SECTION 4(f) DE MINIMIS DOCUMENTATION
SHERIDAN ROAD
OVER
UNNAMED CREEKS

P-91-204-14

Lake County, Illinois

IDOT – Division of Highways – District One

May 2018
1. Project Description

   a. Project Number: P-91-204-14

   b. Project Name: Sheridan Road Over Unnamed Creeks

   c. Location: Lake County

   d. Project Type: Culvert Replacement

   e. Project Length: 0.2 miles

   f. NEPA Class of Action: Federal Approved Categorical Exclusion

   g. Purpose and Need of the Project: The purpose of this project is to replace two serious condition concrete box culverts located along Sheridan Road (SN 049-0595 and SN 049-0596) 1 and 1.3 miles north of Lake-Cook Road that will also improve the hydraulic capacity at both locations.

   h. Project Status: The Illinois Department of Transportation is nearing completion of a preliminary engineering and environmental study (Phase I). The anticipated Phase I design approval is September 2018. This improvement is included in the Department’s FY 2018-2023 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. Our current engineering efforts are targeted to enable a contract letting in the middle years of our current multi-year program contingent upon plan readiness, land acquisition, and funding availability through our future annual legislative appropriations.

2. Section 4(f) Resource

   a. Name of Resource: Rosewood Beach

   b. Type of Resource: Public beach and access road

   c. Official with Jurisdiction (OWJ): Park District of Highland Park

   d. Description of role/significance in the community: Rosewood Beach is a national award-winning beach and consists of a nature cove for ecological and nature programs, guarded swimming beach, and a recreation beach, beachfront Interpretive Center and amenity buildings including concessions, restroom, and guard buildings connected by a boardwalk that runs the length of Rosewood Beach. Multiple summer
camps and events throughout the year are hosted by the Park District at the Rosewood Beach location. Rosewood Park is located adjacent to the beach.

3. **Description of Intended Section 4(f) Resource Use**

   a. **Type and Acres of Impact:** 0.185 acres of temporary easement of the 3.972 acres of Rosewood Beach parcel with the Property Index Number (PIN) 16-25-405-011 is required to replace the existing concrete box culvert (SN 049-0596) with a bridge located just to the south of the Rosewood Beach access drive, which will also need to be adjusted due to the profile improvements along Sheridan Road over the culvert. The proposed driveway needs to be adjusted to provide maximum intersection sight distance for safety.

   b. **Existing Function of Impacted Acres:** The driveway provides access to Rosewood Beach and parking lot. The beach and Rosewood Park is also accessible from the parking area at the east end of Roger Williams Avenue. The North Shore Water Reclamation District also uses this driveway to access their Cary Avenue Pump Station (PS-8) and treatment plant that is located within the Park District property driveway is the only access to Rosewood Beach. The impacted area is located along the most westerly property line of the parcel with the PIN 16-25-405-011. There are no anticipated negative impacts to the operations and recreational use of Rosewood Beach based on the proposed temporary easement. Staged construction will be used to maintain access to Rosewood Beach throughout construction, however Sheridan Road over the culvert will need to be closed and detoured to remove the culvert and construct the bridge.

4. **Description of Efforts to Avoid, Minimize, and Mitigate/Enhance the Resource**

   a. **Avoidance and minimization efforts made and benefits to resource:** There are no feasible alternatives of construction which would avoid impacts to the Rosewood Beach property along Sheridan Road. Construction will require fully maintaining access to the beach throughout the entire length of construction.
The project will benefit the beach by improving the drainage and eliminating/decreasing erosion of the embankment adjacent to the Rosewood Beach entrance which has had numerous instances of embankment erosion due to the steep ravine slopes and high velocity of the water in the creek. The project also includes construction of a sidewalk along the west side of Sheridan Road from Cary Avenue to the Rosewood Beach entrance. The proposed bridge will also include a sidewalk on the east side.

b. **Commitments for mitigation or enhancement:** Work will be conducted with beach access in mind and construction documents will include provisions to ensure beach access is maintained.

5. **Evidence of Opportunity for Public Review and Comment:**
   a. A newspaper ad will be posted to allow the public an opportunity to review and comment on the section 4(f) impacts.
   b. Public Comments

6. **Evidence of Coordination with Official(s) with Jurisdiction**
   a. 11/30/15 .... Initial Coordination
   b. 4/12/17 ...... Park District schedule coordination
   c. 9/6/17 ........ IDOT reply to schedule and detour

7. **Supporting Documentation**
   a. Project Location Map............................................... (E-1)
   b. Aerial View – Rosewood Beach and Park.......................(E-2)
   c. Coordination ................................................................. (E-3)
   d. Section 4(f) Impact Exhibit...........................................(E-4)
   e. Typical Cross Section ....................................................(E-5)
   f. Preliminary Plan & Profile Sheets ...............................(E-6)
Sheridan Road (FAU 3506)
Over Unnamed Creeks

Lake County

P-91-204-14
Disclaimer: The selected feature may not occur anywhere in the current map extent. A Registered Land Surveyor should be consulted to determine the precise location of property boundaries on the ground. This map does not constitute a regulatory determination and is not a base for engineering design. This map is intended to be viewed and printed in color.
Project and Environmental Studies  
Sheridan Road Over Unnamed Creeks  
Lake County  

November 30, 2015  

Ms. Liza McElroy  
Executive Director  
Park District of Highland Park  
636 Ridge Rd  
Highland Park, IL  60035  

Dear Ms. McElroy:  

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) has recently initiated preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I) for the improvement of Sheridan Road over two unnamed creeks between Lakewood Place and the Rosewood Park entrance in the City of Highland Park in Lake County. A location map is attached for your reference. This improvement is not currently included in the Department's FY 2016-2021 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. However, this project will be included in our priorities for future funding consideration among similar improvement needs throughout the region. The proposed project is anticipated to consist of replacing the existing culverts.  

The subject improvement at the northern culvert is in the vicinity of Rosewood Beach of the Park District of Highland Park. At this early stage in our project development, we ask that you provide the Department with some background information concerning these holdings. The following information would be of particular interest to us:  

1. Is this property publicly owned?  
2. Is it publicly used as a park, recreational area, wildlife and/or waterfowl refuge?  
3. Is it on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)?  
4. Size in acres, as well as a right-of-way plat and/or site plan  
5. Common name and type of facility (recreation, historic, etc.)  
6. Available recreational activities (fishing, swimming, bike trails, etc.)  
7. Facilities, existing and planned (description and location)  
8. Usage (approximate number of users for each activity)  
9. Relationship to other similarly used lands in the vicinity  
10. Access (pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, and vehicular)  
11. Ownership and applicable clauses affecting title, such as covenants, restrictions or conditions including forfeiture or federal encumbrances (i.e., LAWCON funds)  
12. Unusual characteristics of the property (flooding, vegetation, terrain conditions, or any other future plans)  
13. A map identifying the extent of your holdings in the area of our proposed improvement  

E-3.1
If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mike Phan, Project Manager, at (847) 705-4634.

Very truly yours,

John Fortmann, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways,
Region One Engineer

By:
John A. Baczek, P.E.
Project and Environmental Studies Section Chief

Enclosure

bcc: File
April 12, 2017

Carlos A. Feliciano, P.E.
IDOT District One Bureau of Programming
Project & Environmental Studies - In-House Studies Unit
Unit Head/ADA Coordinator
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, IL 60196

Dear Mr. Feliciano,

The City of Highland Park invited the Park District of Highland Park for conversations regarding the 2018 IDOT Sheridan Road Culvert Construction Project. This project will greatly impact the routes of access to Rosewood Beach, located at 883 Sheridan Rd, Highland Park, IL 60035. In discussing the schedule of the project, the Park District was asked to identify peak user times throughout the year.

Beginning, Memorial Day and running through Labor Day, the Interpretive Center at Rosewood Beach is programmed daily, beginning at 7:30am. Camps, programs, sand volleyball, and rentals are also scheduled weekly. These events require busing of children from other Park District locations down to the beach. Not only are these events a significant part of the Park District’s operations; providing thousands of patrons’ ease of access to appreciate the natural world, such as the lakefront, is a key part of the Park District’s mission.

The Park District recommends and respectfully asks if construction can be avoided from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Liza McElroy
Executive Director
Project and Environmental Studies  
Sheridan Road  
OverUnnamed Creeks  
Lake County  

September 6, 2017  

Ms. Liza McElroy  
Executive Director  
Park District of Highland Park  
West Ridge Center  
636 Ridge Road  
Highland Park, IL  60035  

Dear Ms. McElroy:  

This is in response to your letter dated April 12, 2017 regarding the improvement of Sheridan Road over two unnamed creeks between Lakewood Place and the Rosewood Beach entrance in the City of Highland Park in Lake County. This improvement is included in the Illinois Department of Transportation’s (Department) FY 2018-2023 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. Our current engineering efforts are targeted to enable a contract letting in the early years of our current multi-year program contingent upon plan readiness, land acquisition, and funding availability through our future annual legislative appropriations. The proposed project is anticipated to consist of replacing the existing culverts with bridges.  

A detour for Sheridan Road over both creeks is required due to the insufficient lane widths and the depth of the culverts; however the entrance to Rosewood Beach should remain open throughout with temporary and partial closures during driveway improvements with access to Sheridan Road north of the entrance. The Department cannot accommodate your request to avoid reconstruction of the culvert near Rosewood Beach from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Constructing the bridge during the cold months would create an inferior quality bridge that the Department cannot approve. Further, construction during the winter months adds additional time to the project due to weather delays, resulting in increased project costs.
Ms. Liza McElroy  
September 6, 2017  
Page 2

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Carlos Feliciano, In-House Studies Unit Head, at (847) 705-4106.

Very truly yours,

Anthony J. Quigley, P.E.  
Region One Engineer

By:  
John A. Baczek, P.E.  
Engineer of Program Development

cc:  Emmanuel Gomez, P.E.

bcc:  John Baczek  
Brian Carlson  
File

Prepared By:  Mike Phan, Ext. 4634  
Bureau of Programming

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Project and Environmental Studies
Sheridan Road
Over Unnamed Creeks
Lake County

June 4, 2018

CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Liza McElroy
Executive Director
Park District of Highland Park
636 Ridge Road
Highland Park, IL 60035

Dear Ms. McElroy:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) is nearing completion of preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I) for the proposed improvement of Sheridan Road over two unnamed creeks between Lakewood Place and the Rosewood Beach park entrance in the City of Highland Park in Lake County. This improvement is included in the Department’s FY 2019-2024 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. Current engineering efforts are targeted to enable a contract letting in the middle years of the multi-year program contingent upon plan readiness, land acquisition, and funding availability through future annual legislative appropriations. The general scope of work for this improvement consists of culvert replacements.

The proposed culvert replacement with a bridge requires removal of the existing culvert and profile raise of Sheridan Road which will impact Rosewood Beach located on the east side of Sheridan Road between Roger Williams Avenue and the Rosewood Beach park entrance. In addition, in order to replace the structures, a detour of Sheridan Road will be required given the amount of excavation required to remove the existing poor condition culverts. Staging alternatives were evaluated and are not feasible. The Department will be acquiring approximately 0.19 acres of temporary easement for access to the culvert and construction equipment to construct the proposed bridge. The project is expected to take one construction season to complete. The bridge replacement project and associated grading is expected to greatly reduce or eliminate erosion downstream on the Park District property which has already had erosion mitigation improvements made by the Park District downstream of Sheridan Road. (See Exhibit E-4)

Section 4f De Minimis:
As discussed in coordination letters with the Park District of Highland Park (Park District) on November 30, 2015 and September 6, 2017, the Sheridan Road culvert replacement located just south of the Rosewood Beach park
entrance will impact the Park District's Rosewood Beach property. As this project is being processed to utilize federal funds, the Park District property is eligible for protection under federal regulations 23 U.S.C. 138 and 49 U.S.C. 303, which were originally enacted as Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 and are still commonly referred to as "Section 4(f)."

Section 4(f), now implemented under 23 CFR 774, is the federal act that protects publicly owned parks, recreation areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has evaluated the impacts and has determined that the impacts qualify for a de minimis processing based on the determination that the project will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities qualifying the property for protection under Section 4(f). The purpose of this letter is to provide documentation that supports a de minimis finding. After your review and concurrence with the documentation, we will place a newspaper advertisement to allow the public to review and comment on the effects of the project on the Section 4(f) property. The notice will allow the public to review the documentation at our offices or review the copy of the documentation being transmitted to you at this time or a revised version, as needed, in the Park District office. The de minimis documentation will also be made available on our website during the comment period.

**Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD):**

In 2010, the Park District received funding from the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant program to improve land bounded by Rosewood Park and Beach. Because the Department proposes to acquire temporary construction easements to be able to replace the structure near the Rosewood Beach entrance, coordination is required with the Park District and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Office of Architecture, Engineering and Grants to discuss the impacts to the OSLAD-assisted land.

For this improvement, the easements required are temporary in nature and the land will remain owned and used by the Park District after construction is completed; as such, the Department has determined that these easements would not qualify as a conversion of recreational land for other than public outdoor recreational use. At the end of this letter there is an area where you can state your concurrence that these temporary easements would not qualify as a conversion of recreational land.

Please review the enclosed Section 4(f) de minimis documentation for a more detailed description of Section 4(f) properties that will be affected. In order to maintain our schedule, we request a response within 30 days of receipt of this letter in order to maintain our project schedules.
Ms. Liza McElroy  
June 4, 2018  
Page three

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Mike Phan, Project Manager, at (847) 705-4634.

Very truly yours,

Anthony J. Quigley, P.E.  
Region One Engineer

By:  
Issam Rayyan, P.E.  
Acting Bureau Chief of Programming

Enclosure

bcc:  File

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Project and Environmental Studies
Sheridan Road
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For this improvement, the easements required are temporary in nature and the land will remain owned and used by the Park District after construction is completed; as such, the Department has determined that these easements would not qualify as a conversion of recreational land for other than public outdoor recreational use.

Concur: _______  Do not concur: _______

Signature: ____________________________

Title: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

Comments: ____________________________

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