



February 5, 2017

Mr. Jeff South, District Engineer
IDOT District 6
126 E. Ash Street
Springfield, IL 62704

Business 55 repaving, south of Lincoln to I-55

Dear Mr. South,

Please consider the following input for your 2017-2022 MYP resurfacing project for Business Route 55 from 900th Avenue to south of 1056th Avenue, south of Lincoln.

At present, the northern 4450' of the segment has 4750-5400 ADT traffic count, a 55mph speed limit, and no paved shoulders. As seen on labs.strava.com/heatmap, there is appreciable bicycle travel south to 1000th Ave and I-55's frontage road. The segment provides unique access to Madigan State Park and is on the recommended ultimate route for the Route 66 Trail (per the IDNR-led [Route 66 Trail Concept Plan](#)). The southern/western part of the project segment, near I-55, already has wide paved shoulders.

An earlier phase of Business 55 roadwork, north of this phase, widened paved shoulders to (an estimated) 5-9'. This was a very helpful improvement – thank you to those involved!

We request that this same cross-section be continued south in the new project to close the 4450' gap in paved shoulders. With a relatively low traffic count for a four lane road, 4-5' paved shoulders would be very appropriate.

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".

Ed Barsotti, Chief Programs Officer, Ride Illinois

Cc: Jon McCormick and Andrew Werner, IDOT

Working Statewide for Better Bicycling

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