

VILLAGE *of* WESTERN SPRINGS



740 HILLGROVE AVENUE | WESTERN SPRINGS, IL 60558-1478 | www.wsprings.com

May 17, 2021

Jennifer “Sis” Killen, PE, PTOE (via US mail and via email info@improveplainfieldroad.org)
Superintendent
Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
69 W. Washington St
24th Floor
Chicago, IL 60602

PRESIDENT

Alice Gallagher

TRUSTEES

Heidi Rudolph

James Tyrrell

Nicole Chen

Alan Fink

James John

Scott Lewis

RE: Plainfield Road Corridor Study

Dear Superintendent Killen:

The Village of Western Springs appreciates an opportunity to provide comments on the Plainfield Road Corridor Study prepared by the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways. Given the magnitude of the improvements we understand and appreciate that CCDOTH is looking at a number of different possibilities for the corridor. Below are the Village’s comments on the corridor study report:

CLERK

James Horvath

MANAGER

Ingrid Velkme

DEPUTY MANAGER

Casey Biernacki

DIRECTORS

Grace Turi

Pat Schramm

Martin Scott

Matthew Supert

Brian Budds

Ellen Baer

Aleks Briedis

Michael Kelly

Jefferey Koza

- The Village is opposed to the 5 lane cross section between I-294 and Wolf Road. We concur with the report’s assessment that a 5 lane roadway will not provide an operational benefit. It appears that even if the projected 2050 traffic volumes are eventually realized a three lane section with a continuous turn lane would safely handle traffic between I-294 and Wolf Road.
- The Village requests that right of way taking for the project be kept to an absolute minimum. Reducing the roadway cross section will reduce the impacts of right of way adjacent residential properties. It would appear that right of way takes between County Line Road and Wolf Road would be minimal if the existing 3 lane section is maintained.
- The Village would like CCDOTH to investigate the possibility of providing a pedestrian crossing from the Timber Trails subdivision to the proposed shared use path on the south side of Plainfield Road. If appropriate safety measures can be implemented we feel this could be a valuable addition to the project.
- The Village has observed that some community members are strongly opposed to the expansion of the roadway to 5-lanes. There are yard signs on both sides of Plainfield Road indicating the opposition to the 5 lane concept.
- The Village has concerns about any significant new impervious area being added to the Flagg Creek watershed. The watershed generally drains northwest from Plainfield Road towards the Ridgewood subdivision. The Village is currently working towards developing a comprehensive plan to address flooding in the subdivision and the addition of new impervious areas on Plainfield Road could exacerbate the problems if they are not properly mitigated.

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Thank you again for providing the corridor study report and project update. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 708-246-1800 x202 or jkoza@wsprings.com if you would like to discuss any of these comments or the project in further detail.

Regards,
VILLAGE OF WESTERN SPRINGS

Jefferey A. Koza, PE, CFM
Director of Engineering Services/Village Engineer

Cc: Ingrid Velkme, Village Manager
Casey Biernacki, Deputy Village Manager
Matthew Suppert, Director of Municipal Services
Sanjay Joshi, PE, Project Manager, Cook County Department of Highways and Transportation

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