



Department of Public Works



June 14, 2019

Mr. Kensil Garnett, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways
Region 3 Engineer
Illinois Department of Transportation
401 Main Street
Peoria IL 61602-1111

Re: Rock Island Greenway – Request to be on a Local Letting

Dear Mr. Garnett:

We have been working on the design to extend the Rock Island Greenway bike/walk rails to trail path. When finished, the trail will continue from its current terminus at Harvard Avenue north of War Memorial Drive/US 150. This work includes renovating the vacant railroad bridge over War Memorial Drive and construction of about 1 mile of trail to the south to Park Avenue. The bridge renovation includes raising the bridge from its current 14' height over War Memorial Drive, cleaning and painting, concrete work on the abutments and placing a protective fence on the structure.

During the design phase, we discovered some unanticipated requirements which caused delays. Up to this point, we had been working towards the November (2019) IDOT letting. Recently, we have been told by IDOT staff that we will not be allowed to have lane closures on War Memorial Drive from April 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020, due to work on the Murray Baker Bridge. A November IDOT letting will likely delay this work until 2021, or longer, if there are lane closure restrictions on War Memorial Drive due to work on the McCluggage Bridge in 2021. The planned work for the railroad bridge renovation will require an anticipated 6 weeks of lane closures on War Memorial Drive.

To accelerate the project, so that the work requiring lane closures on War Memorial Drive is complete before March 1, 2020, the City respectfully requests that IDOT allow this project to be on a local letting. Doing so would provide our design team adequate time to produce a quality set of plans and put us in position for an August 2019 local letting.

Thank you for your consideration in this manner. We look forward to hearing your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Lewis".

Bill Lewis, P.E.
Acting Public Works Director
City of Peoria
/mjm

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