



September 7, 2017

Mr. Kensil Garnett
IDOT District 4
401 Main St.
Peoria, IL 61602-1111

RE: US67 widening and resurfacing with new shoulders, Warren County

Dear Mr. Garnett,

Please consider the following input for your 2018-2023 MYP project for US67 widening and resurfacing with new shoulders, from S of 270th Ave/CH 3 to N of 210th Ave, in Warren County.

At present, US67 has 2950-3550 ADT and very narrow to no paved shoulders. It is the only continuously paved north-south option for ten miles between IL135 and 120th St/CH 1. Strava's heat map (labs.strava.com/heatmap) of bicycle trips by users of that app indicates relatively low but nonzero cyclist usage, despite a Bicycle Level of Service "D" rating – uncomfortable even for traffic-tolerant cyclists.

The relatively low usage likely does not warrant new paved shoulders just for bicycles. However, the lack of paved alternatives should justify a shoulder design beneficial to cyclists.

We do not know the planned width of the paved shoulders or whether rumble strips are planned. We request that the paved shoulders be at least 4' wide, preferably 6' to match IDOT's pre-2010 BDE policy on paved shoulder width for this speed and ADT.

As with any road, even those not meeting IDOT BDE Chapter 17 bicycle warrants, please only add rumble strips if constructed with periodic longitudinal breaks and at least 3-4' of clear zone outside of the rumbles. Ride Illinois believes that paved shoulders with rumble strips but inadequate clear zones decrease safety for cyclists, compared to no paved shoulders at all.

In addition, we request that the project's north terminus be extended north from 270th Avenue to 280th Avenue, based on this input from Craig Cavanaugh, a member from Monmouth:

In Warren County there are very few east-west connections from RT 135 to 120th St. and none that can avoid a hazardous trip on RT 67. Going north to 280th avenue would link RT 135 to 120th St. on all paved surfaces with a shoulder that would avoid risking

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

your life. 120th St is a 10 mile north south corridor that provides various links to other roads in the Northeast quarter of Warren County but now is restricted with no connections to the west beyond RT 67 North of 210th Avenue....Not being able to access RT 67 makes access to the Northern part of Warren County difficult. I will cycle on almost any road but RT 67 North of Monmouth is out of the question. This also eliminates access by bike to Lake Warren which is on RT 67 – approximately 4 miles north of 210th Avenue. Paved shoulders without hideous rumble strips would send me on RT 67 many times a month....bicycle usage on RT 67 North of Monmouth will become frequent if it is made reasonably safe....

We would be glad to discuss this project further. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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

Ed Barsotti, Chief Programs Officer, Ride Illinois

Cc: Jon McCormick and Chris Maushard, IDOT