



McHenry County

Division of Transportation

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McHenry County Division of Transportation Obtains Design Approval for Rakow Road project from the Illinois Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) is pleased to announce that design approval has been received for the Rakow Road Improvement Project between Illinois Route 31 and Ackman Road concluding the Phase I Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study. Since 2006, the MCDOT has been studying Rakow Road for capacity and safety improvements.

The purpose of the project is to provide an improved transportation system to serve the existing and growing travel demand on Rakow Road between Ackman Road and Illinois Route 31 within the City of Crystal Lake, the Village of Lake-in-the-Hills, and the Lake-in-the-Hills airport. The need to widen Rakow Road is in response to existing and projected traffic demand and the need for safe and efficient mobility along this heavily traveled and important east-west thoroughfare in southern McHenry County. Currently, Rakow Road handles over 30,000 vehicles a day. By 2030, Rakow Road is anticipated to handle up to 66,000 vehicles a day.

Rakow road will be widened to 3 lanes in each direction between Ackman Road and Pyott Road and 2 lanes in each direction between Pyott Road and Illinois Route 31. Turn lanes will be added at all intersections within the project corridor. The project will also involve the construction of a bicycle/pedestrian bridge which will carry the McHenry County Conservation District Prairie Trail over Rakow Road just east of Pyott Road.

Through the efforts of Congressman Donald Manzullo, \$5.72 million was earmarked in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) for this project toward the total estimated construction cost of \$31.7 million. Construction on the project could begin as early as 2010 depending on land acquisition which is required to construct the project and project readiness. Approximately 26 acres from 34 different parcels will be required to construct the entire project. Design engineering and preparation of contracts plans and land acquisition is anticipated to begin later this winter.

For more information, contact Adam Lehmann at (815)334-0309.

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