



November 11, 2016

Mr. Kensil Garnett, District Engineer  
IDOT District 5  
13473 IL Hwy 133  
Paris, IL 61944

### **Illinois Route 9 resurfacing through Bloomington**

Dear Mr. Garnett,

Please consider the following input for your 2017-2022 MYP Resurfacing (3P) project for IL Route 9 from east of Interstate 74 to Royal Pointe Drive. This letter focuses on three sections having corresponding recommendations in the City of Bloomington's Bicycle Master Plan.

The plan calls for bicycle lanes to be added to the Hinshaw Ave. segment and part of Locust St. From IDOT's BDE Manual's Chapter 17, *"Bicycle and pedestrian ways may be included in pavement resurfacing projects when local support is evident or bicycling and walking accommodations can be added within the overall scope of the original roadwork."* This policy allows for the reconfiguration of lane widths to provide space for bike lanes, as District 9 has done in Carbondale, for example. The specific recommendations for Hinshaw and Locust:

- 1) Hinshaw Ave., Market St. to Locust St.: 5.5' bike lanes, 12.5' travel lanes.
- 2) Locust St., Western Ave. to Morris Ave.: 5.5' bike lanes, 12.5' travel lanes.
- 3) Locust St., Morris Ave. to Catherine St.: Stripe shoulders for buffered bike lanes – 5' bike lanes, 3' buffers, 12' travel lanes. Minimally, add Bike Route wayfinding signage conforming with other (MUTCD-based) wayfinding signs to be implemented by Bloomington.
- 4) Locust St., Catherine St. to Allin St.: Remove continuous left-turn lane to permit regular bike lanes (5.5' including gutter, 13.8' travel lanes) or buffered bike lanes (5.3', 2' buffers, 12' lanes).

The plan also calls for the completion of sidewalks along Locust St. (Colton Ave. to Towanda Ave.) as well as the addition of sidewalks and/or a sidepath along Towanda Ave. (Locust St. to Empire St.) and Empire St. (Towanda Ave. east beyond the resurfacing project limit). It is requested that IDOT and the City of Bloomington collaborate to explore expanding the project scope or doing a concurrent project to more cost-effectively add these needed features.

**Working Statewide for Better Bicycling**

2550 Cheshire Dr., Aurora, IL 60504  
info@rideillinois.org  
www.rideillinois.org

We would be glad to discuss these and other project design issues. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Barsotti". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ed Barsotti, Chief Programs Officer, Ride Illinois

Cc: Jon McCormick and Bob Nelson, IDOT  
Jim Karch, City of Bloomington