



January 24, 2019

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

**RE: IL121/US36 bridge replacement over Lake Shore Drive in Decatur**

Dear Mr. South,

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

This segment of IL121/US36 has four lanes, a high traffic count (21300 ADT) and a speed limit of 50 mph. [Strava's bicycle heat map](#) aggregating trips of those using that app shows fairly significant cyclist use of the sidewalk on the southwest side of the street, crossing Lake Decatur to Country Club Rd. The sidewalk is narrow (~4') and becomes an adjacent carriage sidewalk at the Lake Shore Dr and Lake Decatur bridges.

When the bridge is replaced over Lake Shore Dr, it is requested to improve bicycle rider safety by widening the bridge for an 8-10' sidepath on the southwest side, or to at least provide a minimum 5' buffer (or barrier separation) between the road and the replaced sidewalk.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ed Barsotti".

Ed Barsotti, Chief Programs Officer, Ride Illinois

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

Working Statewide for Better Bicycling

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