Section 4(f) De Minimis Documentation

Miller Meadow Forest Preserve District of Cook County

IL 171 (1ST AVENUE) AT ROOSEVELT ROAD



P-91-136-12

Cook County, Illinois

IDOT - Division of Highways - District One

DRAFT - October 2015



1. Project Description

a. Project Name: IL 171 (1st Avenue) at Roosevelt Road

b. Project number (State and Federal): P-91-136-12

c. Location: Villages of Maywood and Forest Park, Proviso Township, Cook County

d. Project Type: Highway Safety improvement Project (HSIP). The scope of work includes traffic signal replacement, pavement restriping and median installation to provide two through lanes and dual left turns on the north and south legs of IL 171, and the extension of the right turn lane of the west leg of Roosevelt Road.

e. Project Length: 0.47 miles

- **f. Purpose and Need Summary:** The purpose of the proposed action is to improve safety, capacity and operations at the IL 171 and Roosevelt Road intersection. From 2008 to 2010, this intersection was in the top 5 percent of the State's most pressing need for safety improvements. The pattern of left turning collisions (especially in the north-south direction) can be attributed to permitted left turn movements with three through lanes of opposing traffic.
- g. NEPA Class of Action: Categorical Exclusion Group II.
- h. Project Status: The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) has completed preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I). Contract plan preparation, land acquisition (Phase II), and construction (Phase III) are included in IDOT's FY 2016-2021 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. Current engineering efforts are targeted to enable a contract letting in the early portion of the current multi-year program contingent upon plan readiness, land acquisition, and funding availability through future annual legislative appropriations.

2. Section 4(f) Resources

a. Resource Type: Forest Preserve

b. Resource Name: Miller Meadow

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

d. Description of role/significance in the Community:

Miller Meadow: The site is located southeast of the IL 171 and Roosevelt Road intersection and includes approximately 300 acres of open space and recreational uses. Miller Meadow is part of the Forest Preserve owned and operated by Cook County. It is open to the public from sunrise to sunset in the warmer months, and from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the winter. Miller Meadow offers family picnic areas, walking trails, snowmobiling areas, cross-country skiing trails and sledding hills. Miller Meadow was once a landing strip known as Checkerboard Field and from 1921-23, it was leased to the U.S. Post Office. See Attachment B-2 for an aerial map of the Miller Meadow Forest Preserve.

3. Description of intended Section 4(f) Resource Use

a. Type and Acres of Impact : 0.04 acres

Permanent Easement: 0.04 acres for sidewalk construction, re-grading, and maintenance rights.

b. Existing Function of Impacted Acres: The impacted area is located adjacent to Roosevelt Road and contains open space, a three-rail wooden fence, and a PACE bus shelter that encroaches into the Forest Preserve property (approximately 350 feet east of the intersection, south side of Roosevelt Road). Frequent pedestrian activity from the bus shelter to the intersection has created a worn path parallel to Roosevelt Road. As this area is located away from the recreational uses and amenities of the FPDCC holdings, the resulting function of the impacted areas along Roosevelt Road would be the same as its current use.

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

a. Avoidance and minimization efforts made and benefits to resource: In general, a buffer, or grassed, area between the back of curb and sidewalk is preferred; however, in order to minimize the area of permanent easement, a seven-foot wide sidewalk from the back of curb is proposed. A seven-foot wide sidewalk is the minimum width allowed when located adjacent to the back of curb. No trees will be removed as a result of this improvement. The project does not impact any areas that utilized conservation funding, such as OSLAD or LAWCON. The FPDCC will be compensated for the proposed land acquisition.

There is an existing PACE shelter on the southwest corner of the IL 171 and Roosevelt Road intersection that has sidewalk to the intersection; however this serves only PACE Route 331. PACE Routes 301 and 308 load/unloads passengers at the shelter at the southeast corner, which is located on FPDCC property.

b. Commitments for mitigation or enhancement: Out of a concern for pedestrian safety, the Village of Forest Park requested a sidewalk be constructed along the south side of Roosevelt Road from IL 171 to the bus shelter, located approximately 350 feet east of the intersection. The bus shelter serves students of the Proviso Math and Science Academy and will provide a connection for pedestrians from the bus shelter to the crosswalks at the signalized intersection. The students use Miller Meadow for gym classes, their annual senior picnic, and help clean Miller Meadow in order to have a safe playing environment and to satisfy volunteer time that is a graduation requirement.

The Village of Forest Park will maintain the proposed sidewalk. Cost participation is not required of the FPDCC; however, construction of the sidewalk is contingent upon concurrence from the FPDCC in advance of contract letting.

The Department will contact the FPDCC prior to the start of construction to inform them of the initiation of construction activities near their properties.

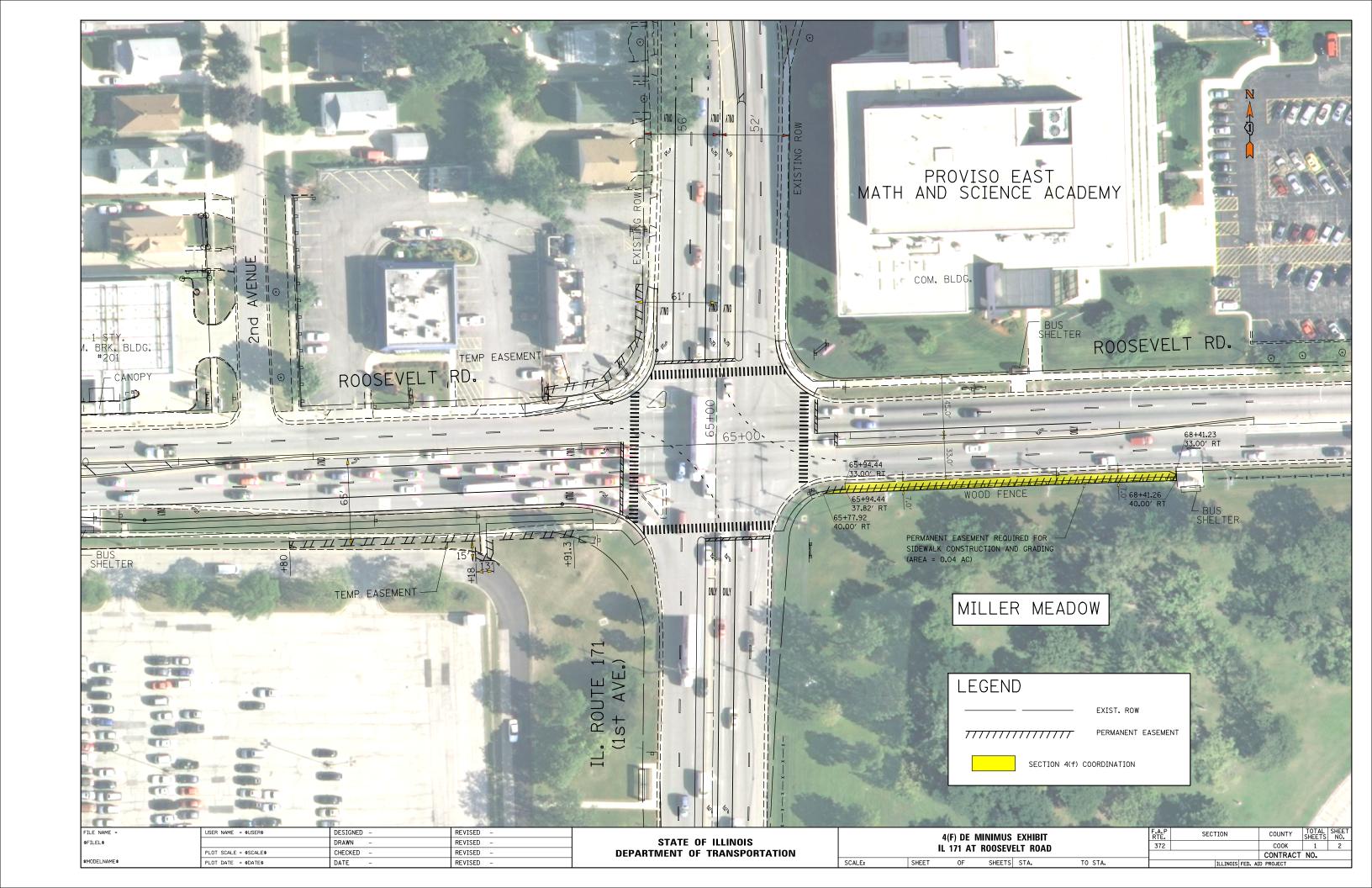
5. Evidence of Opportunity for Public Review and Comment

- a. Type of public availability: A newspaper ad will be posted in the Daily Herald two times to allow the public 30 days to review and comment on the Section 4(f) impacts (See attachment E). The Section 4(f) documentation will be available for viewing during the 30-day period at the Department (201 W. Center Court, Schaumburg, IL 60196), at FPDCC (536 North Harlem Avenue, River Forest, IL 60305) and on the Department's website at http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/environment/index. Comments could be made by e-mail through the Department website by clicking on the link above.
- b. Summary of comments: Pending.

6.	Ev	Evidence of Coordination with Official(s) with Jurisdiction						
	a.	December 11, 2014						
	b.	June X, 2015 Transmittal of Draft Section 4(f)						
	c.	June X, 2015 FPDCC Coordination Meeting						
	d.	PendingTransmittal of Draft Section 4(f) with Public Comments						
	e.	Pending Concurrence with No Adverse Effect						
	f.	PendingTransmittal of Final Section 4(f) Documentation to FPDCC						
7.	Su	pporting Documentation						
	a.	Section 4(f) Impact Exhibit						
	b.	Regional Location Map						
	c.	Aerial View – Miller Meadow Forest Preserve Attachment B-2						
	d.	FPDCC Facility Map						
	e.	Miller Meadow Forest Preserve Grove Map						
	f.	Miller Meadow Forest Preserve 2013 Concept Plan Attachment B-5						
	g.	PACE Bus Route Maps Attachment B-6						
	h.	Coordination						
	i.	Proposed Improvement Plan						
	j.	Cross Section Sheet						
	k.	Plat of Highways (1983) Attachment D-3						
	1.	Public Review and Comment Documentation						

Attachment A

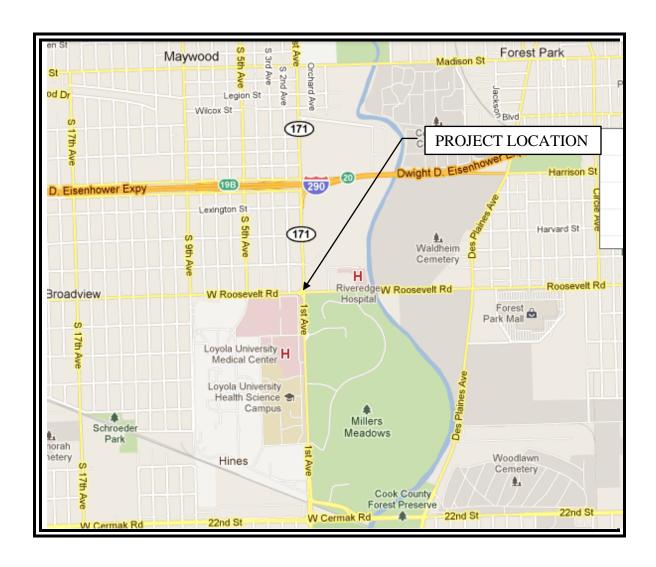
Section 4(f) Impact Exhibit



Attachment B

Exhibits

LOCATION MAP



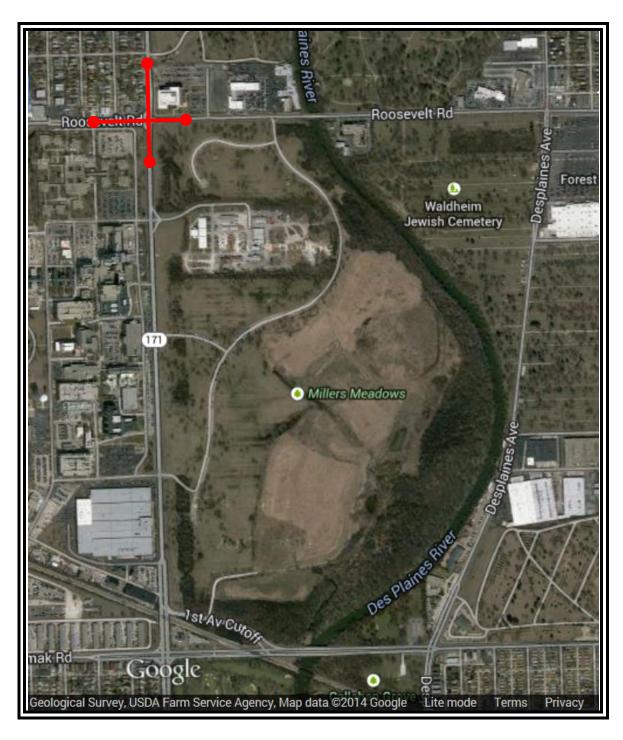
Route: IL 171 (1st Ave)
Limits: at Roosevelt Road

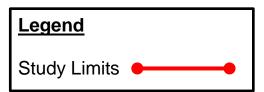
County: Cook

P-91-136-12

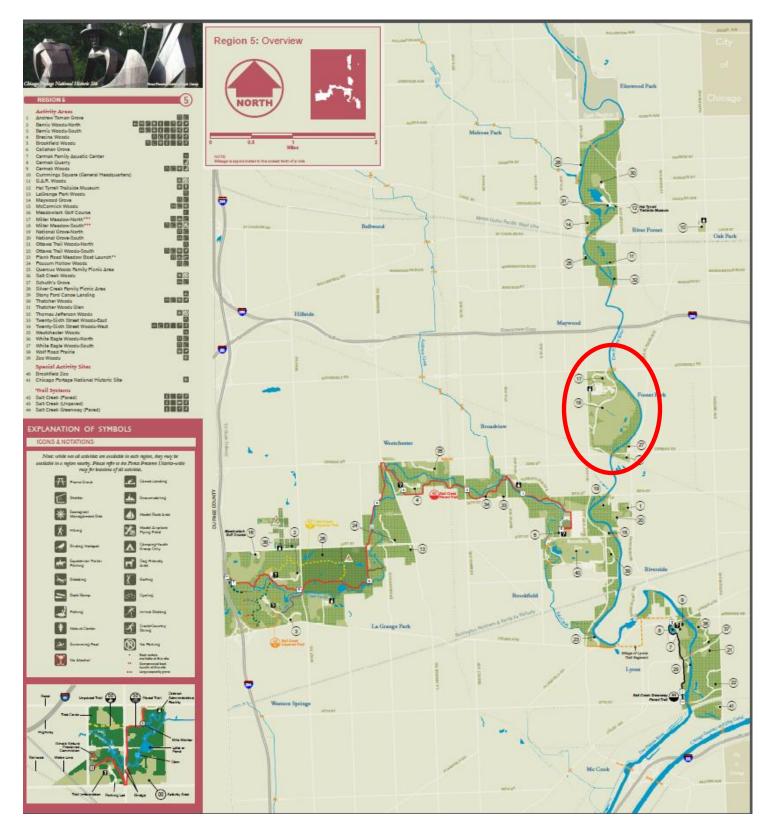


Aerial Map – Miller Meadow





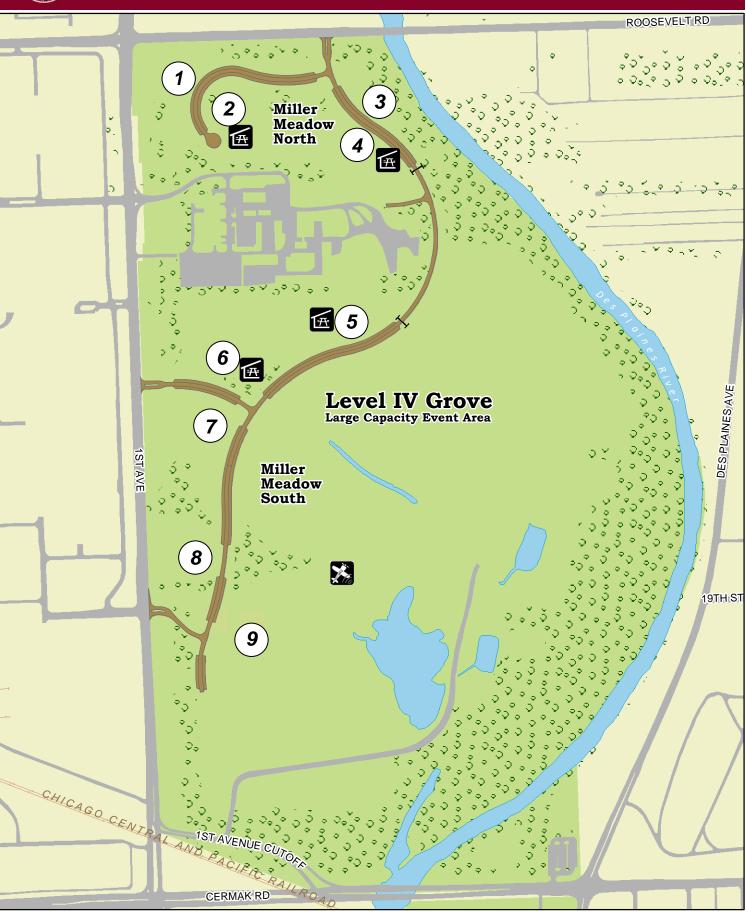




http://fpdcc.com/downloads/maps/pdf/R5.pdf



Miller Meadow SALT CREEK DIVISION



Model Airplane Field





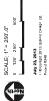
seating area

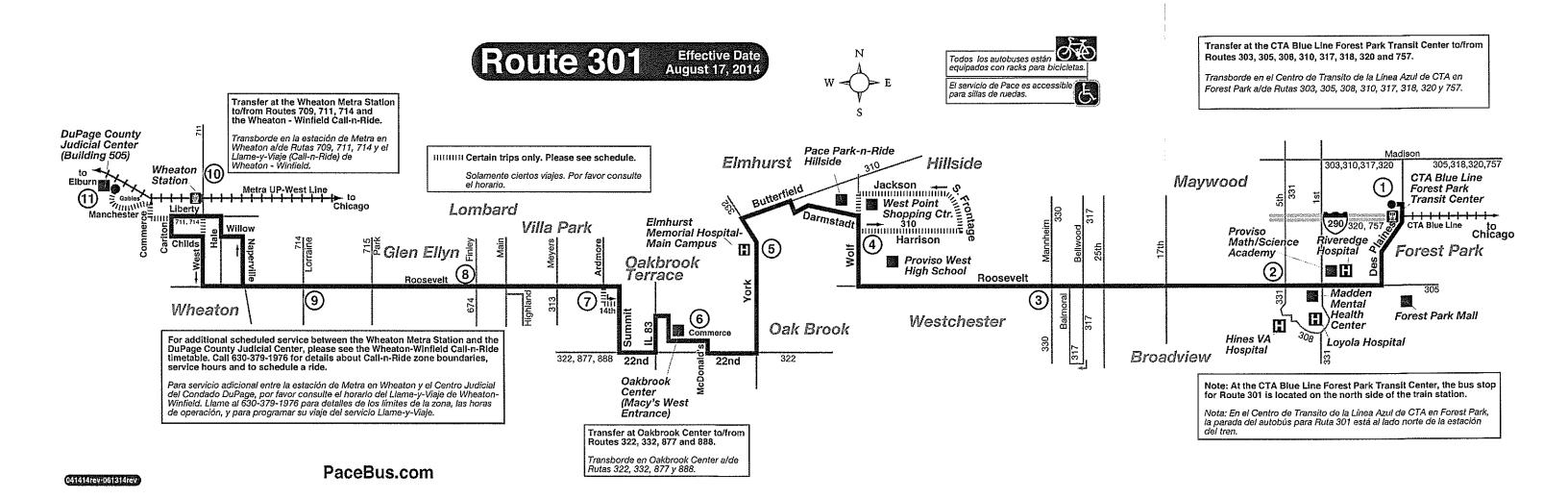


Dog Park

Miller Meadows **Concept Plan**

Forest Preserves of Cook County

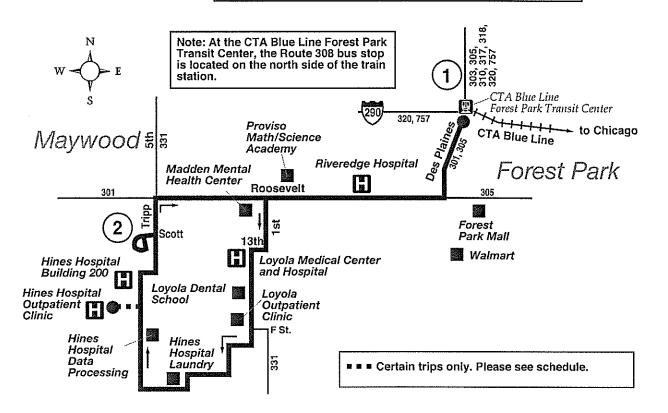


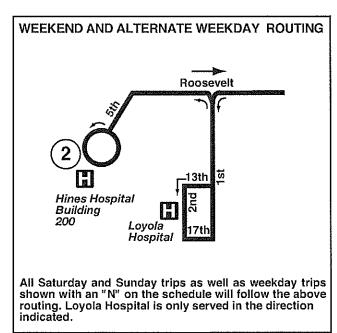


Route 308

Effective Date June 8, 2014

Transfer at the CTA Blue Line Forest Park Transit Center to/from Routes 301, 303, 305, 310, 317, 318, 320 and 757.



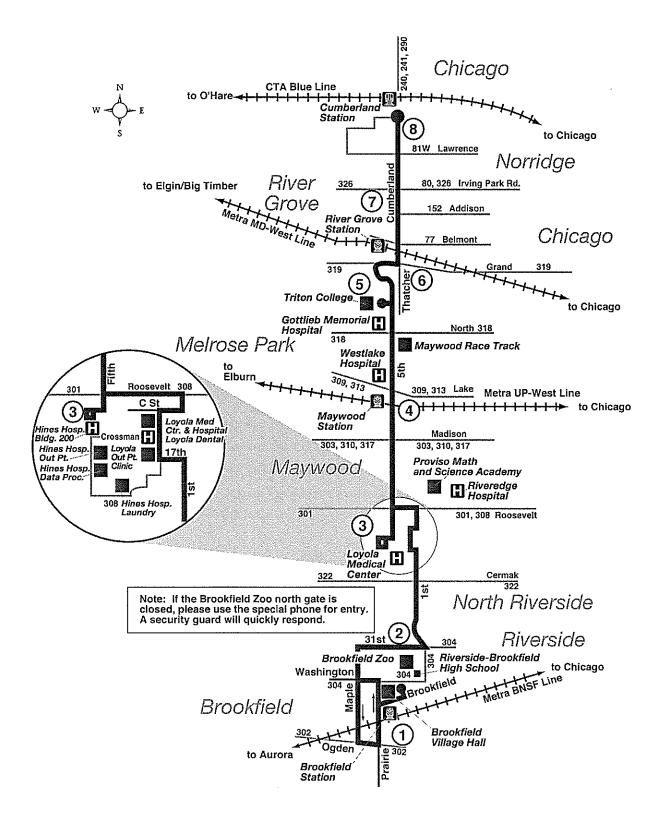


PaceBus.com

@091813rp:040714rev

UNIESS ATMORRAISE MOTER, BUS WILL STOP UPON SIGNER L TO DENTER @ any interrections along the lande whose of is safe to close

Route 331 Effective Date April 14, 2014



PaceBus.com

Attachment C

Coordination



Anthony T. Calderone

BUREAU OF PROGRAMMING RECEIVED

MAY 27 2015

DISTRICT #1

May 14, 2015

Mr. John Fortmann Division of Highways 201 W. Center Court Schaumburg, IL 60196

Dear John,

Attached please find my concurrence with your letter of March 3rd regarding the improvement at Roosevelt Road and 1st Avenue. This improvement is part of IDOT's 2015-2020 Multi-Model Transportation improvement program.

By copy of this letter to John Yonan, Superintendent of Transportation and Highways for the County of Cook, we will be requesting the County participate in the Village's portion of this project.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly

Anthony T. Calderone,

Mayor /

ATC/sac

C: Tim Gillian, Village Administrator
John Doss, Public Works Director
Jim Amelio, Village Engineer
Cook County Commissioner Boykin
Mr. John Yonan, Cook County Superintendent of Transportation & Highways







BUREAU OF PROGRAMMING RECEIVED

NOV 1 8 2014

DISTRICT #1

CHRISTOPHER B. BURKE ENGINEERING, LTD.

9575 West Higgins Road Suite 600 Rosemont, Illinois 60018 TEL (847) 823-0500 FAX (847) 823-0520

November 14, 2014

Mr. John Fortmann, PE Deputy Director of Highways, Region One Engineer Illinois Department of Transportation 201 West Center Court Schaumburg, IL 60196

Subject:

Illinois Route 171 (1st Avenue) at Roosevelt Road

Village of Forest Park

Dear Mr. Fortmann:

On behalf of the Village of Forest Park, I am requesting that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) consider the installation of sidewalk and pedestrian signal improvements at the southeast quadrant of Illinois Route 171 at Roosevelt Road. The Village is concerned with pedestrian safety in this location. There is a nearby bus stop / shelter that services students of the Proviso Math and Science Academy. Students taking the bus do not have a safe route to cross Roosevelt Road as there is no sidewalk, crosswalk, or pedestrian signal for this movement.

It is my understanding that improvements to this intersection are on IDOT's FY 2015-2020 program. Please consider the sidewalk and pedestrian signal improvements as shown in the attached exhibit for inclusion in the plan.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (847) 823-0500 or jamelio@cbbel.com.

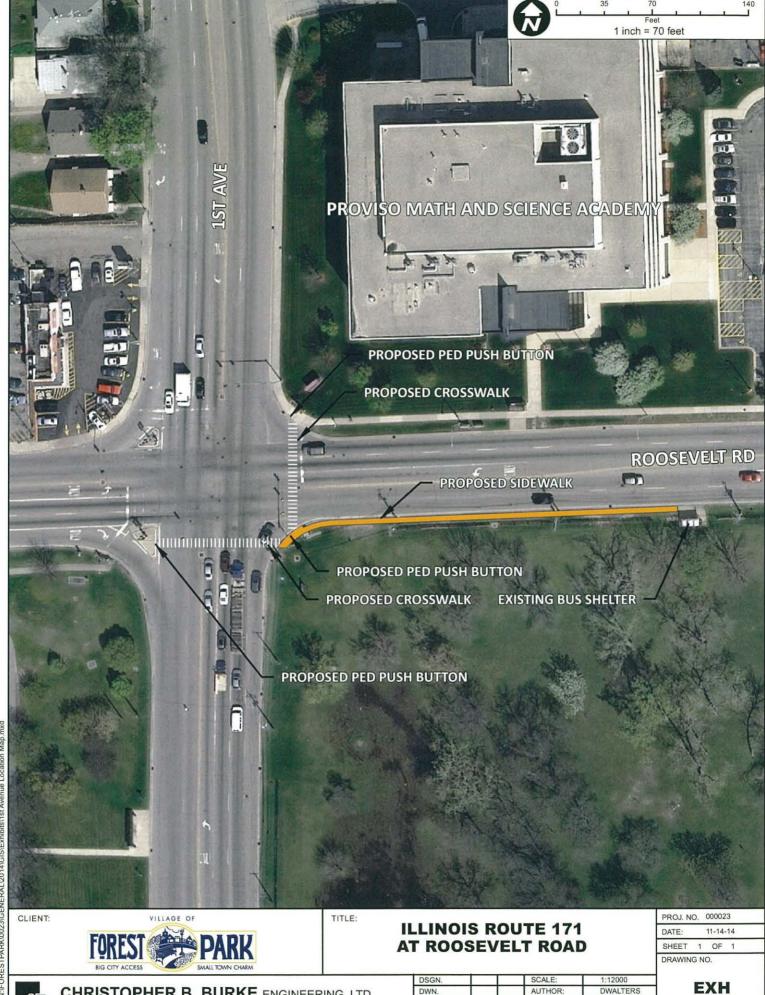
Sincerely,

James F. Amelio, PE

Project Manager

CC:

Tim Gillian – Village Administrator, Forest Park John Doss – Director of Public Works, Forest Park



CHRISTOPHER B. BURKE ENGINEERING, LTD.

9575 W. Higgins Road, Suite 600 · Rosemont, Illinois 60018 · (847) 823-0500

DWALTERS PLOT DATE: 11/14/2014 1st Avenue Location Mag

AGENDA ITEM #

Roosevelt Road at IL 171 (1st Avenue) Job No. P-91-136-12

December 9, 2014

This is the second BDE/FHWA Coordination Meeting for this project. The project was originally discussed on September 17, 2013 and received concurrence for processing as a Categorical Exclusion I designation.

The approved project scope for this Highway Safety Improvement Project consists of traffic signal replacement, proposed northbound and southbound dual left turn lanes on IL 171 (1st Avenue), and restriping to eliminate one southbound through lane. The scope for Roosevelt Road consists of right turn lane storage extension, and restriping.

The project received Design Approval on August 11, 2014 and is currently programmed for construction with a letting date of 06CY16. IDOT received a request for sidewalk and additional crosswalks from the Village of Forest Park.

The Village of Forest Park has requested sidewalk from the southeast quadrant of the project approximately 350-ft east to the existing bus shelter along the south side of Roosevelt Road. There is a concern for pedestrian safety from the existing bus shelter that services students from the Proviso Math and Science Academy.

A proposed 7-foot sidewalk placed adjacent to the back of curb would require a 10 foot Permanent Easement from the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC). If this request is to be pursued, Section 4(f) *De Minimis* documentation will be required and the project will require Categorical Exclusion II designation.

IDOT/FPDCC Coordination Meeting December 11, 2014 Page 4

Board. Submittal of the 4(f) De Minimis document does not guarantee approval. The FPDCC also requested a cross section of the original berm elevations be provided. The original berm elevation was obtained from a Hydraulic Report conducted in 2005, and while the recommendations in this report are not being pursued, they did contain original berm design sheets as a base. These sheets were used to examine and determine previously documented berm elevations.

Joliet at Brainard Road —The proposed improvements consist of traffic signal replacement and the addition of right turn lanes on the north and east legs. Title search information indicates that the FPDCC owns the south leg of Brainard Road, up to the centerline of Joliet Road. No dedications have been identified on historical Plat information. The scope of improvements will require work on the south leg of Brainard Road for detector loop placement and the installation of pedestrian landings. The Department inquired about acquiring these portions in fee, based on the fact that the sections needed are paved and already comprise a portion of the roadway. The FPDCC noted that a fee simple acquisition was a complicated and lengthy process, as it entails giving up land. At this time, only a permanent easement could be considered.

The FPDCC requested that several existing property lines on the exhibit presented were not shown accurately and should be removed. The Department will forward the Section 4(f) De Minimis report and completed Land Use Form for review.

Illinois Route 43 at 46/47th Street – Phase I, Preliminary Engineering and Environmental, Studies for this intersection improvement was completed on September 16, 2013. The Cook County Board approved acquisition and conveyance documents on September 10, 2014; however, IDOT has not received the signed documents for the land acquisition donations under project R-90-010-13 contract 60V42 parcel # 0JG0005. The FPDCC responded that there were some comments on the documents that needed addressing and that they were submitted for signature and should be available shortly.

Illinois Route 171 at Roosevelt Road – The project is located in the Villages of Maywood and Forest Park in Cook County. The scope of improvements consists of extending the eastbound right turn lane on the west leg and restriping the north and south legs of the intersection to include dual left turn lanes. The preliminary engineering and environmental studies (Phase I) for this improvement have been completed. The surrounding land use is comprised of commercial/residential buildings on the northwest quadrant, the John Madden Mental Health Hospital on the southwest quadrant, the Proviso Math and Science Academy on the northeast corner, and the Miller Meadows Forest Preserve of the FPDCC on the southeast corner of the intersection.

At the request of the Village of Forest Park, the Department is investigating the option to place a 350-foot sidewalk at the southeast quadrant of the intersection. There is an existing Pace bus shelter, located 350-feet east of the intersection that serves the students of Proviso Math and Science Academy located on the northeast corner of the intersection. Currently, the bus shelter has no sidewalk accommodations to the intersection and is limited to a 3 foot strip of grassed area, further obstructed by an existing wooden fence. The partial wooden fence is on FPDCC property.

In order to accommodate the request for sidewalk, a 10 foot permanent easement will be required from the FPDCC and the remaining section of the wooden fence will need to be removed. The sidewalk request was discussed with the FHWA and the need for a Section 4(f) De Minimis document was identified.

The Department requested this permanent easement and the FPDCC noted that it would be considered if the Village of Forest Park agreed to maintain it. The Department will send a letter to Forest Park, noting the request for maintenance of the sidewalk and provide a copy to the FPDCC. A copy of the 4(f) De Minimis report and land use request form will be forwarded to the FPDCC for consideration of the sidewalk.

Illinois Route 50 at Vollmer – Phase I, Preliminary Engineering and Environmental, Studies for this intersection improvement was completed on May 30, 2013. The Cook County Board approved acquisition and conveyance documents on September 10, 2014; however, IDOT has not received the signed documents for the land acquisition donations under project R-90-016-13 contract # 60V99 parcel # 0KG0001. The FPDCC responded that there were some comments on the documents that needed addressing and that they were submitted for signature and should be available shortly.

183rd Street at Central Avenue—The project is located at the intersection of 183rd Street and Central Avenue in Unincorporated Cook County and is bordered on all sides by Cook County Forest Preserve. The proposed scope of work includes channelization on 183rd Street and traffic signal replacement. The scope of the improvements includes raising the profile by 2 feet, to address standing water due to flat ditches. The modification to the profile will require permanent easements from the FPDCC and section 4(f) de Minimis processing. The project was initially discussed in March 2013 and in subsequent meetings. The FPDCC completed a review of the drainage study and the comments provided were discussed, as follows:

- The Department will provide vegetated ditches lined with IDOT standard seeding Class 4A.
- The Department will provide a reasonable transition for the vegetated ditches beyond the limits of regrading.



Record of Telephone Conversation

Ву:	Chris Ke	ersten	Date:	February 13	3, 2015 Time	9:16	_ 🛮 AM 🔲 PM		
Projec	t: <u>IL 1</u>	71 at Roosevelt Road							
Individ	lual:	Main office.		Title:					
Organ	ization:	Proviso Math and Science Academy		Location:	8601 W. Ro	osevelt Fores	st Park, IL 60130		
				Phone No.:	708-338-41	00			
Subje	ct: Stu	dents use of the PACE bus stop and Miller	^r Mead	ows Forest P	reserve				
Items Discussed: Students coming from the west use the PACE bus stop (south side of Roosevelt Rd) on a daily basis.									
Provis	o Math a	nd Science Academy uses Miller Meadows their annual senior picnic in Miller Meado	s for g						
In the past, students have helped maintain and clean Miller Meadows as part of their community service requirements.									
	nents or	Action Required:							
None									



Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / Region 1 / District 1 201 West Center Court / Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096

March 3, 2015

The Honorable Anthony T. Calderone Mayor Village of Forest Park 517 Des Plaines Avenue Forest Park, IL 60130

Dear Mayor Calderone:

This is in response to the Village's letter dated November 14, 2014 (attached) regarding the Letter of Intent for the improvement of IL 171 (1st Avenue) at Roosevelt Road. This improvement is included in the Department's FY 2015-2020 Proposed Multi-Modal Transportation 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. The general scope of work for this improvement consists of traffic signal replacement, pavement restriping and median installation to provide two through lanes and dual left turn lanes on the north and south legs of IL 171, and the extension of the right turn lane of the west leg of Roosevelt Road.

We reviewed your requests and offer the following response.

Pedestrian Accommodations

The Department has evaluated the request for sidewalk accommodations from the southeast corner of the intersection east to the PACE bus stop. We have determined that, due to the limited amount of existing highway right-of-way, the Department would need to acquire a permanent easement from the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC) to install sidewalk. Based on discussions with the FPDCC, the acquisition of a permanent easement for sidewalk installation would be feasible, subject to the Village of Forest Park (Village) accepting maintenance responsibility for the sidewalk.

In order for the Department to acquire property from the FPDCC, we would need to adhere to the federal regulations that protect publicly owned parks and recreation areas, commonly referred to as Section 4(f). This would entail coordination with the FPDCC, documentation of the impacts to the FPDCC property, and a 30-day period for the public to comment on the proposed impacts. The Federal Highway Administration and the Department anticipate that the proposed sidewalk will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities qualifying the FPDCC property for protection under Section 4(f).

The Honorable Anthony T. Calderone March 3, 2015
Page 2

However, this process will take some time to implement. Construction of the requested improvements is contingent upon meeting the Section 4(f) requirements and securing a permanent easement, as well as preparing contract plans, in advance of the contract letting.

Installation of the sidewalk would also be subject to the local cost share for new pedestrian and bicyclist facilities, which is 20% of the construction cost, plus a 15% engineering fee. The estimated cost of this facility is \$8,000, including a 15% engineering fee. The Village's portion is \$1,600, including a 15% engineering fee. Furthermore, the Village must agree to accept long-term responsibility for the administration, control, reconstruction and maintenance of the sidewalk. At the end of this letter, there is an area where you can state your concurrence to these terms. The cost participation and maintenance terms would be outlined in an intergovernmental agreement between the Village and the Department.

Pedestrian Signal Head Installation

At the request of the Village, the installation of pedestrian signal heads can be accommodated at the northwest, southwest, and northeast corners of the IL 171 at Roosevelt Road intersection. Pedestrian signals at the southeast corner can only be installed if an ADA-compliant sidewalk landing is constructed. The landing would also require a permanent easement and adherence to the Section 4(f) regulations as noted above, as well as Village cost participation. If these requirements are met, the plans will be revised to show high visibility cross walks on the south and east legs of the intersection.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Kimberly Murphy, Consultant Studies Unit Head, at (847) 705-4791.

Very truly yours,

John Fortmann, P.E.

Deputy Director of Highways,

Region One Engineer

Attachments

CC:

John Doss, Director of Public Works, Forest Park

Tim Gillian, Village Administrator, Forest Park

James Amelio, Project Manager, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.

bcc:

Scott J. Dworschak

John Fortmann Jose Rios

Ken Eng

Lisa Heaven-Baum

Brian Carlson

Griselda Monsivais

The Honorable Anthony T. Calderone March 3, 2015 Page 3

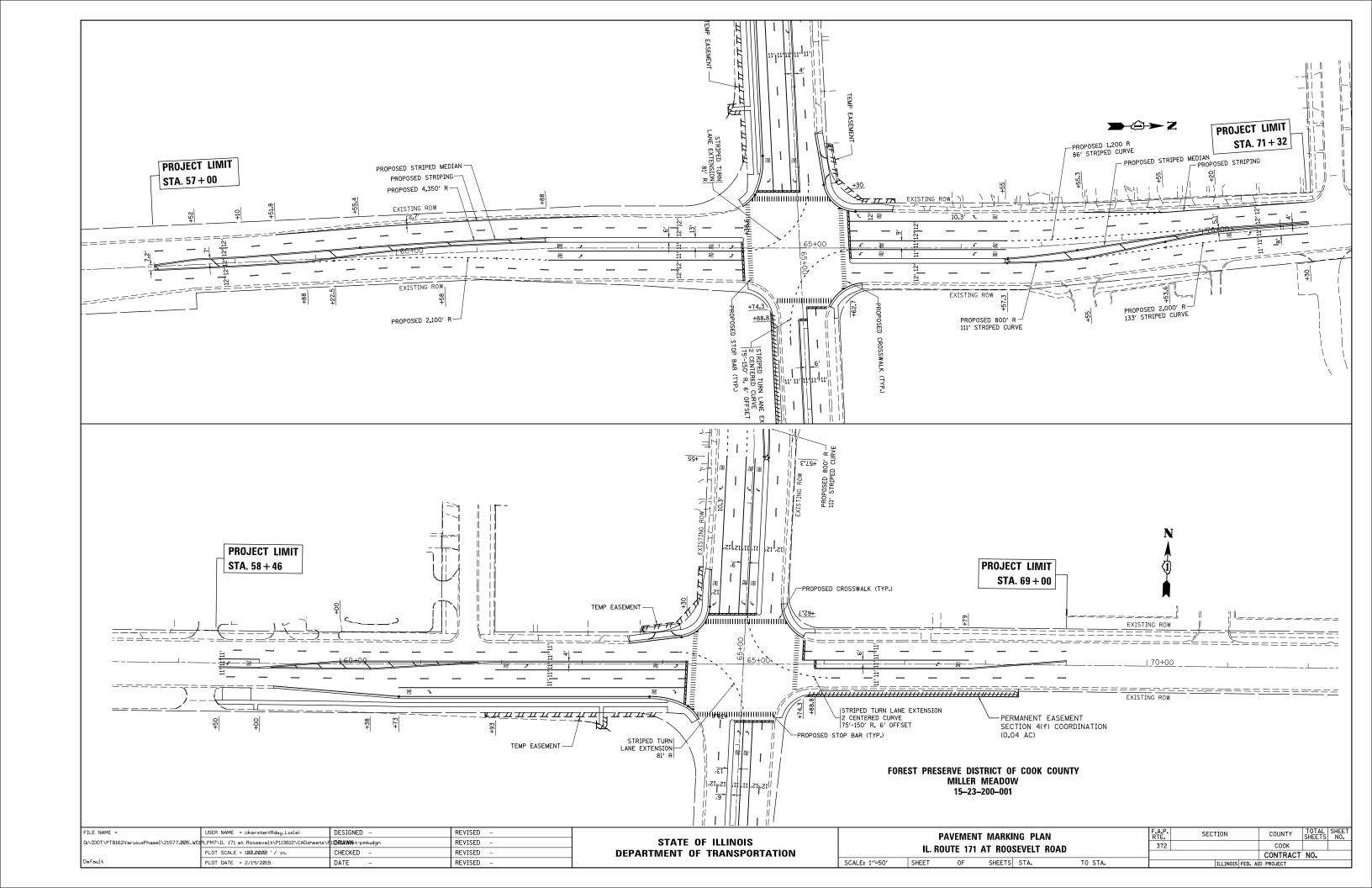
Project and Environmental Studies IL 171 at Roosevelt Road Cook County

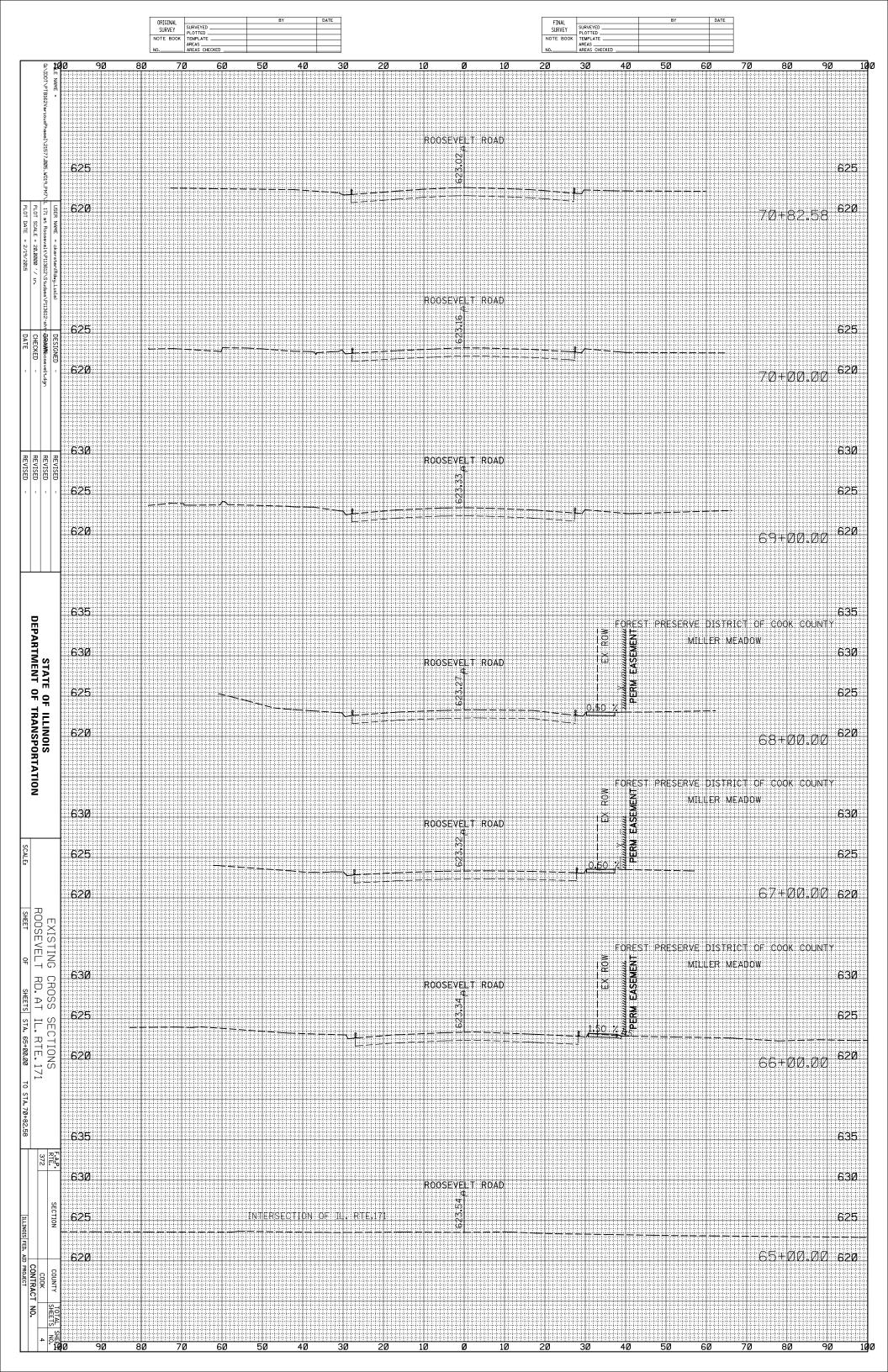
Concur with sidewalk scope, costs, and long-term maintenance: Yes No	
Name:	-
Signature:	
Title:	
Date:	
Comments:	

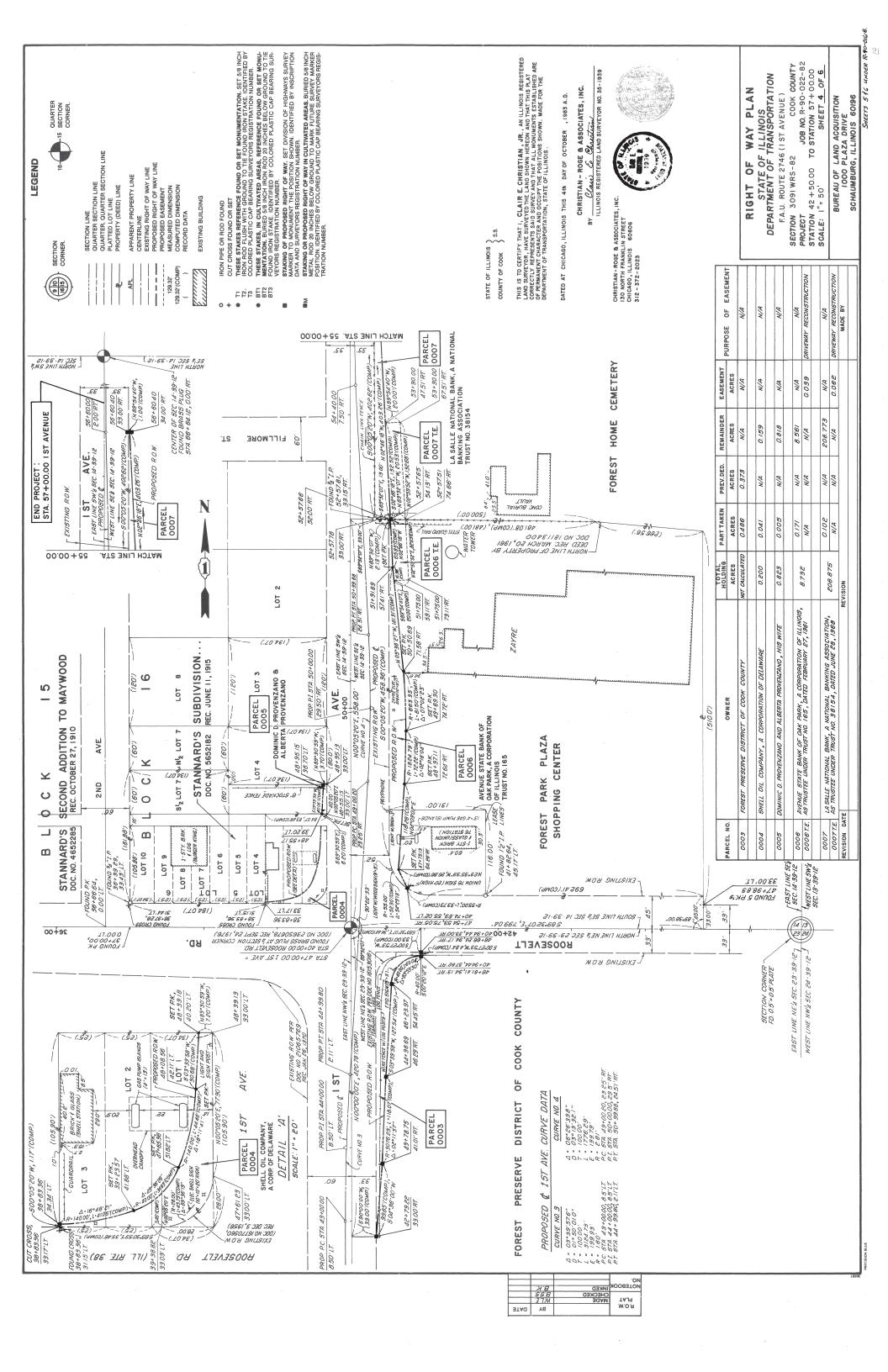
S:\WP\p&es\CONSULT\Projects - Active\IL 171 At Roosevelt Rd\Correspondence\20141216 FP_LOI Response.docx

Attachment E

Proposed Improvement Plan







Attachment E

Public Review and Comment

IDOT is seeking public comments on Section 4(f) impacts the IL 171 (1st Avenue) at Roosevelt Road project will have on Miller Meadow owned and operated by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. Section 4(f) lands include publicly owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, or public and private historical sites. The project will impact Miller Meadow along the south side of Roosevelt Road to construct sidewalk from IL 171 to the existing Pace bus shelter located 350 feet east of the intersection. This is the first opportunity for the public to comment on the additional public land needed for this project. The Section 4(f) de minimis documentation is available for viewing at the following locations during normal business hours.

DATE: October 29, 2015 to November 27, 2015 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 Preserve District of Cook County 536 North Harlem Avenue River Forest, IL 60305

Electronic copies are available on IDOT's website at http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/environment/index under the Section 4(f) tab. Written comments can be submitted at the IDOT office, mailed to the IDOT office, or submitted electronically to http://www.idot.illinois.gov/transportation-system/environment/index. Comments must be received by November 27, 2015, to be considered part of the public record.

This documentation will be accessible to people with disabilities. Anyone needing special assistance should contact Griselda Monsivais at (847)705-4716. Persons planning to visit either site or view the documents who will need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify the Department's TTY/TTD number (800) 526-0844/or 711; TTY users (Spanish) (800) 501-0864/or 711; and Telebraille (877) 526-6670 at least five (5) days prior to the visit.

All correspondence regarding this project should be sent to:

Illinois Department of Transportation 201 West Center Court Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096 Bureau of Programming Attn: Griselda Monsivais

