

Item #16B:
Village Engineer Perry
Robert Parker Coffin Bridge - Update

Meeting Minutes

Village of Long Grove
Robert Parker Coffin Road Bridge
FHWA / BDE Local Coordination Meeting #2

Date: April 4, 2017

Project: Village of Long Grove
Robert Parker Coffin Road Bridge 049-7150
Lake County, IL
Section #: 15-00007-00-BR
Time: 9:00 am
Date: April 4, 2017
Location: IDOT – District One Executive Conference Room

Attendees: See Attached Attendance Roster

Meeting Purpose:

The Village requested an opportunity to discuss options for proceeding with Phase I given that the existing single lane covered bridge was identified on February 6, 2017 by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) as eligible for the National Register for Historic Places (NRHP) when correspondence dated February 14, 2014 from the IHPA indicated that the bridge was not eligible.

Discussion Items:

After brief introductions, Dan Brinkman of Gewalt Hamilton explained that the Village had provided a series of questions regarding continuing the Phase I study and process now that the subject bridge had been identified as eligible for the NRHP by the IHPA with, the direction to avoid impacting the existing one-lane covered bridge including considering alternative alignments for a replacement bridge

Mr. Raffensperger clarified that eligibility or even placement on the NRHP did not preclude the bridge from being impacted by a project and referenced a copy of the requirements for "Processing an Adverse Effect to a Historic Bridge" in accordance with Section 106/4(f).

Mr. Brinkman inquired about the eligibility for Federal funding to improve the bridge as a one-lane covered bridge. Ms. Helmerichs confirmed that Federal Funding was not applicable to a one-lane bridge on a two-lane, two-way road. Further discussion confirmed that should Robert Parker Coffin Road be converted to a one-way road, a one-lane covered bridge on a one-way road meeting Federal Standards may be eligible for funding as the bridge would no longer be considered functionally obsolete.

Discussion ensued regarding the Villages goal for the project and how the change in eligibility has been interpreted by both the Village Board and the Public.

Mr. Raffensperger offered other options for consideration such as maintaining the bridge for pedestrian use only or moving it to another location for use as a pedestrian only bridge somewhere else in the Village.

Discussion ensued regarding the current weight limit posting and the potential that at some point the Central Bridge Office of IDOT may require complete closure of the bridge to traffic if the structural sufficiency rating of the bridge continues to decline.

Mr. Raffensperger stated that the Central Bridge Office inspects bridges every 10 years and that this bridge will be reinspected in a few years and if found during this inspection to be structurally of a concern would order the immediate closure of the bridge to vehicular traffic.

Discussion ensued regarding the public reaction to the options for a new bridge that had been presented. Mr. Lothspeich also indicated that the Historic Downtown Business Association considers the bridge a key traffic calming impact in the retail district.

Various options for continuing the Phase I study were discussed. Mr. Raffensperger suggested that the Village consider a CSS (Context Sensitive Solutions) process in an effort to gather additional public input and attempt to gain support for a replacement covered bridge (two-lane bridge on a two lane road, one-lane bridge if one-lane road). Ms. Helmerichs indicated that other traffic calming options could be considered on approaches to a two lane bridge.

Mr. Brinkman inquired about the process for stopping or abandoning the Phase I study, should the Village choose to keep the single lane bridge, as the Phase I study was partially funded with STP-BR funds.

Mr. Househ inquired if any funds had been spent. It was clarified that while the Village has expended funds, it had not yet sought any reimbursement from IDOT / FHWA for the Phase I study costs.

Mr. Qudus indicated that since no Federal Funds had been expended that the Village could simply notify IDOT and FHWA that they wished to cancel the engineering and reimbursement agreements.

The meeting concluded at approximately 9:20 am.

These minutes have been prepared based upon the notes taken and information presented at the meeting. Should there be any changes, please advise within seven working day from the date of these minutes.

These minutes prepared by:
GEWALT HAMILTON ASSOCIATES, INC.



Daniel P Brinkman, P.E., PTOE