

Appendix G
Public Involvement

MEETING MINUTES

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Project	Red Gate Road over the Fox River	Date Prepared	October 28, 2005
Local Agency	City of St. Charles	Meeting Date	October 26, 2005
Section	04-00092-00-BR	Meeting Time	1:30 AM
IDOT Project	HD-8003(437)	Meeting Location	City
IDOT Job	P-91-322-04		
RHA File #	1000004/207	Prepared by	John Ritchie

Attendees: Project Team Cindy Skrukud
Chuck Roberts

Purpose of Meeting: Coordination Meeting With Environmental Groups

1. Project overview by Mark Koenen and John Ritchie

Description of the project and current progress.

2. Comments from attendees

Concern about road salt and other dissolved chemicals

The Location Drainage Study currently in progress is using wet bottom detention areas as one alternate. The discharged stormwater will then pass through vegetated swales before entering the river. This system will allow much of the suspended solids to drop out and will slow the release of dissolved chemicals into the river therefore smoothing the peaks in the chemical concentrations.

The team is also looking at de-icing strategies other than salts for the bridge including automated chemical delivery systems and bridge deck heating.

Would the detention volume be such that it could contain a chemical spill on the bridge?

The required detention for the east side including the bridge is approximately 0.26 acre-feet or 85,000 gallons. The capacity of a large distribution type tank truck is approximately 9,000 gallons. The detention area would temporarily contain a spill from this type of truck and allow time for emergency response crews to prevent the spill from entering the stream.

Is the design team working with the Forest Preserve District on this project?

We have met with the Forest Preserve on several occasions. At the request of the forest preserve, the project will include a bike trail connecting the Fox River Trail on the east side of the river an existing trail along Red Gate Road west of the river and a connection between the north and south halves of the west Forest Preserve below the bridge. Portions of the Forest Preserve may be used for detention and will be developed with native plants.

Will the project include secondary easements for such things as gas or petroleum pipelines?

There is a possibility that a water main will use the Right of Way, but no pipelines are anticipated at this time.

Are there any wetlands that will be impacted?

This study has not yet been performed, but a preliminary investigation indicates that a small area on the east side may be impacted and there will probably not be any wetlands impacted on the west.

What is the footprint of the bridge in the river and how will it affect canoe access?

Preliminary results of the Bridge Type Study indicate that the piers will be spaced at approximately 125 feet. This will require about five piers in the river. The low chord of bridge will be approximately ten to twelve feet above the normal water level. This should provide more than adequate clearance for canoeists and other pleasure boaters. The team will investigate including a canoe access point on the east side of the river.

What elements will be incorporated in the project that will offset potential impacts?

The study phase of the project will investigate:

- *Bike trail connections*
- *Enhancements to the Forest Preserve*
- *Maintaining a connection between the north and south halves of the West Forest Preserve*
- *Planting detention areas with native plants*
- *Bringing people closer to the river and the land and separating them from the highway*
- *Access to the river*
- *Creating habitat when restoring areas that are disturbed by construction*
- *Bridge de-icing options that are more environmentally friendly than road salt de-icing*

3. Question from the design team

Are there any other groups that we should contact who might be interested in this project?

The Audubon Society may be interested in the project

Illinois Smallmouth Alliance may have some ideas for creating fish habitat

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

These meeting minutes constitute the preparer's understanding of the items discussed and conclusions reached. These minutes represent the basis on which we will proceed. Attendees are requested to notify the preparer of any corrections or comments to the minutes.

R&D GATE BRIDGE

10/26/2005

MEETING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

Name	Organization
MARK KOENEN	City of ST CHARLES
Jill Kramer	CH2M HILL
Sue Lane	Media Masters Inc.
Chuck Roberts	Friends of the Fox River
Cliff White	City of St. Charles
Terry Helton	Trans / Land
Bruce Talbot	RHAA
JOHN RITCHIE	RHA
Cindy Skorkunk	Sierra Club
Linda Huff	Huff & Huff
Greg Quartucci	Huff & Huff
Sue Lane	Media Masters Inc.
GREG CHISMARV	ST. CHARLES
GTCB	

Project	Red Gate Road over the Fox River	Date	July 18, 2007
Local Agency	City of St. Charles	Memo By	John Ritchie
Section	04-00092-00-BR	To	
IDOT Project	HD-8003(437)		
IDOT Job	P-91-322-04		
RHA File #	1000004/208		

Subject: Summary of comments received at November 16, 2005 Public Information Meeting.

Approximately 180 people attended the Public Information Meeting that was held on November 16, 2005 at the St. Charles North High School. The high school is located at the intersection of Red Gate Road and Route 31, which is the western terminus of the proposed project. The meeting was advertised twice in the local newspapers, notice was provided on the project web site, and articles about the project and upcoming meeting appeared in local papers in the week before the meeting. The meeting was an open house format with a short video presentation followed by a room of exhibits. Project and City representatives were available for questions and discussion about the project.

Comment cards were available at the meeting and attendees were encouraged to leave comments about the meeting and about their particular concerns. 88 comment cards were returned. The cards had three questions with Yes/No check boxes. The questions and tabulated responses are:

1. Do you feel that the information presented at today's meeting was useful? Yes – 65, No – 14
2. Did the meeting help you to understand the proposed project? Yes – 69, No – 9
3. Would you like to be notified of future public meetings and workshops? Yes – 66, No – 10

Residents were provided with space to fill in contact information as well as space to leave comments about the project. Of the 88 cards that were returned the most frequently occurring concerns were:

- 10 people directly indicated that they were against the project and 9 people indicated support for the project.
- 23 people left comments that indicated a concern about increased traffic on the existing portion of Red Gate Road or on the surrounding roads.
- 14 people indicated that this project should be coordinated with the Stearns Road Bridge and/or asked why both bridges were needed.
- 9 people were concerned that the project could pose a safety hazard to high school students crossing Red Gate Road.
- 9 people were concerned about the cost of the project and/or how this would affect their taxes.
- 9 people were concerned about increased traffic noise from the project.
- 9 people were concerned about the loss of open space in the Forest Preserve and/or loss of the off leash dog area.
- 7 people felt that the information presented at the meeting was incomplete or inaccurate.
- A total of 10 people were concerned about environmental impacts, either specific impacts to the River or Forest Preserve, or general impacts to the area.
- 6 people were concerned about how the project would affect boating and other recreational activities on the river.

Less frequently occurring concerns included impacts to property values, lack of public support for the project, concern about how the project would impact or encourage growth, impacts to the Wayne Historic District from increased traffic on Army Trail Road, and other issues tabulated in the attached sheet.

In addition to the comments received at the public information meeting, many comments have been received via e-mail through the project web site. Comments are tabulated on the attached sheet and generally follow a similar distribution and range of concerns that were received at the PIM.

Red Gate Bridge
 Tabulation of comments received

Comment	ZIP Code								PIM Total		Web Site	Project Total
	60174		60175		60184		Other		Yes	No		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No				
Do you feel that the information presented at today's meeting was	16	6	22	5	7	0	20	3	65	14		
Did the meeting help you understand the proposed project?	18	3	26	1	6	1	19	4	69	9		
Would you like to be notified of future public meetings and workshops?	17	4	27	0	6	1	16	5	66	10		
Build it	3		3		1		2		9		13	22
Don't build it	3		4		1		2		10		2	12
Increased traffic congestion on Red Gate and adjoining roads	5		12		2		4		23		6	29
Coordination with Stearns Bridge, are both projects needed?	4		4		4		2		14		1	15
Loss of Forest Preserve/dog park	1		6		1		1		9		4	13
Safety issues at North High School and at new intersections	2		6				1		9		3	12
Cost	3		3		2		1		9		1	10
Noise	2		5		1		1		9		1	10
Recreation on River	1		2				3		6		4	10
Property values	3		1						4		4	8
The presentation was incomplete and/or lacked information			4				3		7			7
Environment - general impacts	3		2		1				6			6
Make sure that bike trail connection to east side of river is included							2		2		4	6
Better connectivity on east end (Army Trail)	3		1						4			4
The project has no public support, why do it?	2						1		3			3
Other corridors need to be considered	2				1				3			3
Truck restrictions should be enforced			2				1		3			3
Concern that the bridge will cause more growth in the area	1				1				2		1	3
Environment - impacts to the river			1				1		2		1	3
Emergency services and response times	1				1				2		1	3
Impacts to Wayne historic district from traffic on Army Trail Road					1		1		2		1	3
Environment - impacts to the Forest Preserve			1				1		2			2
Impacts to view of river	1						1		2			2
Lighting on bridge will disturb residents and wildlife							2		2			2
Access to Pinleands/Weber should not be included	1								1		1	2
School boundaries may change							1		1			1
Air Quality	1								1			1

