



Update

JUNE 2010 • NO. 1

Illinois Department of Transportation
Gary Hannig, Secretary

State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor



IL Route 3-Waterloo Project is Under Way!

Study Will Help to Identify Alternatives to Handle Continuing Growth

The Illinois Department of Transportation, Region 5, District 8 (IDOT), through the *Illinois Jobs Now!* program, has begun the study process for improving Illinois Route 3 in Waterloo, Illinois, between South Market Street and North Market Street. Over the next 24 months, IDOT and its team of engineering consultants will be evaluating alternatives for improving the roadway to meet the needs of the growing traffic volumes. Throughout the process, the team will employ IDOT’s Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process to work with stakeholders (people who could be affected by the project, or who have a “stake” in the project’s success or failure) to develop, build and maintain a cost-effective roadway that will reflect the project surroundings. For further information on the CSS process, please visit the IDOT website at www.dot.il.gov/css/home.html.

Get the Latest Updates on the Project Website

You can find more detailed information and get the latest updates on the project website at www.dot.il.gov/ilroute3. Here you can also sign up to receive the latest project updates as well as this project newsletter. Please be sure to pass this information along to your friends and neighbors!

First Public Meeting Set for June 23, 2010

The success of this project is heavily dependent on you, the citizen. A Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) will be formed for the project. A CAG is a group of stakeholders who provide input and response to ideas and focus the views, concerns, and values of the communities. Public Informational Meetings and stakeholder meetings will be held during the course of the project, where your voice can be heard. You can provide input on the project purpose and on the development of the alternatives to be studied and the evaluation of those alternatives. Your comments will become part of the project record, and will be referred to by the project team as it evaluates the various alternatives for the roadway reconstruction. The first public meeting is scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23, 2010, at Waterloo City Hall.

Be on the Lookout

From time to time during the course of the project, you may see survey crews on or near the roadway collecting data. Please slow down and be on the lookout for these workers and their equipment!



Message from the Region 5 Engineer

With work on this important project now in progress, I hope that you will take advantage of the numerous outreach opportunities to become involved in the project development. As we identify issues during the evaluation phase, input received from stakeholders will help to make this project a success. If you haven't already done so, please be sure to get on the mailing list for future newsletters, and visit our website often for project information and updates.

Mary C. Lamie, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways,
Region 5 Engineer

IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 2 -

- Did You Know?
- About the Project
- What is CSS?

- Page 3 -

- Schedule
- Project Map
- Mailing List

- Page 4 -

- Contact Information

Did You Know?

- *This project involves 3.1 miles of Illinois Route 3 roadway.*
- *The northern limit of the project is North Market Street. The southern limit of the project is South Market Street. There are 17 side entrances, from driveways to intersections, that must be addressed in the project.*
- *From 2003 to 2007, a total of 237 crashes occurred along the project limits. The majority of these crashes occurred at intersections; most were either rear-end, turning or angle.*
- *Surveying will be performed to ensure that any modifications to the roadway, side entrances, ditches, etc., are accurate.*
- *This project alignment has seen daily traffic increase from 6,500 vehicles per day in 1994 to 14,700 vehicles per day in 2010.*
- *The population of Waterloo has grown from 7,600 in 2000 to 9,800 in 2008. That's a 29 percent increase!*
- *The Illinois Jobs Now! plan is expected to create and retain more than 439,000 jobs between now and 2015.*



This project is part of the historic Great River Road, a 550-mile-long route along Illinois' western border.

About the Project

What is the scope of the project?

Illinois Route 3 will be improved from South Market Street to North Market Street. Exactly what the project scope will entail will be determined during the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process and the Phase I study.

What improvements will be included?

The exact type of improvements to be added will be determined by the results of the Study Team's engineering and environmental analysis of the project purpose, alternative analysis and public input. Concurrence by the stakeholders will be sought as well.

Will traffic signals be added where they don't currently exist?

Each intersection will be analyzed for the need for traffic signal warrants.

When will IDOT purchase right-of-way or easements?

Right-of-way and easements, if required, will be purchased during Phase II, which will begin approximately 24 months from now.

Where can I get more information?

- Visit the IDOT website at www.dot.il.gov
- Learn more about CSS at www.dot.il.gov/css/home.html
- Visit the project website at www.dot.il.gov/ilroute3

How can I find out about future public involvement activities?

- Make sure to get on the project mailing list using the form in this newsletter
- Visit the project website often for notices
- Watch local newspapers for announcements

What is CSS?

Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) is an interdisciplinary approach that allows stakeholders to become involved with helping a project become a more integral part of its surroundings, or "context." IDOT's mission has always been to provide safe and effective transportation facilities for the people of Illinois. Today, that mission also includes a greater emphasis on preserving or enhancing what are known as "quality of life" elements by using CSS.

Our goal is to create transportation projects that not only address safety and mobility, but which also seek to preserve or enhance the scenic, economic, historic and natural qualities of the area. It is only by working closely with area residents, however, that we can fully understand the unique and valued aspects of the project area's environment and communities. With this knowledge in hand, creative and flexible designs can be developed that are sensitive to those valued qualities.

Schedule

The progression of the project from our current point to construction is still a few years away. Our current phase (Phase I) will consist of a 24-month period where the study team will perform surveys and environmental studies, develop the roadway design and establish proposed right-of-way needs. Once the Phase I study is concluded, Phase II will consist of an approximately 24-month period where detailed construction plans will be developed. The negotiation and purchase of any needed right-of-way (ROW) or easements will be completed during this phase. Finally, Phase III will consist of the construction of the project by a contractor. Depending on the final design, this could take 24 to 36 months to complete. All engineering and construction is funded and included in IDOT's FY 2011-2016 Highway Improvement Program.

Illinois Route 3-Waterloo Project Time Line

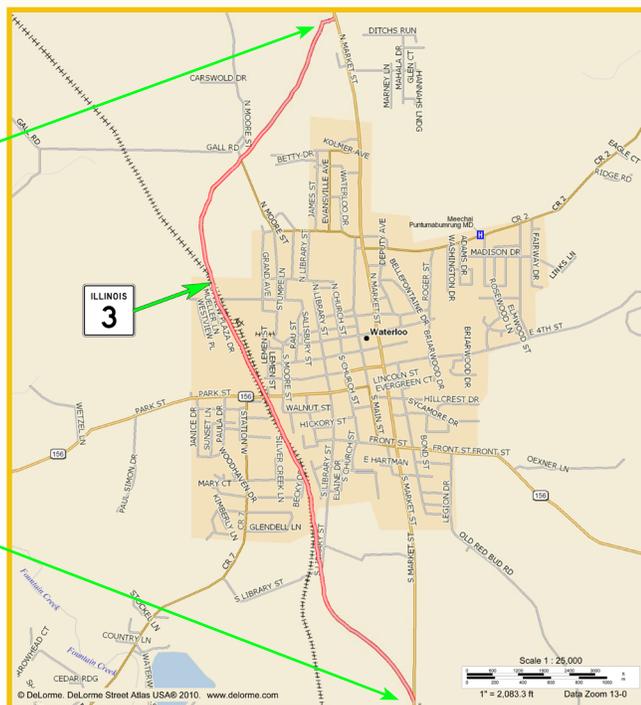


Project Map

Northern Project Limit (North Market Street)

Total Length of Project: 3.1 miles

Southern Project Limit (South Market Street)



Would you like to be added to our mailing list to receive this newsletter and other notifications related to this project? If so, you can sign up on the project website at www.dot.il.gov/ilroute3, or mail or email the following information to:

Illinois Route 3–Waterloo Project Team
c/o Horner & Shifrin, Inc.
640 Pierce Blvd., Ste. 200
O’Fallon, Illinois 62269
Email: IL3@HornerShifrin.com

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

Email _____

Please check this box if you would like to receive mailings by email instead of standard mail.



This newsletter is published to provide regular updates regarding the progress of the Illinois Route 3–Waterloo Project.



IDOT is committed to conducting business in a sustainable manner. To that end, we have chosen to print this newsletter on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified paper stock and to print with a commercial printer that also holds the certification. The Forest Stewardship Council is a non-profit organization devoted to encouraging the responsible management of the world's forests. FSC sets high standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable way.



Contact Information

We welcome your questions and comments, which you may submit by mail to:

**Illinois Route 3–Waterloo Project Team
c/o Horner & Shifrin, Inc.
640 Pierce Blvd., Ste. 200
O’Fallon, Illinois 62269**

By email to:

IL3@HornerShifrin.com

Or through our project website at:

www.dot.il.gov/ilroute3

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