



Section 4(f) De Minimis Documentation

**ILLINOIS ROUTE 31
AT
SILVER GLEN ROAD**



**Township of St. Charles
Kane County, Illinois**

*Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Highways/District 1/Region 1
August 2012*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>PAGE</i>
DI MINIMIS DOCUMENTATION	
1. Project Description	1
2. Section 4(f) Resources	1
3. Description and Intended Section 4 (f) Resource Use	2
4. Description of Efforts to Avoid, Minimize, & Mitigate or Enhance Resource	2
5. Evidence of Opportunity for Public Review and Comment	3
6. Evidence of Coordination with Official(s) with Jurisdiction (OWJ)	3
7. Supporting Documentation	3
ATTACHMENTS	
Project Location Map	A-1
Existing Aerial	A-2
Preliminary Proposed Plan and Profile	A-3
Photographs of Resource	A-4
Newspaper Public Comment Display Ad	A-5
Copies of other correspondence	A-6

4(f) De Minimis Documentation for the Illinois Route 31 at Silver Glen Road Project in the Township of St. Charles, Kane County, Illinois

1. Project Description

- a. **Project Number:** P-91-447-09 (IDOT)
- b. **Project Name:** Illinois Route 31 at Silver Glen Road
- c. **Location:** Township of St. Charles, Kane County, Illinois
- d. **Project Type:** Intersection Improvement
- e. **Project size:** the project is 0.26 miles long.
- f. **Purpose and need of the Project:** The purpose of this project is to install a new traffic signal, adding a northbound left turning lane and a southbound right turning lane at the intersection of Illinois Route 31 and Silver Glen Road, with 8 foot paved shoulders along both sides of Illinois Route 31. The traffic signal, the left turn lane, along with the right turn lane at the intersection will provide a safer facility for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. This project is funded by the State Transportation Program.
- g. **NEPA Class of Action – CE I**
- h. **Project Status:** Finalizing preliminary engineering and environmental (phase 1) studies which includes coordinating land impacts and developing the final project report. This improvement is included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2013-2018 Proposed Multi-Modal Transportation Improvement Program. Our current engineering efforts are target to enable a contract letting in the early portion 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) Resources

- a. **Name of Resource:** Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve (also known as the Blackhawk County Forest Preserve)
- b. **Type of Resource:** Forest Preserve
- c. **Official with Jurisdiction (OWJ):** Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPDKC)
- d. **Description of role/significance in the community:** The Forest Preserve is located along the east side of Illinois Route 31, north of Silver Glen Road and west of the Fox River, in the village of South Elgin and an incorporated area of St. Charles Township, Kane County. There is a large statue of Blackhawk located at the main entrance of the forest preserve; this is also the historical burial site of unknown soldiers of General Scott's Army. The Blackhawk Forest Preserve is about 198 acres and it's mostly consists of woodlands, grasslands, wetlands, historic sites, boat/canoe launch, bike and nature trails, and picnic areas. The forest preserve is used mostly for recreational purposes such as picnicking, fishing, hiking and bicycling.

4(f) De Minimis Documentation for the Illinois Route 31 at Silver Glen Road Project in the Township of St. Charles, Kane County, Illinois

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

- a. An 8 foot paved shoulder will be provided along both sides of Illinois Route 31 to accommodate the occasional on-road experienced bicyclist outside of the thru lane. The widening for the turn lanes and the shoulders will impact 0.219 acres of the Forest Preserve property. This portion of the Blackhawk Forest Preserve, consist mostly of grass and bushes, will be used to re-grade the cross-section of the roadway to match the existing conditions with an acceptable recovery slope and provide access to the culvert north of Silver Glen Road for future maintenance needs.
- b. There is no negative impact expected to the Forest Preserve Property, the area will be used to re-grade the slope of the ditches along the east side of Illinois Route 31 to match existing conditions. Re-grading the slope of the ditches will not impact any trees, it will provide better recovery slope for runoff drivers, and also allow roadside grass maintenance.
- c. As part of the improvements, an existing FPDKC dilapidated stairway will be replaced with a shaded-use path to meet ADA requirements.

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

- a. To minimize the impact on the property, IDOT proposed to widen toward the west side of the roadway by holding the existing edge of pavement on the east side of the roadway adjacent to the forest preserve property.
- b. There is an ADA deficient path that ends on the steps located on the west side of Illinois Route 31 and just north of Silver Glen Road. IDOT will remove the steps and realign the path at a slope of 5% to meet ADA specifications. The path will be realigned to match the existing trail and will end at northwest corner of the intersection.
- c. **List of commitments for Mitigation or Enhancement:**
 - None

4(f) De Minimis Documentation for the Illinois Route 31 at Silver Glen Road Project in the Township of St. Charles, Kane County, Illinois

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. (See attachment 5)

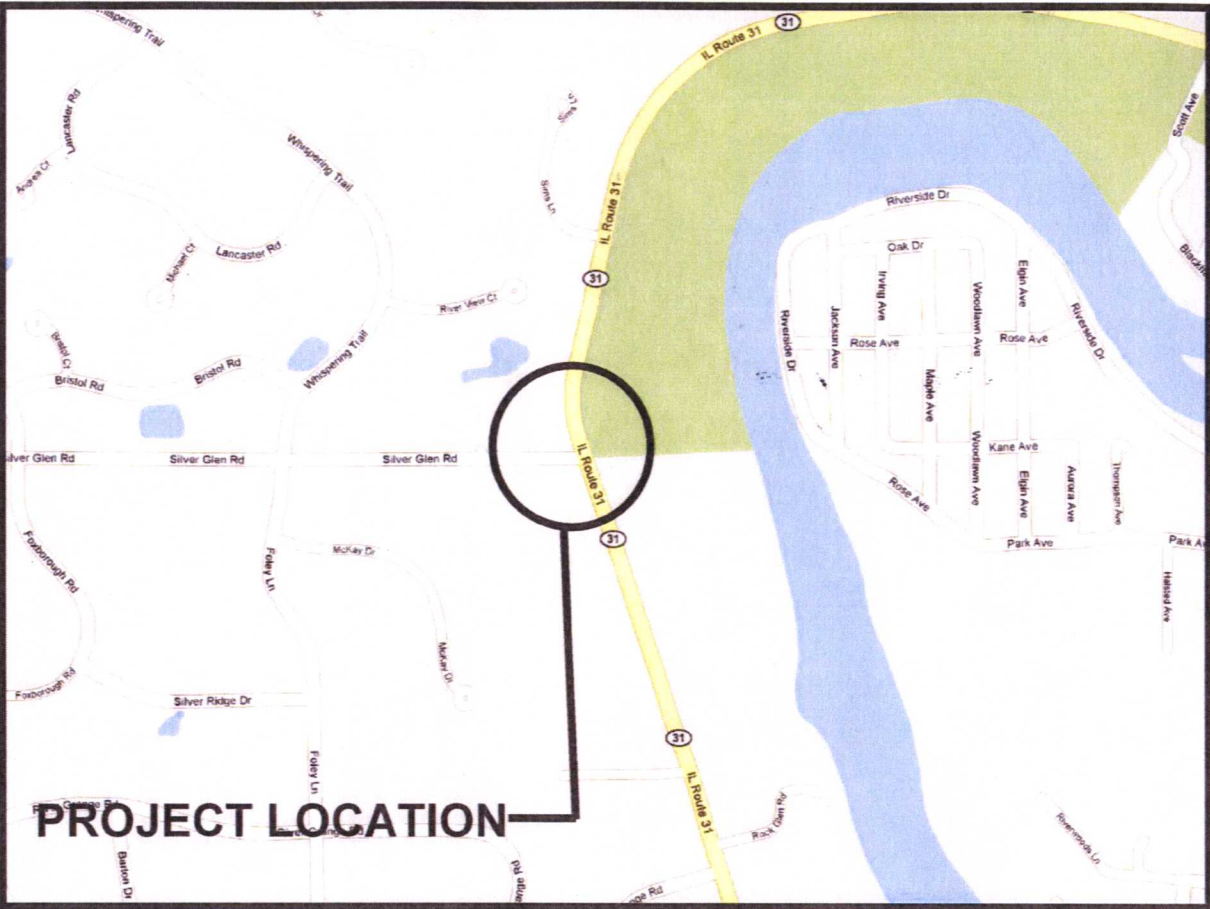
6. Evidence of Coordination with Official(s) with Jurisdiction

- a. Copy of the meeting minutes for the meeting with the Kane County DOT and the Forest Preserve (see attachment 6). Held on March 22, 2011
- b. Copy of IDOT letter to FPDKC requesting review of the section 4(f) De Minimis Documentation.

7. Supporting Documentation

- a. Project Location Map (see attachment 1)
- b. Existing Aerial (see attachment 2)
- c. Preliminary Proposed Plan and Profile (see attachment 3)
- d. Photographs of Resource (see attachment 4)
- e. Draft Newspaper Public Comment Display Ad (see Attachment 5)
- f. Copies of other correspondence (see attachment 6)

LOCATION MAP



Route: Illinois 31
Limits: at Silver Glen Road
County: Kane County



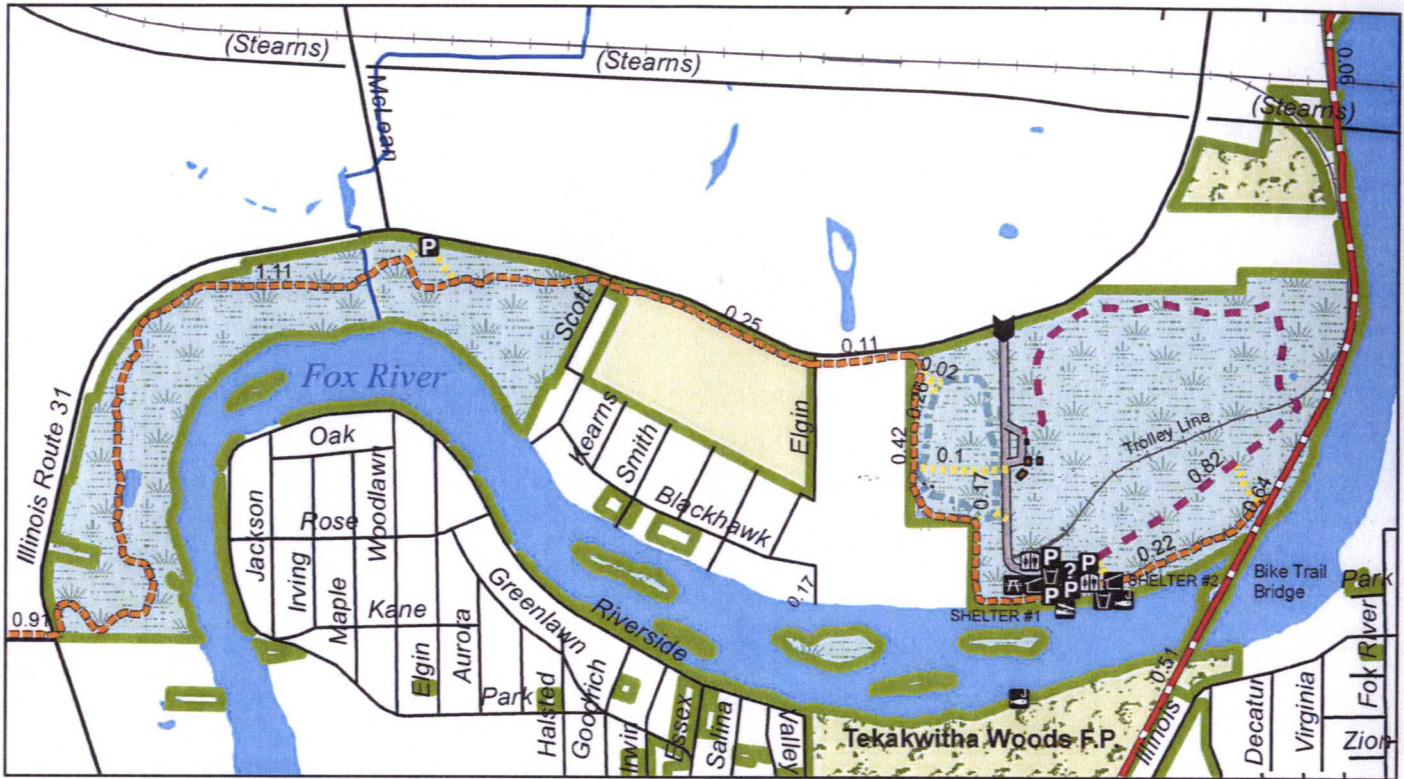
P-91-447-09

Blackhawk County Forest Preserve





Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve



Trail Information

- ◆◆◆ Connector Trail
- Fox River Regional Bike Trail
- Inner Loop Trail 0.43 miles, mowed
- Old Quarry Road Trail 0.82 miles, asphalt
- River Bend Regional Bike Trail



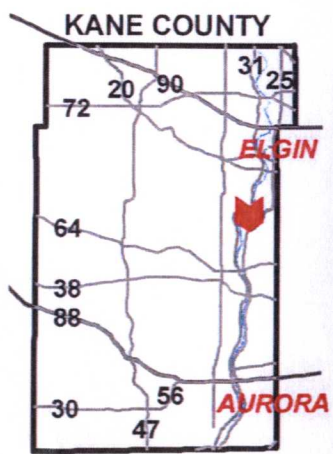
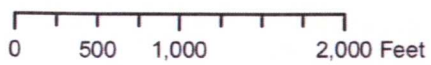
Legend

	Main Entrance		Road
	Information		Railroad
	Parking		Forest Preserve Road
	Shelter		Forest Preserve
	Picnic Area		Creek
	Restroom		Open Water
	Water	Natural Area -	
	Fishing		Grassland
	Boat Launch		Wetland
			Woodland

35W003 IL Route 31,
 South Elgin, IL 60177
 Approx. 0.73 miles east of
 McLean Blvd.

Acreage = 198
 Total trail miles = 4.25

Information: (630) 232-5980
www.kaneforest.com
 Hours: Daily, Sunrise-Sunset



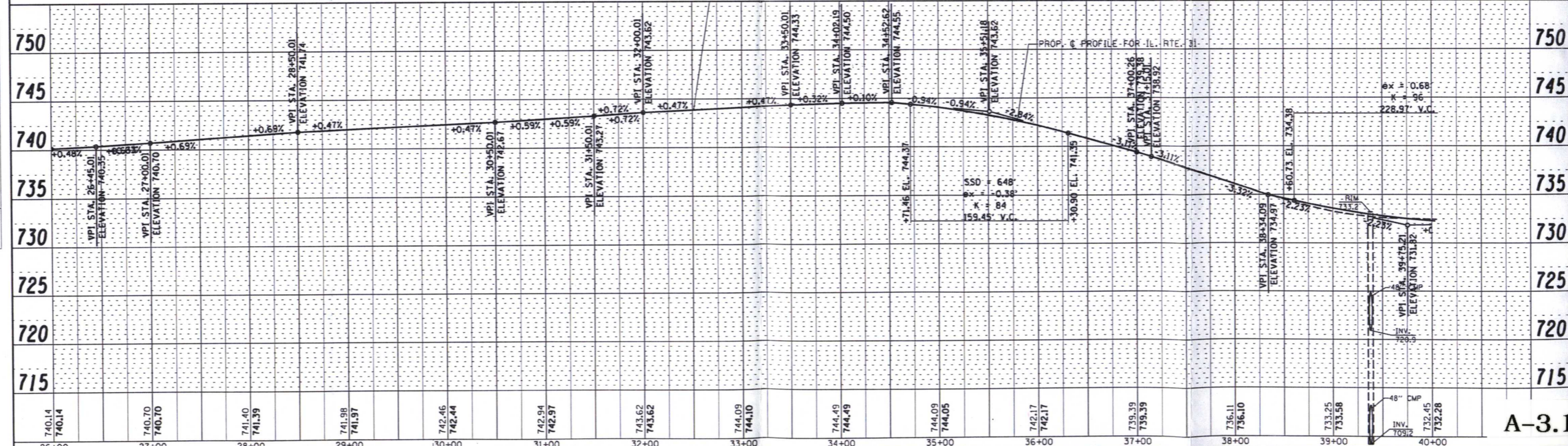
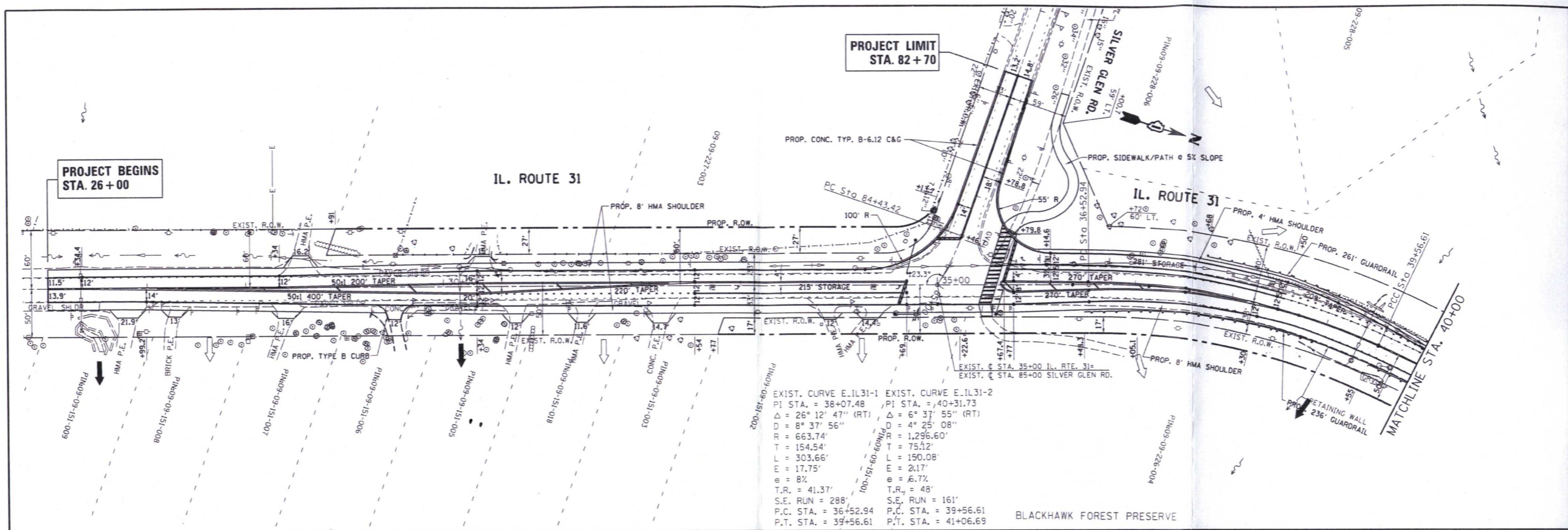


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		DATE -	REVISED -

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**EXISTING & PROPOSED ROADWAY PLAN
IL. ROUTE 31 AT SILVER GLEN ROAD**

SCALE: 1"=50' SHEET NO. 2 OF 5 SHEETS STA. 27+00 TO STA. 40+85

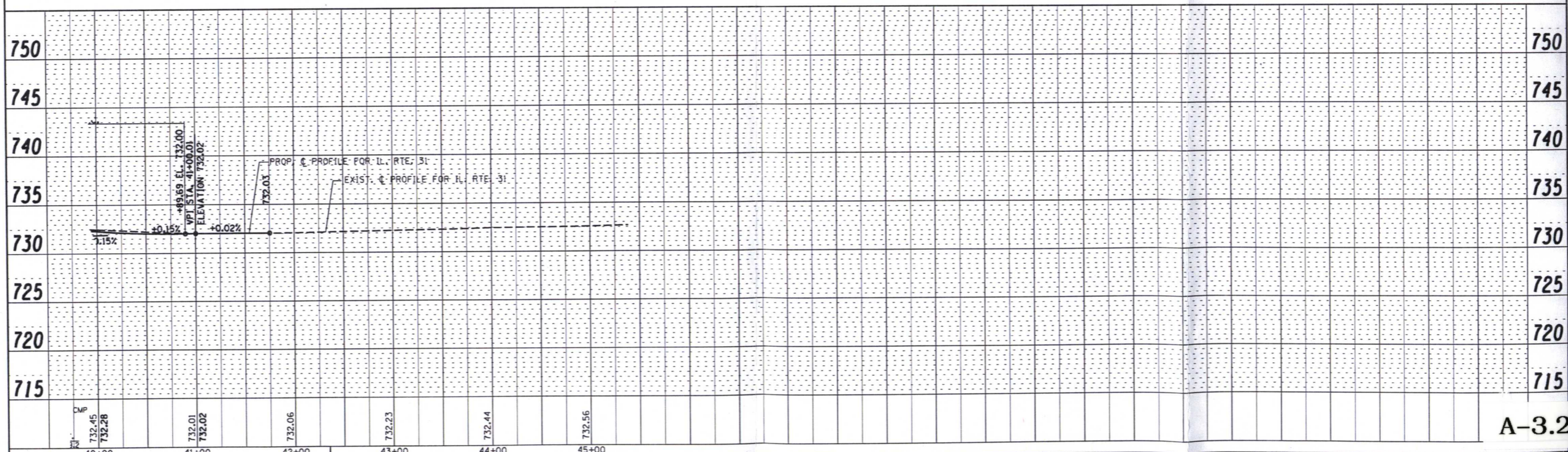
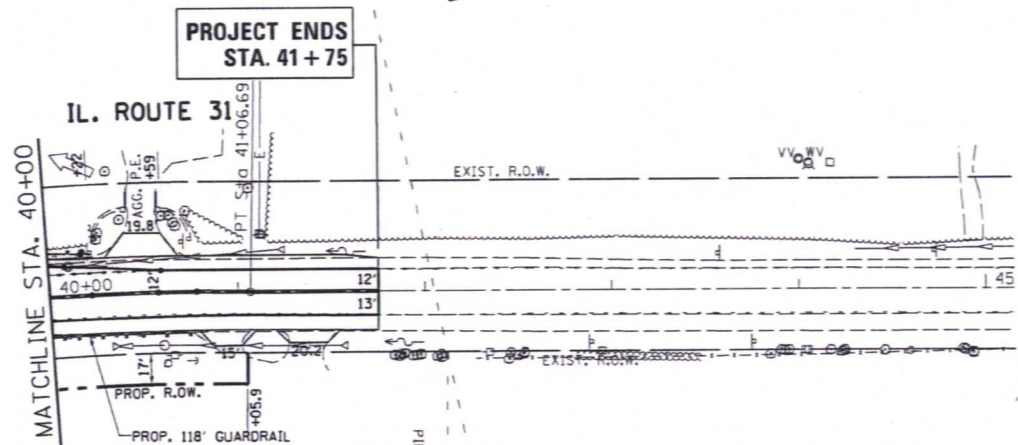
F.A.B. RTE. 526	SECTION N/A	COUNTY KANE	TOTAL SHEETS	SHEET NO.
CONTRACT NO. 12346			ILLINOIS FED. AID PROJECT	

A-3.1

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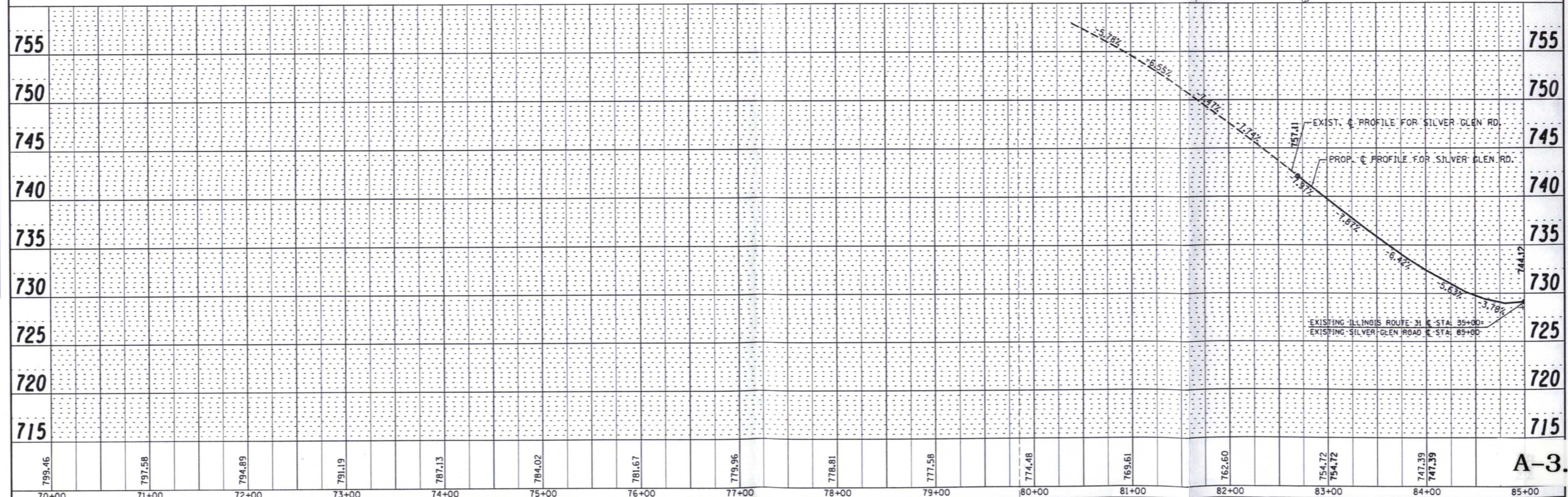
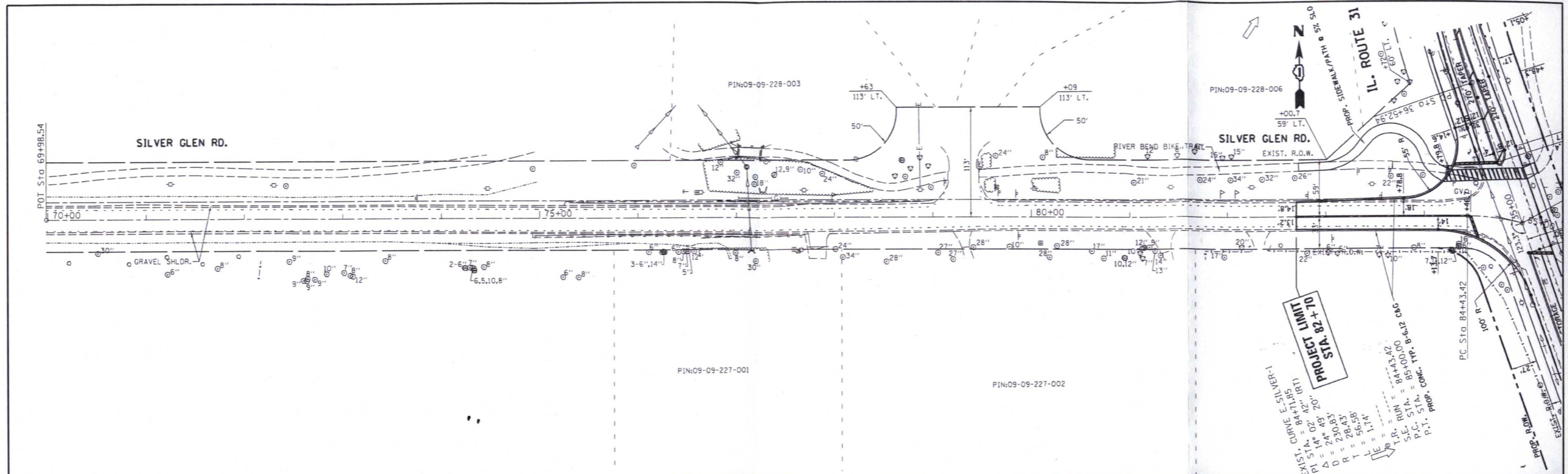


A-3.2

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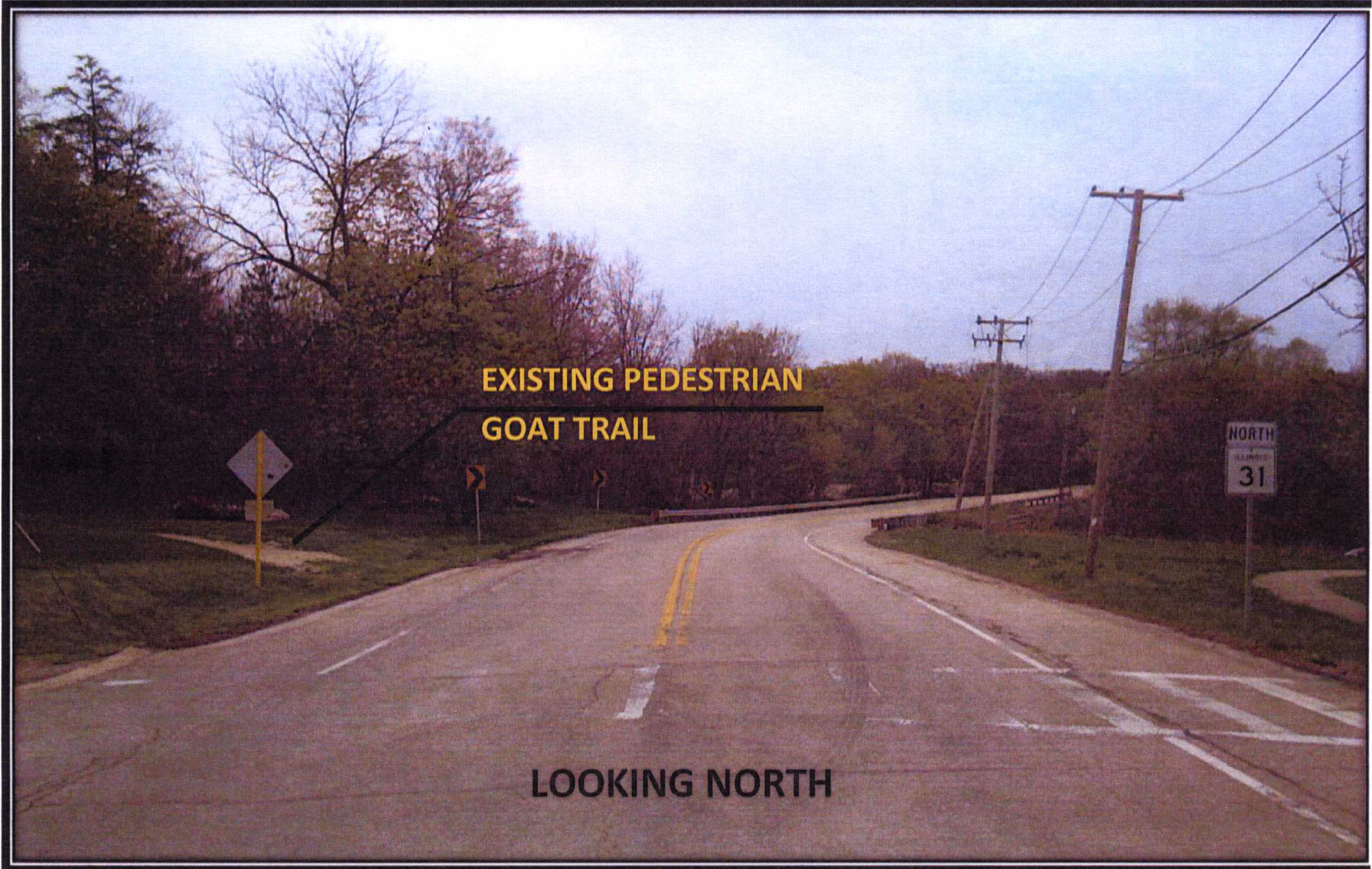
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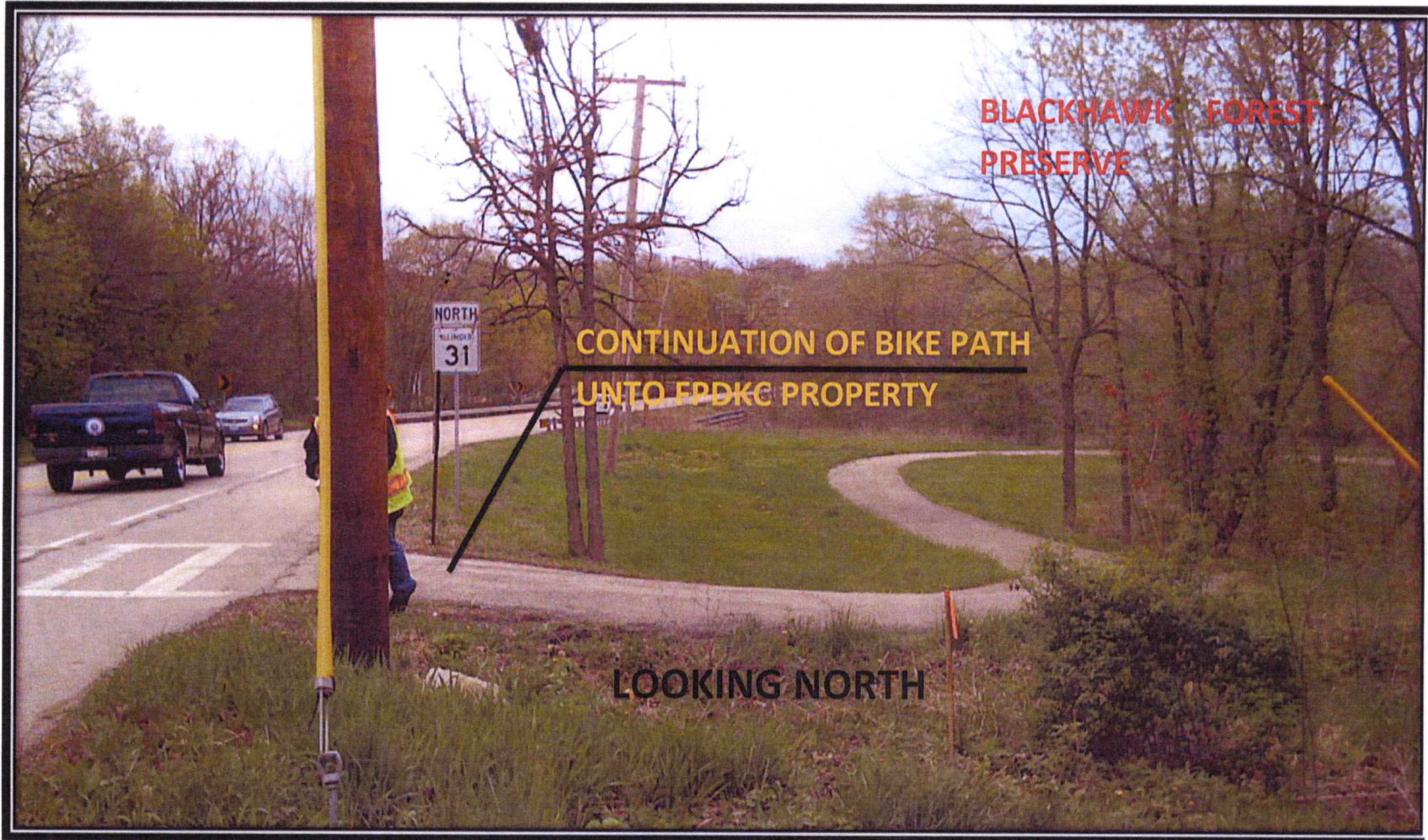


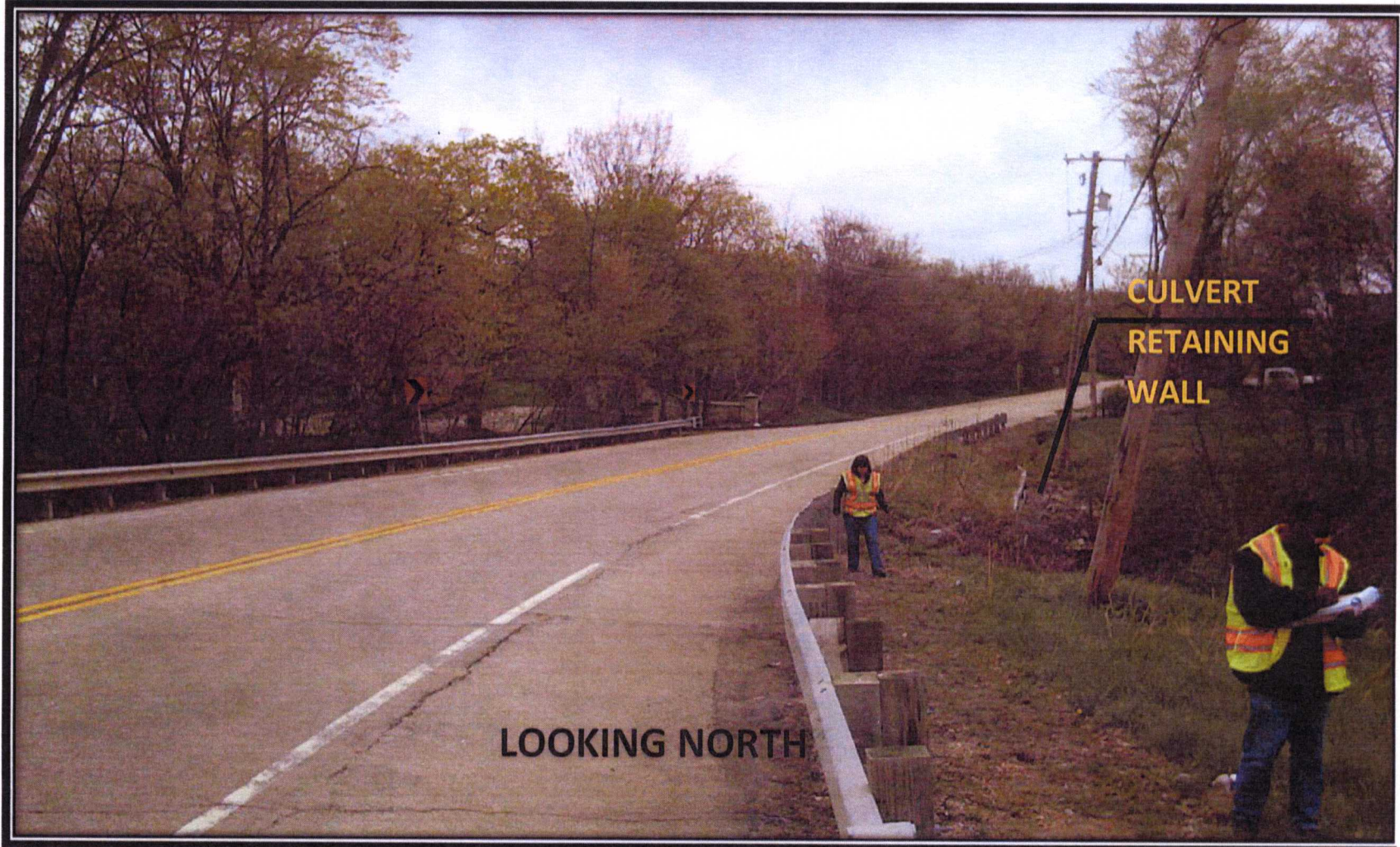
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A-4.1

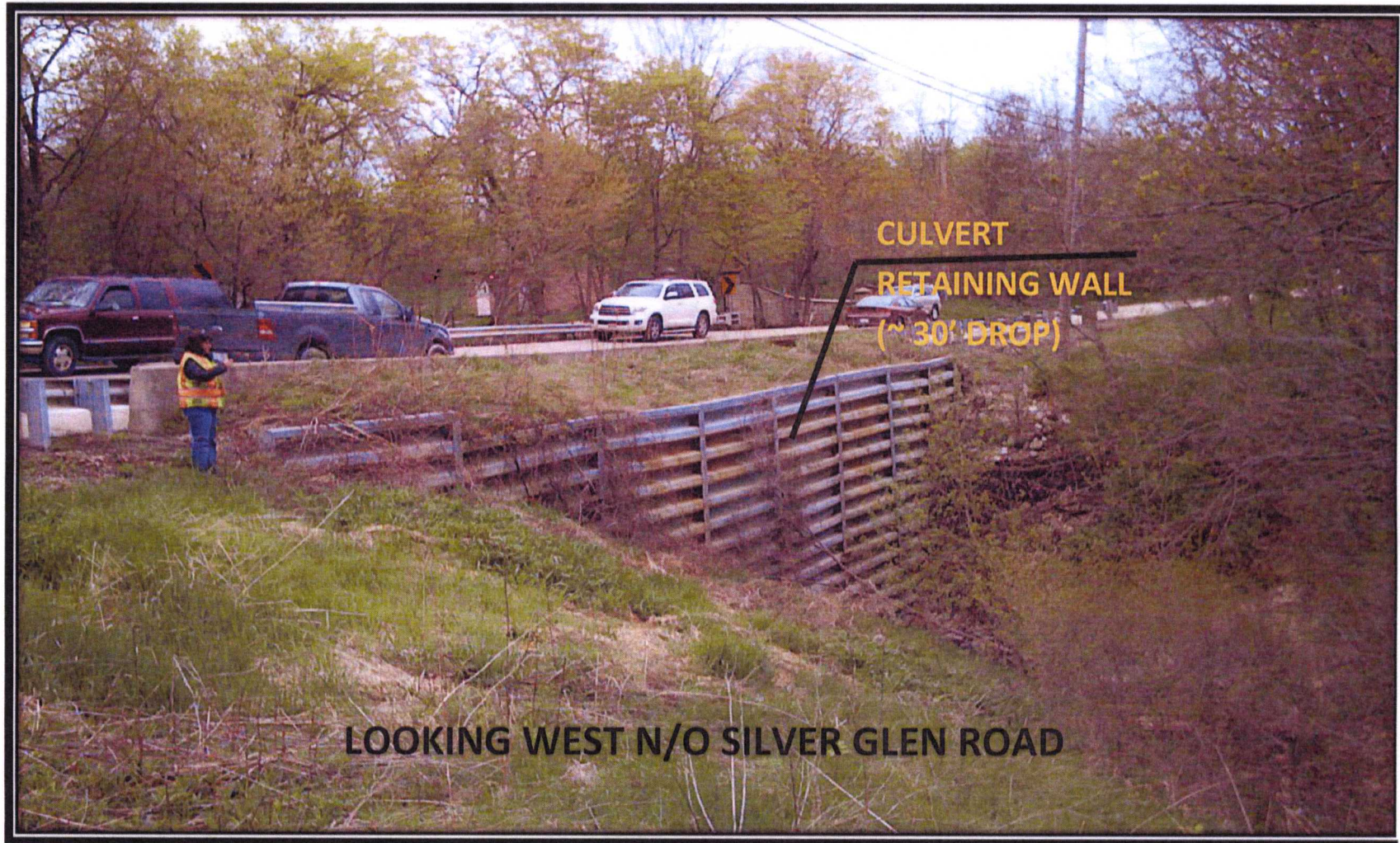




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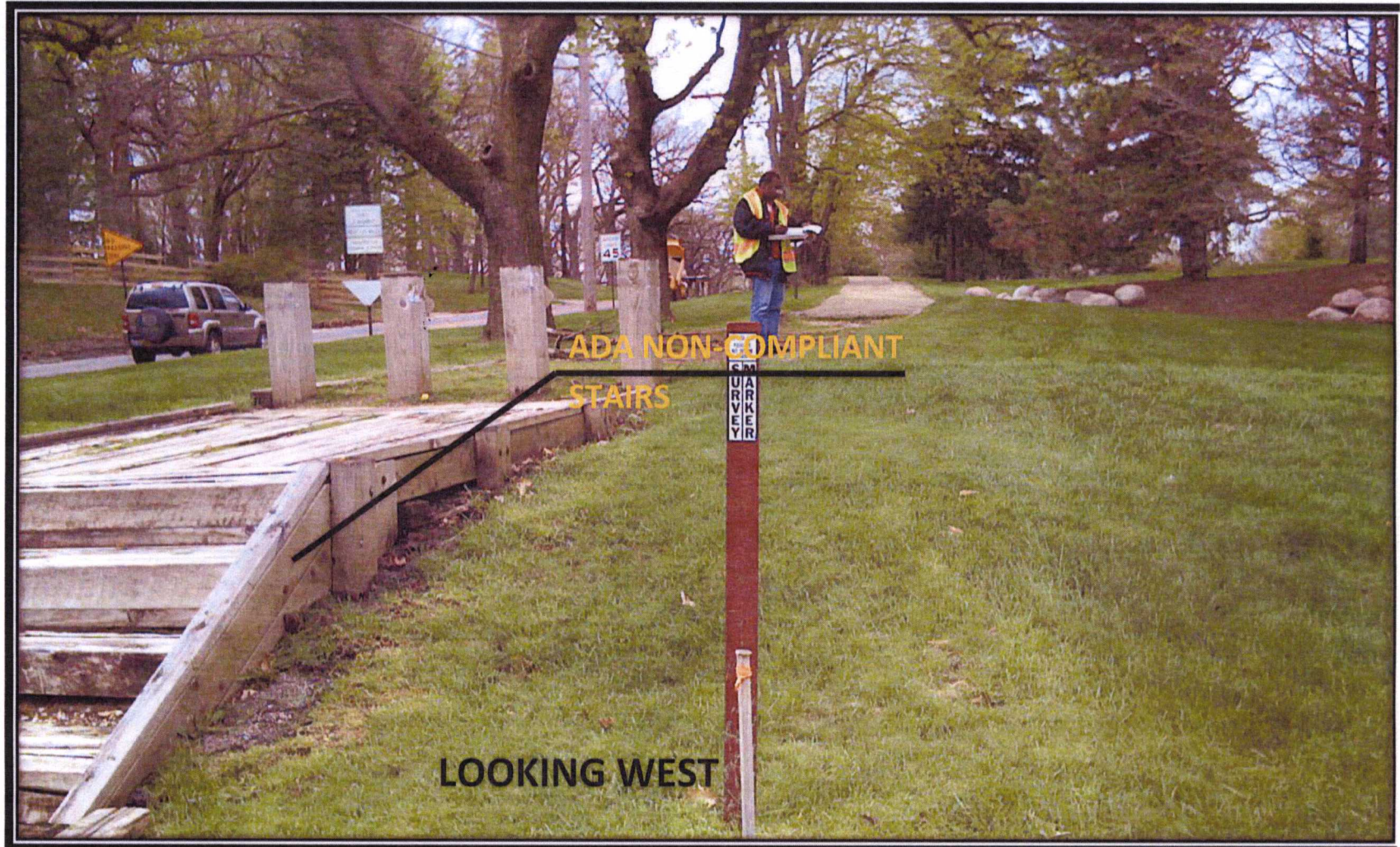
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A-4.5



A-4.6



A-4.7



IDOT is seeking public comments on impacts the Illinois Route 31 at Silver Glen Road project will have on Blackhawk County Forest Preserve which is owned and operated by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County.

The Illinois Route 31 project will impact the property at the northeast corner of the Illinois Route 31 and Silver Glen Road in the Township of St. Charles. IDOT requires the acquisition of right of way in order to re-grade the cross-section of the roadway to a reasonable recovery slope. IDOT is seeking public comments on the acquisition of this right of way at the Blackhawk County Forest Preserve. This is the first opportunity for the public to comment on the additional public land needed for this project.

Hard copies of the Section 4 (f) de minimis documentation will be provided at the following locations during normal business hours.

DATE: 08-20-12 to 08-31-12
TIME: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday thru Friday
PLACE: Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Programming
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, IL 60196

OR

Forest Preserve District of Kane County
1996 South Kirk Road, Suite 320
Geneva, IL 60134

The Section 4(f) de minimis documentation is available on the Department's website at: <http://www.dot.state.il.us/projects.html>

Electronic copies can be provided by emailing a request to carlosfeliciano@illinois.gov.

Written comments can be submitted at the IDOT office, mailed to the IDOT office, or submitted electronically to carlosfeliciano@illinois.gov. Comments must be received by **08-31-12** to be considered part of the public record.

This documentation will be accessible to handicapped individuals. Anyone needing special assistance should contact Carlos Feliciano at (847) 705-4106. Persons planning to visit either site to review the documents and need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify the Department's TDD number (847)705-4710 at least five days prior.

All correspondence regarding this project should be sent to:

Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Programming
Attn: Carlos A. Feliciano
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096

MINUTES OF MEETING

Subject: Kane County Path Coordination
Date: March 22, 2011
Time: 2:30 P.M.
Place: Kane County DOT Conference Room
41W011 Burlington Road, Campton Hills

Attendees:

Carlos Feliciano	IDOT Bureau of Programming – P&ES
Kendy Estimable	IDOT Bureau of Programming – P&ES
Jerry N. Culp	Forest Preserve District of Kane County
Steven Coffinbargar	Kane County Division of Transportation
Carl Schoedel	Kane County Division of Transportation
Mike Sullivan	Kane County Division of Transportation
Tom Rickert	Kane County Division of Transportation

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the bike path along the north side of Silver Glen Road and to present the proposed work for the intersection of Illinois Route 31 and Silver Glen Road in unincorporated St. Charles Township.

Illinois Route 31 within the project limits carries average daily traffic (ADT) of 13,100 vpd with a posted speed limit of 45 mph. Both roadways are composed of one lane in each direction without channelization and controlled by a stop sign along Silver Glen Road. There is an existing side-path, River Bend Trail, along the north side of Silver Glen Road which begins at Reserve Court, west of Randall Road, and ends at the Blackhawk Forest Preserve (also known as the John Duerr Forest Preserve) on the east side of Illinois Route 31. The proposed scope of work consists of adding a northbound left turn lane and a southbound right turn lane as part of a traffic signal installation at this location. Eight-foot paved shoulders on both sides of Illinois Route 31 and a 5-foot bike lane along the southbound right turn lane are planned to be incorporated in order to accommodate the occasional north-south bicyclist within the project limits. The existing drainage is expected to remain. At this time the IDOT Hydraulic Studies Unit is working on the proposed drainage plans.

The River Bend Trail in the northwest quadrant of the intersection stops at a set of stairs which do not meet ADA standards due to the significant drop off at this location. IDOT proposes to remove the existing stairs and add a new 10 foot curved path at a 5% slope that follows the existing “goat trail” formed by current users. Removal and replacement

of the existing path is included as an IDOT cost as part of the improvement. The Kane County Division of Transportation (County) and the Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPD) concurred with the proposed path realignment. The County expressed interest in adding a push button pedestrian countdown signal for the crossing along Illinois Route 31. IDOT stated that the cost for the countdown signal could be included in the project but that it would likely be a County cost. (Subsequent to the meeting it's been determined that this cost is now deemed a standard item and is lumped into the cost of the traffic signal equipment following the same cost participation guidelines as the signal. The cost of this item will be subject to the leg jurisdiction responsibilities.) The County would be responsible for 1/3 of the costs for the traffic signal equipment, which includes the pedestrian push button countdown signals. The County stated that the path was built by the FPD within County right-of-row and/or easement.

The County stated that they are not interested in new sidewalk/path accommodations, intersection lighting or Emergency Vehicle Pre-Emption (EVP) devices for this project. The intersection is in the St Charles-Countryside Fire Protection District. IDOT will forward them a copy of the letter of intent sent to the County outlining cost responsibilities for their information in case they may be interested in adding EVP devices at the new traffic signal.

The existing right-of-way (ROW) shown in the IDOT preliminary plans at the meeting appears different from that of the County's GIS exhibits. The County map shows the bike path within the County ROW whereas the existing ROW identified by IDOT along Silver Glen Road shows the path outside the existing ROW. IDOT requested that the County and/or the FPD provide their ROW information so that the plans can be updated and more accurate information can be coordinated with the FPD with regards to the impacts to the park. The FPD stated that they would provide IDOT with any information found regarding ROW. The FPD stated that they would prefer the permanent easement (PE) shown in the preliminary plans to be a fee simple ROW acquisition instead. After consulting with the IDOT Bureau of Land Acquisition, it was concluded that if the FPD is willing to sell the land to IDOT, the PE shown can be processed as a proposed ROW instead. The plans will be revised to show the needed land as proposed ROW.

The Blackhawk Forest Preserve is a protected resource because "use of land from a publicly owned park, recreational area, wildlife/waterfowl refuge or historic site requires compliance with Sections 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966". The Blackhawk Forest Preserve is a publicly owned park used for recreational purposes and would therefore fall under these guidelines. IDOT will coordinate a Section 4(f) document with the FPD. IDOT expects that a "de minimis" impact finding would be the required level of coordination since the impacts to the resource are believed to be minimal and would not result in an adverse effect to activities, features or attributes (AFA) that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f) guidelines. The project will be presented at the April FHWA/BDE Monthly Coordination Meeting to allow the

Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2011
Page 3

FHWA to make a determination as to what level of coordination will be required. The FPD requested that IDOT fill out a Land Use Request form and submit it to the FPD along with any coordination documents to be reviewed by them.

By: Carlos A. Feliciano / Kendy Estimable - IDOT

S:\WP p&es\INHSE Projects- Active\IL 31 @ Silver Glen\Meeting Minutes\Meeting Minutes - (03-22-11) Kane County.doc

AGENDA ITEM #5

**Illinois Route 31
At Silver Glen Road**

**P-91-447-07
Kane County**

April 12, 2010

This was the initial presentation of this project. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss existing conditions, potential scope, level of environmental processing, and potential 4 (f).

Illinois Route 31 within the project limits carries average daily traffic (ADT) of 13,100 vpd with a posted speed limit of 45 mph. Both roadways are composed of one lane in each direction without channelization and controlled by a stop sign along Silver Glen Road. There is an existing side-path, River Bend Trail, along the north side of Silver Glen Road which begins at Reserve Court, west of Randall Road, and ends at the Blackhawk Forest Preserve (also known as the John Duerr Forest Preserve) on the east side of Illinois Route 31. The proposed scope of work consists of adding a northbound left turn lane and a southbound right turn lane as part of a traffic signal installation at this location. Eight-foot paved shoulders on both sides of Illinois Route 31 and a 5-foot bike lane along the southbound right turn lane are planned to be incorporated in order to accommodate the occasional north-south bicyclist within the project limits. The existing drainage is expected to remain. At this time the District one Hydraulic Studies Unit is working on the proposed drainage plans.

The existing side-path, River Bend Trail in the northwest quadrant of the intersection stops at a set of stairs which do not meet ADA standards due to the significant drop off at this location. District One proposes to remove the existing stairs and add a new 10 foot curved path at a 5% slope that follows the existing "goat trail" formed by current users. BDE and FHWA concurred with the path realignment. Since the radius of the proposed path curves were not as large as indicated in the BDE manual, BDE and FHWA stated that District One must provide a signage along the path to encourage bicyclists to slow down. In addition, landscaping will be added to discourage bicyclists from continuing towards IL 31 by passing the side path curves.

AGENDA ITEM #5 (Continued)
April 12, 2011

District one Stated that due to the widening on the east side of Illinois Route 31, District One will need to request 0.0789 acre of permanent easement (PE) from the Blackhawk Forest Preserve. The Blackhawk Forest Preserve is a publicly owned park used for recreational purposes and would therefore fall under 4(f) guidelines. District One expects that a "de minimis" impact finding would be the required level of coordination since the impacts to their resource are believed to be minimal and would not result in an adverse effect to activities, features or attributes (AFA) that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f) Guidelines. The Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPD) stated that they would prefer the PE shown in the preliminary plans to be a fee simple ROW acquisition. After consulting with the District one Bureau of Land Acquisition, it was concluded that; if the FPD is willing to sell the land to IDOT, the PE shown can be processed as a proposed ROW take instead.

District One requested to process this report for this project as a Categorical Exclusion (CE) Group I report based on the proposed scope of work, the minimal impact to the abutting properties, and environmental involvement. BDE and FHWA concurred to Categorical Exclusion Group I processing as well as proceeding with de minimis 4(f) coordination.

Carlos Feliciano/Kendy Estimable - IDOT



Illinois Department of Transportation

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

CAF

FILE COPY

May 29, 2012

Mr. John J. Hoscheit
President
Forest Preserve District of Kane County
1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320
Geneva, IL 60134

Dear Mr. Hoscheit:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) is currently finalizing preliminary engineering and environmental studies for the improvement of Illinois Route 31 at Silver Glen Road in the township of St. Charles, Kane County. A location map is attached for your reference. This improvement is included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2013 to 2018 Proposed Multi-Modal Transportation Improvement Program. Our current engineering efforts are targeted to enable a contract letting in the early portion of our current multi-year program contingent upon plan readiness, land acquisition, and funding availability through our future annual legislative appropriations. The scope of work for this project will generally consist of installing a new traffic signal, installing turn lanes, and adding paved shoulders along both sides of Illinois Route 31.

The Department will require a small acquisition from Blackhawk County Forest Preserve, a Section 4(f) land, for the purpose of roadway improvements. The Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPDKC) maintains jurisdictional authority over this preserve. While efforts were made to minimize the impact to the forest preserve properties, an acquisition in the form of fee simple right of way acquisition is needed at the northeast quadrant of the Illinois Route 31 and Silver Glen Road intersection. The right of way is needed to re-grade the cross-section of the roadway, add turn lanes to the intersection and provide paved shoulders.

The Department believes that the transportation improvement impacts to the FPDKC owned land qualifies for the use of the de minimis provision since the transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource does not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f). The Federal Highway Administration has evaluated the impacts and has determined that the impacts qualify for a De Minimis processing.

Mr. John J. Hoscheit
May 29, 2012
Page 2

The purpose of this letter is to transmit to you a copy of the Section 4(f) De Minimis documentation. After your review and concurrence with the documentation, we will be placing a newspaper ad 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 Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPDKC) office.

Please review the enclosed Section 4(f) De Minimis documentation for a more detailed description of Section 4(f) properties that will be affected. We would appreciate it if you could respond with your comments and/or concurrence at your earliest convenience.

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

Very truly yours,

Diane M. O'Keefe, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways,
Region One Engineer

Enclosure

cc: Jerry Culp, FPDKC

bcc: Diane O'Keefe
John Fortmann
Carlos A. Feliciano
File

Prepared By: Kendy Estimable, Ext. 4192
Bureau of Programming

S:\Gen\WP\p&es\INHSE\Projects- Active\IL 31 @ Silver Glen\Environmental\4f\Forest Preserve - 4f - De Minimis Letter - FPDCC 6-24-11.docx