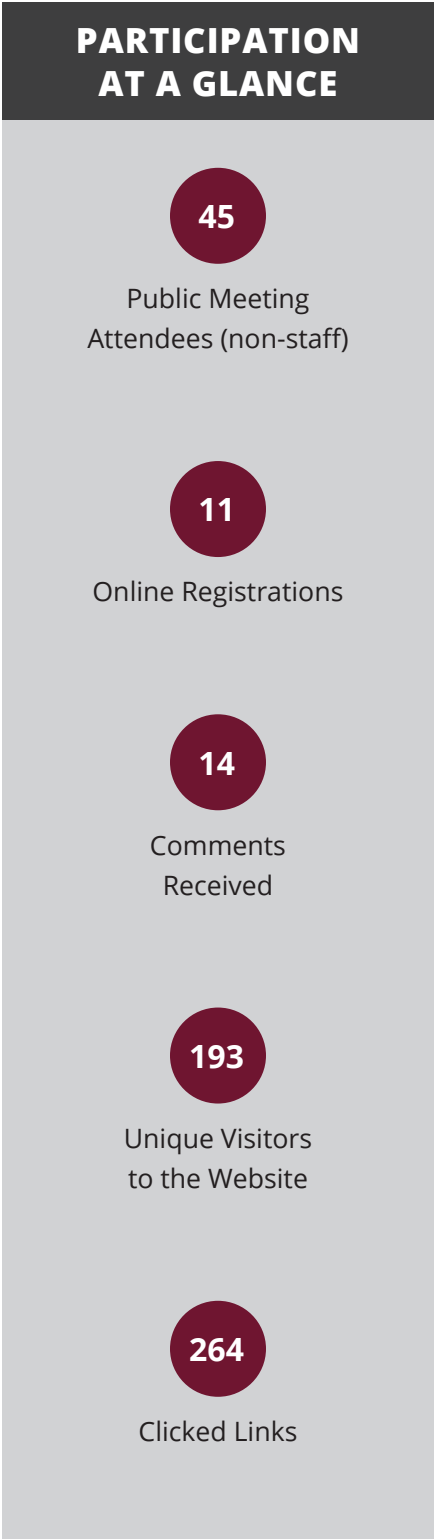
The following materials were available for review and comment at the public meeting. All materials were also available on the project websites. Copies of the handouts and exhibits are attached.

- **Handouts** for the public included a summary sheet, a comment form, and a small-scale map showing the project location
- **Four Exhibit Boards showing the Proposed Alternatives** on aerial photography individually and combined (B-3, C-3, and D-1) at a scale of 1 inch equals 400 feet
- **Why Are We Having This Meeting? Exhibit Board** explaining the purpose of the meeting and methods for public comment
- **Purpose and Need Exhibit Board** showing the purpose and need statement along with a quick overview of the highlights of the project
- **Project Location Exhibit Board** showing the location of the study area for the proposed alternatives
- **Constraints Map Exhibit Board** showing the study corridor and any identified constraints within or near the study area
- **What's Next? Exhibit Board** explaining the process after the public meeting
- **Interactive Project Maps with the ability to comment** available on a laptop and large screen
- **Exhibit boards** with QR codes to view electronic versions of the interactive map, project website, and comment form

//////////////////// **PUBLIC MEETING AND PROJECT WEBSITE** //////////////////////

Table 1 describes the participation data gathered from the in-person public meeting and the project website.

Table 1 - Results of Participation	
Public Participation	Totals
Public Officials Meeting Attendees (non-staff)	12
In-Person Public Meeting Attendees (non-staff)	45
Staff Present at Meeting	16
Attendees who Signed Website Register	11
Unique Visitors to the Website	193
Comment Forms Received	8
Interactive Map Comments	6
Project Website (May 15 - June 14, 2024)	Totals
Visits to the Website (Sessions)	335
Number of Website Pages Viewed (Views)	742
Percent of Total Users Interacting with Mobile Devices/Tablets	45.6%
Clicked Hyperlinks on Website	264

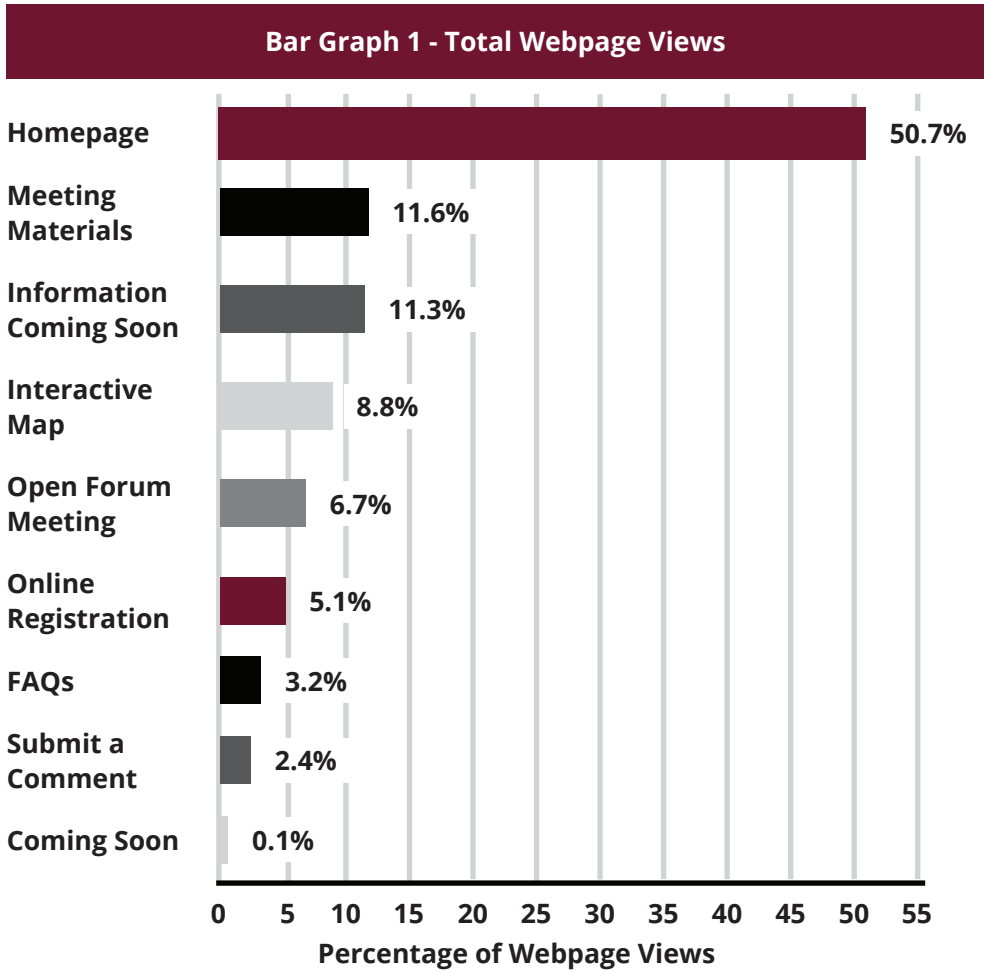


*If comments were submitted in multiple forms (letter, phone, email, etc.), and were identical in nature, they were only counted once.

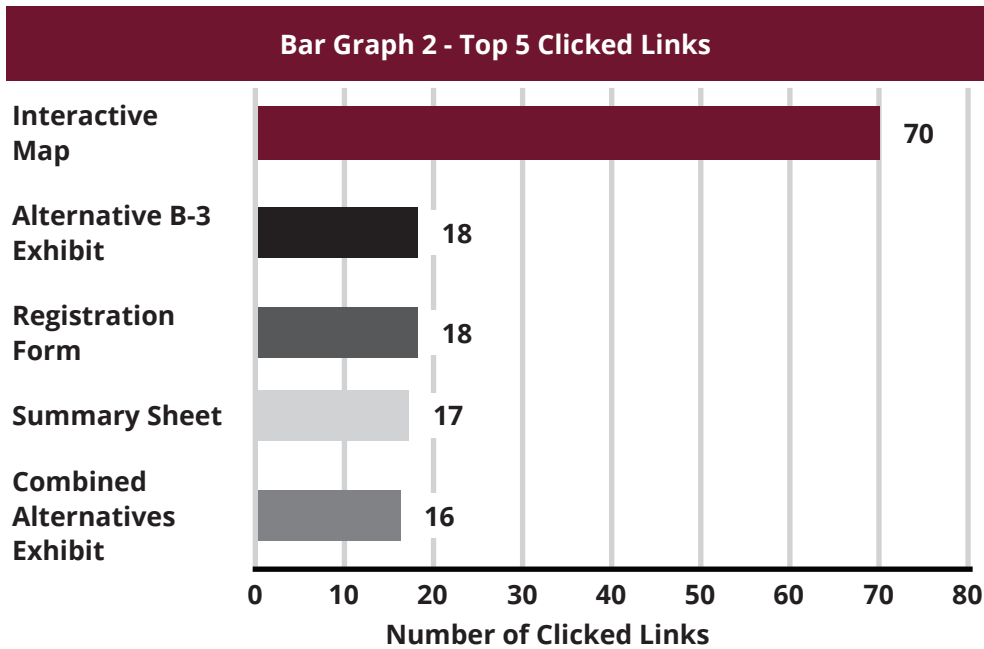


//////////////////// **PUBLIC MEETING & PROJECT WEBSITE** //////////////////////

Bar Graph 1 describes the total page views and corresponding percentage based on each individual website page.



Bar Graph 2 describes the top five clicked links on the website.



WEBSITE AT A GLANCE

742
Views

3+
Hours Visitors Engaged with the Site

193
Unique Visitors

335
Sessions

58
Peak Site Traffic in One Day
5/30/2024

3
Comments Submitted Online

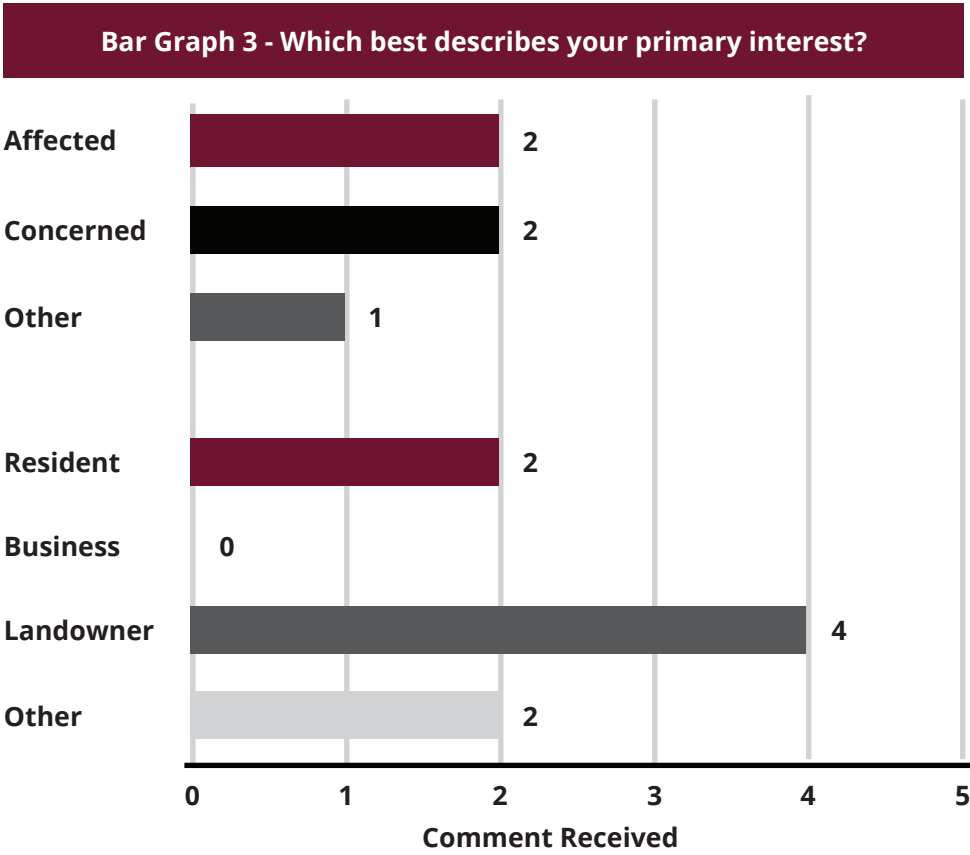


//////////////////// **PUBLIC COMMENTS** //////////////////////

Garver staff reviewed all comments received and evaluated their contents. The summary of comments listed below reflects the personal perception or opinion of the person or organization making the statement. The sequencing of the comments is random and is not intended to reflect importance or numerical values. Some of the comments were combined and/or paraphrased to simplify the synopsis process.

PRIMARY INTEREST

Bar Graph 3 shows the responses to the comment form question, “Which best describes your primary interest?”



COMMENTS AT A GLANCE

14

Comments received during the public comment period, which ran from May 30, 2024 through June 14, 2024

3

Online Comment Forms

5

Paper Comment Form

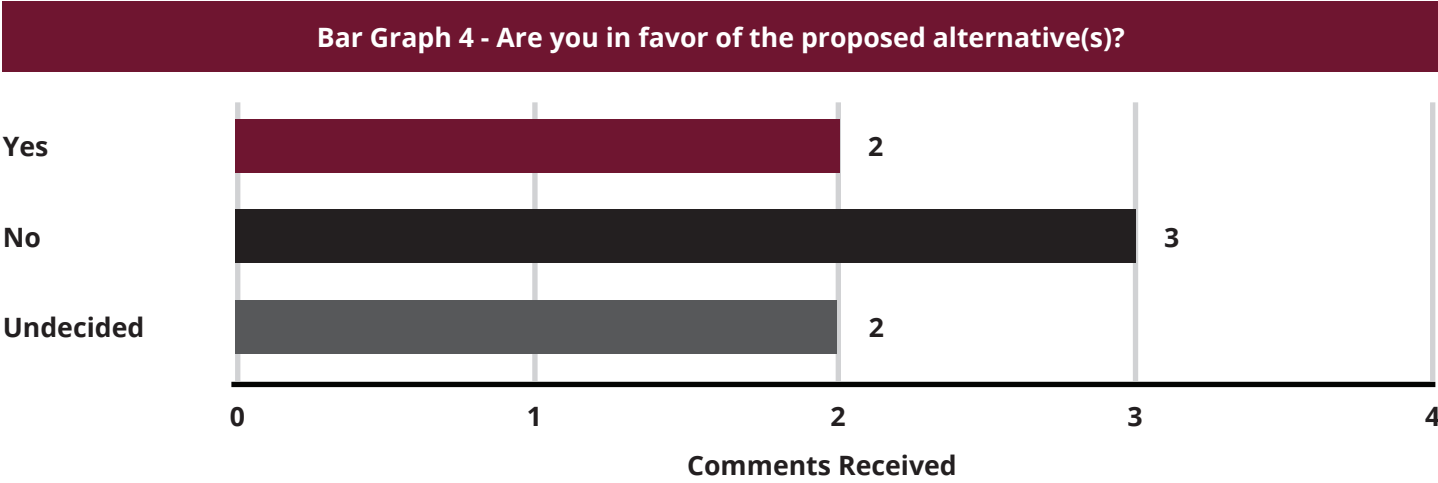
6

Interactive Map Comments



ALTERNATIVES

Bar Graph 4 shows the responses to the comment form question, “Are you in favor of the proposed alternative(s)?



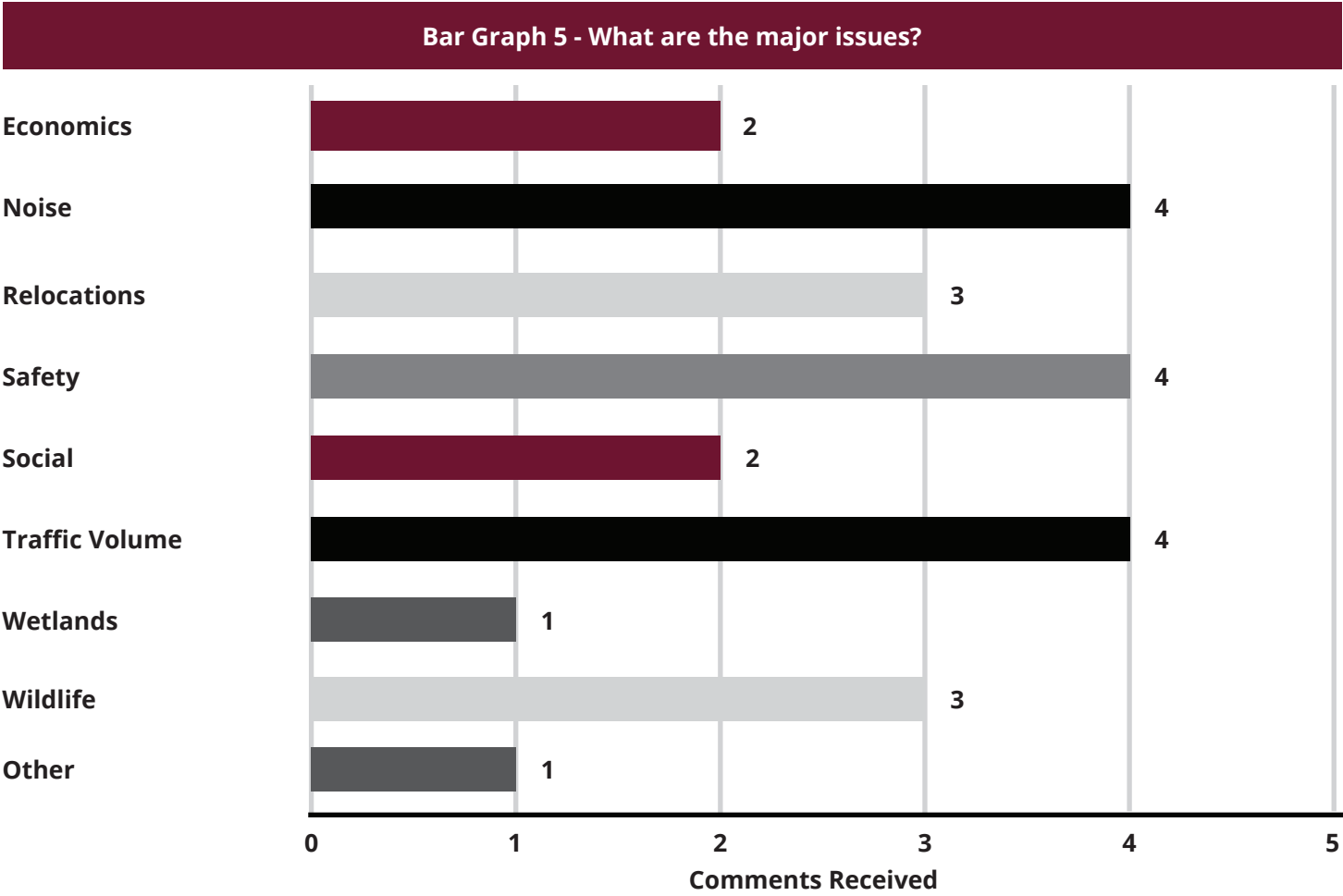
The following is a list of comments regarding the question, “Which alternative and why?”

- Four comments stated support of alternative D-1 as it would limit impacts to people’s lives, homes or businesses.
- One comment stated support of the new alternative, but would not want to live in that neighborhood if the intersection changes.
- One comment stated that all three alternatives will impact their two businesses.



ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Bar Graph 5 shows the responses to the comment form question, "What are the major issues?"



The following is a list of comments regarding the question, "Issues and or concerns about the project."

- Two comments stated personal impacts to property and needing help with relocating.
- One comment stated no issues with the project.
- One comment stated concern for destroying people’s lives.
- One comment mentioned the constraints of Lee Creek and the new TVA lines.
- One comment stated concerns of traffic, congestion, and devaluation of home and property.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a list of comments regarding the question, **“Recommendations for the project.”**

- One comment stated that they were told by the Marshall County Industrial Director the land was going industrial and would either be industrial (\$100/acre) or commercial (\$150,000/acre).
- One comment recommended that their property be bought as the intersection will affect their neighborhood and travel accommodations.
- One comment recommended a normal cloverleaf interchange east of Knox Road.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The following is a list of additional comments from the **interactive map**.

- One comment stated that the pond directly above the northwest corner of the study area is no longer there.
- One comment stated that the Best Choice Medical Clinic and Best Choice Nutrition parking lot floods.
- One comment stated liking the orange concept (Alternative D-1) best.
- Three comments (along with a submitted comment form) stated concern about the entrance being along Coopwood Road, widening of Coopwood Road, the possible destruction of quality of life along Coopwood Road, traffic and safety concerns. They had been told by Justin Hall that there would not be an entrance on Coopwood Road. They recommended putting the entrance off of US 72.



//////////////////////////////////// **SUMMARY OF ATTACHMENTS** //////////////////////////////////////

Attachments (3 separate PDF documents contain the following):

US72Improvements_PM24_SynopsisAttachments_Outreach

- Public Meeting Outreach
- Outreach Materials
- Screenshots of Public Meeting Website
- Website Analytics Report

US72Improvements_PM24_SynopsisAttachments_MeetingMaterials

- Public Meeting Materials
- Blank Meeting Sign-In Sheet
- Small-Scale Copies of Meeting Materials
- Meeting Pictures

US72Improvements_PM24_SynopsisAttachments_Comments

- Copies of Submitted Comments