



November 20, 2017

Mr. Jeffrey Keirn  
IDOT District 9  
State Transportation Building, P.O. Box 100  
Carbondale, IL 62903-0100

**RE: IL149 from 22nd St to IL 13/127 in Murphysboro**

Dear Mr. Keirn,

Please consider the following input for your 2018-2023 MYP resurfacing project for IL149 from 22nd St to IL13/127 in Murphysboro.

IL149 changes in character over the length of this project: 1) From 22<sup>nd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>, it has 4800-8900 ADT with two wide (estimated 19') lanes having low, residential parking occupancy. 2) From 17<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> through downtown, it has narrower lanes, 11700-12100 ADT, and left-turn lanes and/or marked (and significantly used) parking stalls. 3) From 6<sup>th</sup> to IL13, it has 13100-12300 ADT with four lanes, and wide paved shoulders between 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. There is sidewalk on at least one side, although its crosswalk location is unsafe at the Walgreen's entrance.

Strava's heat map ([labs.strava.com/heatmap](https://labs.strava.com/heatmap)) of bicycling activity by users of that app shows comparably heavy bike use on almost the entire segment – despite an uncomfortable Bicycle Level of Service rating of D between 17<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

We recommend the consideration of striping between 22<sup>nd</sup> and at least 17<sup>th</sup> to delineate (sparsely-occupied) parking and to provide passing traffic calming for residents on this stretch. Such striping would also benefit bicyclists, many of whom would choose to ride in the striped-off “urban shoulders” when no cars are parked there. Such striping could be extended eastward (with reconfigured parking) at least to 15<sup>th</sup>. Between 15<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, there does not appear to be room for bike accommodations except for warning signage or shared lane markings.

We request that the existing wide paved shoulders be maintained, and that the sidewalk crosswalk issue mentioned above be addressed. Finally, please check with SIMPO for any opportunities the project presents with their Carbondale-Murphysboro bike route plan – which calls for a sidepath from 4<sup>th</sup> to IL13/127.

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

Working Statewide for Better Bicycling

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

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: Julie Klamm, IDOT District 9 Bicycle Coordinator  
Mayor Will Stephens, City of Murphysboro