



December 14, 2016

Mr. Jeffrey Keirn, District Engineer
IDOT District 8
1102 Eastport Plaza Dr
Collinsville, IL 62234

Illinois Route 13 resurfacing from Freeburg to New Athens

Dear Mr. Keirn,

Please consider the following input for your 2017-2022 MYP Resurfacing (3P) project for IL Route 13 from north of Freeburg to the Kaskaskia River in New Athens.

Strava's heat map (labs.strava.com/heatmap), showing bicycle travel by users of that app, helps estimate the relative importance of roads for bicycling. For this project, Strava indicates:

- 1) Some bicycle use north from Mill Street in Freeburg. The busy (>13000 ADT) road has 6-8' paved shoulders.
- 2) More bike use through Freeburg, to Hill Mine Road. The road has three lanes, high ADT, no paved shoulders or bike lanes, but lower speeds.
- 3) Very little biking south to Calmus Lake School Road. Bicyclists are using alternative routes 1-2 miles west.
- 4) Significant bike use south of Calmus Lake School Road to New Athens, in part due to no other Kaskaskia River crossings nearby. Except for 775' south from Calmus Lake School, IL13 has wide paved shoulders accommodating bicyclists on this 6200-7550 ADT, 55mph road. That 775' segment has narrow (2-3') paved shoulders – not comfortable, but a better option than riding over a mile to George Lelich Road on IL156, which has no shoulders.

Our main request is that the paved shoulders of the 775' segment south from Calmus Lake School be widened to at least 4', preferably 6' to match IDOT's pre-2010 BDE policy on paved shoulder width for this speed and ADT. Widening segment (3) to 4-6' would, of course, be appreciated, but the 775' segment is the priority. We ask that existing paved shoulders in (1) and (4) be kept. Section (3) has no extra width for bike lanes or unmarked "urban shoulders".

If any rumble strips are added, please only do so if constructed with 8" width, 4" spacing from fog line, periodic longitudinal breaks, and at least 3-4' of clear zone outside of the rumbles.

Working Statewide for Better Bicycling

2550 Cheshire Dr., Aurora, IL 60504
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We would be glad to discuss these and other project design issues. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ed Barsotti, Chief Programs Officer, Ride Illinois



George Fero, Board Member, District 8

Cc: Jon McCormick and Kevin Jemison, IDOT