Section 4(f) De Minimis Documentation

147TH STREET
OVER TRIBUTARY C OF CALUMET SAG CHANNEL
(AT MENARD AVENUE)

City of Oak Forest
Cook County, Illinois

Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Highways/District 1/Region 1
March 2017
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1. **Project Description**

   a. **Project Number (IDOT):** P-91-076-15

   b. **Project Name:** 147th Street over Tributary C of Calumet Sag Channel (at Menard Avenue)

   c. **Location:** City of Oak Forest, Cook County

   d. **Project Type:** Culvert Replacement. The scope of work includes removing and replacing the culvert carrying 147th Street over Tributary C of the Calumet Sag Channel and downstream ditch improvements approximately 200 feet to the north.

   e. **Project Length:** 0.45 miles

   f. **NEPA Class of Action:** Federal Approved Categorical Exclusion

   g. **Purpose and Need of the Project:** The purpose of this project is to address flooding at 147th Street and in the residential area to the southeast of the culvert. In order to accomplish this, IDOT will need to replace the existing culvert under 147th Street and make positive drainage improvements downstream of the culvert to improve drainage away from the residences and the roadway.

   h. **Project Status:** The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is performing a preliminary engineering and environmental study (Phase I) and is anticipated to be completed by the beginning of 2018.

2. **Section 4(f) Resources**

   a. **Name of Resource:** Bachelor Grove Woods / Rubio Woods

   b. **Type of Resource:** Forest Preserve

   c. **Official with Jurisdiction (OWJ):** Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC)

   d. **Description of Role/Significance in the Community:** Forest Preserve for outdoor recreation activities.
3. **Description of Intended Section 4(f) Resource Use**

   a. **Type and Acres of Impact:** 0.50 acres of permanent easement.

      0.50 acres of Bachelor's Grove Woods are needed as a permanent
      easement in order to construct the proposed culvert and regrade
      approximately 200 linear feet of Tributary C of the Cal-Sag Channel for
      drainage flow.

   b. **Existing Function of Impacted Acres:** There will be no negative impact
      to the FPDCC property in this case. The impacted area contains open
      space or trees and vegetation, and is located away from recreational uses
      and amenities. The resulted function of the impacted area would be the
      same as its current use.

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

   a. **Avoidance and minimization efforts made and benefits to resource:**
      Given the flat topography of the area, it would not be possible to address
      the flooding without regrading the existing ditches. Eight different
      alternatives to address the flooding were evaluated and the proposed
      alternative provided the least amount of impacts with the most significant
      benefit that reduces flooding. The impacts to the resource were minimized
      by improving the drainage ditch and minimizing the footprint of the grading
      to avoid tree removals. A large number of trees impacted are diseased
      Ash trees which contain the Emerald Ash Borer. This insect is a foreign
      pest which causes Ash trees to weaken and break which would further
      block the existing drainage pattern and continue the spread of this pest
      throughout all Ash trees in the nearby Forest Preserve properties.

   b. **List of Commitments for Mitigation or Enhancement:**
      Trees that are removed for the proposed improvement will be replaced
      according to IDOT’s Preservation and Replacement of Trees policy and in
      accordance with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County tree
      replacement mitigation policies.
4(f) De Minimis Documentation for 147th Street over Tributary C of Calumet Sag Channel (at Menard Avenue)
City of Oak Forest, Cook County, Illinois

5. Evidence of Opportunity for Public Review and Comment:
   a. Type of Public Availability: A newspaper ad will be posted to allow the public three weeks to review and comment on the Section 4(f) impacts.
   b. Summary of Comments:

6. Evidence of Coordination with Official(s) with Jurisdiction (OWJ)
   a. August 1, 2014 IDOT/FPDCC Quarterly Coordination Meeting
   b. March 31, 2015 Letter to FPDCC
   c. March 10, 2016 IDOT/FPDCC Coordination Meeting Minutes

7. Supporting Documentation
   a. Project Location Map (see Attachment 1).
   b. Existing Aerial – Property Owner Exhibit (see Attachment 2)
   c. Preliminary Proposed Plan and Profile (See Attachment 3)
   d. Preliminary Tree Exhibit Plan Sheet (see Attachment 4)
   e. Newspaper Public Comment Display Ad (see Attachment 5)
   f. Coordination (see Attachment 6)
   g. Forest Preserve District Cook County Map (see Attachment 7)
Route: 147th Street  
Limits: at Menard Ave. (over Trib C of Cal-Sag)  
County: Cook  

P-91-076-15
The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is currently engaged in engineering and environmental studies for the improvement of 147th Street over Tributary C of the Calumet-Sag Channel (at Menard Avenue) in Oak Forest. The scope of work for the improvement consists of culvert removal and replacement. IDOT is seeking public comments on impacts the 147th Street over Tributary C of the Calumet-Sag Channel will have on the Bachelor Grove Woods/Rubio Woods owned and operated by the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

The Bachelor Grove Woods/Rubio Woods is protected under federal regulations originally enacted as Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, which protect public parks, recreation areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges, as well as public or private historical sites. IDOT anticipates a de minimis impact finding for the Bachelor Grove/Rubio Woods, 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 project will impact 0.50 acres of Bachelor Grove Woods/Rubio Woods for culvert replacement and positive drainage flow. Documentation of this proposed action and its impacts, including avoidance, minimization, mitigation, or enhancement measures, will be available at the following locations:

**DATE:** 03-22-17 to 04-21-17  
**TIME:** 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday thru Friday  
**PLACE:** Illinois Department of Transportation  
Bureau of Programming – 4th Floor  
201 West Center Court  
Schaumburg, IL 60196  
OR  
Forest Preserves of Cook County  
536 N. Harlem Avenue  
River Forest, IL 60305

An electronic version of this documentation is available on the IDOT website at [http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/environment/index](http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/environment/index). Written comments can be submitted at the IDOT office, mailed to the IDOT office, or sent electronically to the above referenced website. Comments received by 04-21-17 will become part of the public record.

All correspondence regarding this project should be sent to:

Illinois Department of Transportation  
201 W. Center Court  
Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096  
Attn: Bureau of Programming/Shadab Ansari
FPDCC Quarterly Meeting Minutes

147th Street at Menard Avenue: This was the initial presentation of this project. The project is located in the City of Oak Forest. The Department was notified of flooding concerns at the culvert crossing 147th Street west of Menard Avenue and in the neighborhood to the southeast of 147th Street and Menard Avenue. A drainage investigation was performed. Two culverts at 147th Street located approximately 1,200 feet and 2,600 feet west of Central Avenue convey water to the north side of the road and through FPDCC land. The existing outfall to the north of the eastern culvert crossing 147th Street has silted in over the years and the water does not drain properly. Several options were studied in the drainage investigation and the scope of work proposed is to replace the eastern culvert with a larger culvert and grade from the existing outfall approximately 200 feet to the north to reestablish flow to the north. Phase I studies have been initiated and the Department inquired whether the FPDCC had any concerns or comments. The FPDCC asked if increasing the culvert size alone was sufficient to resolve the problem and the Department noted that the combination of reinstating the flowline and replacing the culverts is needed. The Department also noted that this appears to be a headwater area so the channel in this area is not well defined with channel banks and a normal flow. Due to the siltation, the flow has to build up on the upstream side of 147th Street until it can divert to an offsite storm sewer. Flooding has threatened to enter homes and has flowed over the road. The FPDCC would like to know what the tree impacts will be, as well as any other impacts to their property. The FPDCC mentioned that there is an agreement with the MWRD regarding small streams that may be able to do some grading work in this area. The Department will begin the environmental process and inform the FPDCC of the impacts to forest preserve land.
LOCATION MAP

Route: 147th Street
Limits: at Menard Avenue
County: Cook

P-91-
FEMA Flood Hazard Boundary Map
Drainage Investigation
Trib. "C" of Calumet Sag (w/o Central Road)
Route 147th Street in Oak Forest
Cook County, Illinois
Illinois Department of Transportation

Existing 24"x36" Box Culvert
Existing 18"x24" Box Culvert
March 31, 2015

Ms. Chris Slattery
Director of Planning and Development
Forest Preserve District of Cook County
536 North Harlem Avenue
River Forest, IL 60305

Dear Ms. Slattery:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) has recently initiated preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I) for the improvement of 147th Street over a ditch just west of Menard Avenue in the City of Oak Forest in Cook County. A location map is attached for your reference. This improvement is not currently included in the Department's FY 2015-2020 Proposed Multi-Modal Transportation 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 culvert replacement.

The subject improvement is in the vicinity of Rubio Woods and Bachelor Grove Woods of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. 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. Size in acres, as well as a right-of-way plat and/or site plan
2. Common name and type of facility (recreation, historic, etc.)
3. Available recreational activities (fishing, swimming, bike trails, etc.)
4. Facilities, existing and planned (description and location)
5. Usage (approximate number of users for each activity)
6. Relationship to other similarly used lands in the vicinity
7. Access (pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian, and vehicular)
8. Ownership and applicable clauses affecting title, such as covenants, restrictions or conditions including forfeiture or federal encumbrances (i.e., LAWCON funds)
9. Unusual characteristics of the property (flooding, vegetation, terrain conditions, or any other future plans)
10. A map identifying the extent of your holdings in the area of our proposed improvement
If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Shadab Ansari, Project Manager, at (847) 705-4676.

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

Enclosures

cc: Joan Patricia Murphy, Cook County Commissioner (District 6)

bcc: Brian Carlson
Beth Giarelli, Project Engineer
LOCATION MAP

Route: 147th Street
Limits: over ditch (at Menard Avenue)
County: Cook

P-91-076-15
General Discussion:
The purpose of this meeting was to coordinate various Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) projects which are currently in Phase I, Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies, and to discuss various locations selected by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC) where IDOT action is needed.

A status update was provided for ongoing projects that IDOT is seeking 4(f) de Minimis concurrence for. The following is a brief summary by project:

FPDCC Items:
McCormick Drainage at 1st Avenue s/o 26th St – The FPDCC emailed IDOT on December 11, 2015 regarding concerns over standing water at 1st Avenue. IDOT’s Maintenance staff evaluated the concerns and noted that once the snow and ice season is over around April they will have the equipment needed to assist them in troubleshooting the flooding issue.

Various Structures Inspections by Cook County Highways – The FPDCC emailed IDOT on January 4th, 2016 regarding several structures noted in the 2015 Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Bridge and Structure Inspections Report.

In general, many of the structures pre-date IDOT’s attempts to formalize the actual jurisdiction of the pedestrian structures. Typically, IDOT’s understanding is that IDOT (since these were built at the time the roadway was constructed) is responsible for the structural maintenance of the culverts – since they carry a State highway; however, maintenance issues relating to the trail (like drainage) or aesthetics are the responsibility of the trail owner.

Our records show that two of these structures aren’t under IDOT maintained highways; for these structure, provide any records indicating that they are under the jurisdiction of IDOT.

- Glenview Road West of Harms Rd (Roadway owned by municipality) – FPDCC noted that the Village of Glenview, Shane Schneider - Village Engineer, agreed to incorporate the underpass repair work along with the upcoming minor bridge repair work they have planned.

- 167th St east of Central Ave. (Roadway owned by County). – FPDCC is inquiring the County to confirm jurisdiction.
Maintenance does inspect the structures under IDOT jurisdiction and has the following input on the report:

**Palos Trail:**

1. 94th St at La Grange Rd IDOT SN: 016-2166
   - IDOT recommends no repairs at this time.
2. 102nd St at La Grange Rd IDOT SN: 016-2171
   - IDOT recommends no repairs at this time.
3. 119th St at La Grange Rd IDOT SN: 016-1273
   - IDOT report indicates some issues with the architectural stone walls above the structure. In the past we’ve offered to lower the stone walls and replace with chain link; however Forest Preserve indicated a desire to keep the aesthetic appearance of the stone walls. We would like to discuss possible repair to the stone wall instead of removal in our next coordination meeting.
   - This structure was discussed at this coordination meeting and the FPDCC and IDOT agreed that IDOT could remove the loose stones using in-house maintenance staff and remove the broken wall with the understanding that IDOT can install a temporary snow fence until a chain link fence contract can be procured to provide some fencing.
4. 113th St at La Grange Rd IDOT SN: 016-1274
   - IDOT recommends no repairs at this time.

**Des Plaines River Trail:**

1. First Ave South of Fullerton Ave IDOT SN: 016-1405
   - no repairs recommended; IDOT concurs.
2. First Ave North of North Ave IDOT SN: 016-2150
   - IDOT agrees that the structure is in poor condition and should be replaced. Previous coordination has been done with the Cook County Forest Preserve regarding the replacement of the structure. The replacement of the structure is an identified need, however funding for the replacement has not been included in our mutli-year program at this time. Our studies indicate the cost of the replacement to be approximately $750k. The Department will continue to monitor the structure and make repairs when needed until the replacement project is underway.
3. Lawrence Ave West of East River Rd IDOT SN: 016-1345.
   - We concur with the repairs recommended in the Cook Co report, but they are not a high priority, and won’t be included in our repair efforts at this time.

4. Devon Ave West of Dee Rd IDOT SN: 016-1283
   - We concur with the repairs recommended for the construction joints in the Cook Co report; they are of medium priority and will be considered for a future maintenance program. Please note that lowering the drainage structure is considered to be related to trail maintenance, not structural maintenance, so it would be considered the responsibility of the trail owner, FPDCC, to address the grade discrepancy between the trail and the structure.

Regarding formalizing the ownership / jurisdiction of these structures with the Cook County Department of Transportation; the FPDCC stated that they have no interest in the ownership of any roadway structure and as such are in agreement with our current maintenance understanding for these structures. We will continue to work together to resolve maintenance issues as they arise.

In addition, just for clarity, either by Permit or through a Local Roads contract, in many places we have allowed trails / paths to be built under various State Highways but their allowance doesn’t make them IDOT’s responsibility to maintain. The owner of the trail is responsible for maintaining the trail through the State ROW. In addition, the state reserves the right to close the trail when needed to maintain the bridges / culverts that the trails pass under / through. Some of the recommendations in the report require IDOT to clear trees on FPDCC’s property; which in the past has required extensive and lengthy coordination to obtain the easements as well as cost compensation for trees cleared which would further delays to improvement would be expected. These costs, impacts and lengthy coordination activities require a significant undertaking on IDOT’s limited resources. The FPDCC stated that they are willing to work with IDOT to regarding tree impacts and access rights as the repairs to these structures would qualify as a benefit to the FPDCC.

**Torrence Avenue Calumet City Bike Path** – The FPDCC inquired about the City of Calumet’s bike path improvement currently being coordinated through IDOTs Bureau of Local Roads and Streets. The FPDCC is in agreement with the inclusion of a bike path along the east side of Torrence Avenue; however, they question as to why the path’s logical termini ends just short of Michigan City Road. The traffic generators are the residences on the north side of Pulaski, just 1500 feet north of where the City is proposing to end their path. It would make sense to extend the path north to Pulaski Road or at the very least to end at the logical termini of Michigan City Road. Otherwise, the FPDCC is concerned that users would either form their own “goat” trail to Michigan City Road or potentially get onto the Torrence Avenue roadway to get to Michigan City Road, creating a safety hazard for both trail users.
and vehicles. IDOT BLRS staff noted that in their application, the City had stated Michigan City Road as their logical termini and will follow up with them on the changes to the project limits and follow up with the FPDCC on any responses given.

**Des Plaines River Trail Crossings** – The FPDCC informed IDOT that it has begun a study to evaluate the Des Plaines River Trail and potentially looking at realigning it to higher ground to address flooding issues with the trail. They are currently in the planning stages and have set up a committee between the municipalities and the FPDCC staff to evaluate alternatives. IDOT noted that Aren Kriks, IDOT District I Bikeway Coordinator, can be made available to attend these meetings and provide insight on State system crossings, projects, and general input as well. He’s served in several committees regarding the Des Plaines River Trail and other FPDCC bike trail related projects. He can be reached at Aren.Kriks@Illinois.gov or at (847) 705-4809.

**IDOT Items:**
The following are the discussions had for various Phase I projects that IDOT has or will coordinate with the FPDCC. See agenda spreadsheet for additional project information:

**IL 171 at Roosevelt** - A signed concurrence on determination of no adverse effect to FPDCC 4(f) was received on February 25, 2016. The concurrence document has been forwarded on to the Bureau of Design and the proposed sidewalk will now be incorporated in the contract plans. The proposed sidewalk will provide an added benefit to the scope of the intersection improvements, providing safe access to the pedestrians from the bus shelter to the intersection.

**IL 58: College Drive to E. River Road** - The Section 4(f) document was advertised for public comment from November 4, 2015 through December 4, 2015. An updated copy of the Section 4(f) and letter will be transmitted for concurrence.

**Joliet Road at Brainard Avenue** - The Section 4(f) document was advertised for public comment from October 27, 2015 through November 27, 2015. An updated copy of the Section 4(f) and letter will be transmitted for concurrence.

**183rd at Central Avenue** - The Section 4(f) document was advertised for public comment from December 5, 2015 through January 5, 2015. An updated copy of the Section 4(f) and letter will be transmitted for concurrence.
147th Street at Menard Avenue Culvert – This was the 2nd presentation of this project. The project is located in the City of Oak Forest. The scope of work proposed for this project is to remove the existing culvert (18” x 24”) and replace with a concrete box culvert (36” x 72”) and grade from the outfall approximately 200 feet to the north to reestablish flow to the north. IDOT proposed a temporary easement for grading along the stream. The FPDCC requested that IDOT change the temporary easement to a permanent easement for maintenance and future regrading as well as limit the permanent easement to a smaller area along the stream. It is anticipated that approximately 10 trees will be removed in this area. IDOT will inform the FPDCC the exact number and type of trees to be impacted once the tree survey is complete. IDOT will revise the draft Section 4(f) De Minimis Documentation to include the permanent easement and tree impacts for review by the FPDCC before placing a newspaper ad for public comments.

IL 68 over Salt Creek Arlington Heights Branch – The existing 10’x7’ concrete box culvert located 0.6 MI east of Quentin Road in the Village of Palatine carries IL 68 over Salt Creek Arlington Heights Branch is being studied for replacement based upon its poor condition. Deer Grove East Forest Preserve is located on the north side of the roadway. Other drainage improvements that are being studied are due to flooding concerns located approximately 1000’ west of Salt Creek Arlington Heights Branch. The FPDCC noted that the MWRD may have added a restrictor to one of the culverts that cross under IL 68 west of the box culvert. The FPDCC believes they may still own to the centerline of IL 68. Property title searches are being ordered by IDOT and will be shared with the FPDCC. At this time IDOT does not believe they will impact the FPDCC property and any easements will likely be south of the culvert. The FPDCC believes that this location was part of the O’Hare mitigation site with Open Lands as agent in mitigation responsibilities. IDOT will coordinate with Joe Roth and Kathy Churnich of the ACOE and Open Lands.

Cermak Road over IHB RR/Gardner St, 25th Avenue & Addison Creek – IDOT’s anticipated scope is to replace the bridge decks that carry Cermak Road over the IHB RR/Gardner Street and at 25th Avenue. The IHB RR bridge is adjacent to the Westchester Woods Forest Preserve. The FPDCC believes they still own to the centerline of the roadway. IDOT will order property title searches for all FPDCC parcels adjacent to State ROW and will share the information with the FPDCC. The slab bridge that carries Cermak Road over Addison Creek is currently being studied for replacement of the superstructure. Sidewalk is located on both sides of the bridge. Addison Creek is adjacent to and within the Twenty-sixth Street Forest Preserve. Additional sidewalk off of the bridge on the north side will be coordinated with the Village of Broadview. The narrow sidewalk on the south side of roadway will be studied if additional widening can be accommodated. The FPDCC believes that the MWRD is studying this area of Addison Creek.
123rd Street (McCarthy Road) over Mill Creek (0.3 miles e/o U.S. Route 45) – The existing 6’x7’ concrete box culvert located 0.3 MI east of U.S. 45 the Village of Palos Park carries 123rd Street over Mill Creek West Branch is being studied for replacement based upon its poor condition. Within a 0.25 miles section of 123rd Street the creek crosses under 123rd Street at three locations, under Hobart Street, and under 93rd Avenue. IDOT is only planning to replace the culvert located just west of 93rd Avenue and planning to coordinate the replacement of the culvert at 93rd Avenue with the Village of Palos Park to address flooding concerns at the intersection of 123rd Street and 93rd Avenue. At this time IDOT does not the extent if any the project has on the 40 Acre Woods Forest Preserve located just to the southeast of the culvert on 123rd Street, west of 93rd Avenue. Any property title searches will be shared with the FPDCC.
**EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS**

**ICONS & NOTATIONS**

Note: while not all activities are available in each region, they may be available in a region nearby. Please refer to the Forest Preserve District-wide map for locations of all activities.

- Picnic Grove
- Shelter
- Ecological Management Site
- Hiking
- Dog Friendly Area
- Model Airplane Flying Field
- Campground Group Only
- Cross Country Skiing
- Farm
- Nature Center
- Sledding
- Fishing
- No Parking
- No Alcohol
- Canoe Landing
- Snowmobiling
- Model Boat Area
- Tenting Hotspot
- Parking
- In-Line Skating
- Boating
- Hiking
- Nature Walk
- Swimming Pool
- Nature Center
- Tree Cover
- Road
- Rail Line
- Trail Information
- Parking Lot
- Bridge
- Activity Area

**Region 8: Overview**

**Region 8: Overview**

- **147th at Menard**
  - Bachelor's Grove Woods/
  - Rubio Woods

**Note:**

- Mileage is approximated to the closest tenth of a mile.

- Forest Preserves in Region 8:
  - Bachelor's Grove Woods
  - Rubio Woods
  - Yankee Woods
  - Catalina Grove Family Picnic Area
  - Coopers Hawk Grove Family Picnic Area
  - Carlson Springs Woods
  - Camp Falcon
  - Carlson Springs Woods
  - Catalina Grove Family Picnic Area
  - Coopers Hawk Grove Family Picnic Area
  - Bachelor's Grove Woods

**Activity Areas**

- Tinley Creek (Unpaved)
- Tinley Creek (Paved)
- Yankee Woods
- Coolidge Woods
- Camp Falcon
- Carlson Springs Woods
- Coopers Hawk Grove Family Picnic Area
- Catalina Grove Family Picnic Area
- Bachelor's Grove Woods
- Midwest Trailhead
- Tri-State Tollway
- George W. Dunne National Golf Course
- George W. Dunne National Driving Range
- Midlothian Meadow
- Midlothian Reservoir
LAND USE REQUEST

INFORMATION FORM

1. Please describe in detail the nature of your request, including, but not limited to:
   a) Plans depicting and describing the manner in which you intend to alter District property.

   The preliminary Proposed Plan & Profile Sheets are attached. The area requested on
   the north side of 147th Street is needed to remove and replace the existing culvert and
   make ditch improvements downstream of the culvert to eliminate flooding problems
   occurring on both sides of the road and in the neighborhood to the southeast of the
   culvert. The total area requested for the two permanent easements (P.E.) is 0.50 acres.

   b) Any and all physical improvements, and structures to be built.

   The existing pipe culvert, 18 inch by 24 inch, that runs from south to north under 147th
   Street will be removed and replaced. A new 36 inch by 72 inch concrete box culvert will
   be constructed in the same location as the existing culvert. The ditch downstream of the
   culvert will be graded for approximately 200 feet. The ditch bottom will be 15 feet wide
   with 5:1 side slopes.

   c) The useful life of the improvements, if any, to be built on District property.

   The typical design life of a culvert is 75 years.

   d) The plan for maintenance of the improvement during the useful life of the
   improvement.

   The Department inspects the structures every two years to determine if any
   maintenance is required. The proposed permanent easement will allow for this regular
   maintenance.

2. Please provide detailed maps or plat(s) detailing the location and dimensions of the area that
will be impacted by the proposed request. Please include information for both the construction
and operation phases of the project.

   See attached plans. IDOT's preliminary construction phasing is expected to be
   performed by detouring 147th Street traffic. Eastbound traffic on 147th Street will be
detoured north on Ridgeland Avenue for 0.51 miles, east on 143rd Street/Midlothian
Turnpike for 1.03 miles, and south on Central Avenue for 0.68 miles back to 147th Street.
Westbound 147th Street would take the reverse trip. The maximum length of detour
would be 3.2 miles. IDOT will utilize a precast concrete structure to minimize
interruptions to the traveling public and construction time. This construction phasing is
preliminary and is subject to change during a more detailed Phase II (Design and
Contract Plan Preparation) evaluation.

3. Please describe, in detail, the manner in which the District will benefit from your proposed
request.
The existing culvert is a 18 inch by 24 inch concrete pipe culvert. The replacement culvert proposed is a 36 inch by 72 inch concrete box culvert. The proposed culvert will reduce flooding problems along 147th Street, the neighborhood to the southeast of the culvert, and the Forest Preserve property north of the roadway. The downstream ditch to the north of 147th Street has silted in over the years and the water no longer drains properly, leaving water ponding north of the culvert. The proposed grading approximately 200 feet downstream of the culvert within FPD property and acquisition of permanent easements will ensure that IDOT has access to future inspection and maintenance activities.

4. Please describe, in detail, the manner in which the public will benefit from this proposed request.

As stated above, the use of a larger culvert will eliminate flooding in the area. Therefore, there should be less overtopping/flooding of the roadway which will increase safety for the traveling public and safety of the FPD patrons.

5. Please describe, in detail, which alternatives, if any, have been considered other than the use or acquisition of an ownership interest of District land and why such alternatives are not feasible or practical.

IDOT evaluated eight alternatives to mitigate the drainage problems in the area. All of the alternatives involve grading the downstream ditch. Since the ditch has silted in over the years the water backs up into the culvert and the upstream neighborhood causing flooding problems. Therefore, all of the alternatives would require regrading of the existing ditch and therefore; avoidance of FPDCC property is not feasible.

6. Please indicate whether all alternatives to the proposed use or acquisition of an interest in District land have been exhausted.

All culvert replacement alternatives to the proposed permanent easement have been exhausted and the area of acquisition has been reduced to the minimum in order to construct the replacement culvert and grade the downstream ditch.