



January 24, 2019

Mr. Jeff South, Region Engineer
IDOT District 7
400 W. Wabash
Effingham, IL 62401-2699

RE: IL105 William St bridge replacement over Lake Decatur in Decatur

Dear Mr. South,

Please consider the following input for your 2019-2024 MYP bridge project cited above.

At present, this segment of IL105 has a high traffic count (10800 ADT) and speed limit (45 mph). [Strava's bicycle heat map](#) aggregating trips of those using that app shows relatively heavy cyclist use of IL105 between Park Ln and Lake Shore Dr on the west, and Country Club Rd on the east.

For much of the segment, there are ~10' wide paved shoulders. At the bridge itself, the shoulders narrow to ~3' shoulders with adjacent 5' carriage sidewalks and low railings. There are no shoulders at pinch points at both ends, including eastbound to Country Club and from Park and westbound to Lake Shore.

It is requested to improve bicycle rider safety by:

- Retaining the 10' wide paved shoulders on the bridge approaches, and extending them the short distances for the three pinch points to Park, Lake Shore, and Country Club – extending the project termini to these streets, if needed.
- On the new bridge itself, widening the paved shoulders to 10'.
- If the bridge replacement includes a (separated) sidepath, as is very possible from IDOT's BDE Chapter 17 facility selection table, then:
 - Using Park and Country Club as the sidepath's ends. The south side of the road may be better, but a curb cut and crosswalk from the sidepath to Lake Shore would be needed.
 - Retaining at least 4' of paved shoulders, even with an adjacent sidepath, in case snow, glass, or other maintenance issues makes the sidepath hard to use.

Working Statewide for Better Bicycling

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

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". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ed Barsotti, Chief Programs Officer, Ride Illinois

Cc: Mr. Matt Hirtzel, IDOT District 7 Bicycle Coordinator
Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe, City of Decatur