



February 27, 2017

John Yonan, P.E., Superintendent  
Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways  
69 W. Washington St.  
24th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Mr. Yonan,

Please consider the following input for your 2016-2020 Transportation Program modernization project of Shoe Factory Road from Essex to Beverly, slated for construction in 2019.

As seen on [labs.strava.com/heatmap](https://labs.strava.com/heatmap), this stretch of Shoe Factory already has significant bike traffic. It is rated as a “good” route on the 2016 Active Transportation Alliance Chicagoland Bike Map. And we found a document on the Hoffman Estates website saying that there is a plan to extend the sidepath along the north and west sides, which will be very welcome.

From the documentation posted on the Cook County website, we understand this project is scoped to consist of pavement reconstruction to four lanes with median. We request that a few additional accommodations be considered for people riding bikes:

- Rohrssen, which has appreciable bike traffic, ends in a “T” on the south side of Shoe Factory. We ask that high-visibility crosswalks be painted and maintained to ensure that cyclists and pedestrians along Rohrssen are able to access the sidepath being built on the north side of Shoe Factory. We would also suggest that a pair of R1-6A signs be mounted in the median, along with R1-5B signs on the right side of the roadway, to remind drivers to stop for crossing pedestrians.
- Sidepaths are great options for most cyclists most of the year, but on-street accommodations tend to be much more reliable. Especially if there is not a plan to remove snow from the sidepath each winter, we suggest that, if possible, the paved shoulders be maintained at a minimum 4’ width, without rumble strips.

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

Sincerely,

Michael Gorman  
Ride Illinois

Working Statewide for Better Bicycling

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