



November 7, 2017

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

**RE: US45 from 10th St to Devers Rd in Metropolis**

Dear Mr. Keirn,

Please consider the following input for your 2018-2023 MYP resurfacing project for US45 from 10th St to Devers Rd in Metropolis.

US45 changes in character over the length of this project: 1) West of 12<sup>th</sup> Street, it has 8' paved shoulders out to the businesses by I-24. 2) From 12<sup>th</sup> to Williams (and the George Rogers Clark Discovery Trail), its 5 lanes have no on- or off-road bike accommodations, 7200 ADT, and an uncomfortable high-D Bicycle Level of Service. 3) West of there, in the part of town with a road grid, US45 has 5150-7200 ADT, sidewalks, parallel routes, and very wide outside lanes with occasional parking occupancy.

Strava's heat map ([labs.strava.com/heatmap](https://labs.strava.com/heatmap)) of bicycling activity by users of that app shows some bike use especially on segments (1) and (3), with fewer biking on the less comfortable segment (2) except between Ft. Massac Dr. and Pullen Rd. Also, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> are comfortable alternatives through town (and to the trail), but 12<sup>th</sup> (5600 ADT) is less comfortable and not used as much. Ft. Massac Dr. is used as an alternative for much of segment (2).

Based on this, it is requested that IDOT maintain the wide paved shoulders in segment (3) out to I-24. We request some improvement to segment (2), with the highest priority between Ft. Massac Dr. and Pullen Rd. This could be a sidewalk or sidewalk (in cooperation with the City of Metropolis) or even a road diet with bike lanes – which a study might show as very feasible at US45's relatively low traffic volume for four lanes. Similarly, US45 in segment (1) in town seems like a good candidate for such a road diet, but the existence of good alternatives makes that a low priority – at least for the bicycling advantages of road diets.

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 Billy McDaniel, City of Metropolis