

**Item #4:**  
**Village Trustee Barry**  
Pathways Committee Meeting - June 15, 2012



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 800  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
312 454 0400  
www.cmap.illinois.gov

June 7, 2012

Mr. John A. Baczek, P.E.  
Project and Environmental Studies Section Chief  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
201 West Center Court  
Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096

Re: Illinois Route 53 at Old Hicks Road  
IDOT Project Number: P-91-451-09

Dear Mr. Baczek:

Enclosed in response to your request regarding bicycle facility planning and usage information in connection with preliminary engineering and environmental studies for intersection improvements at the intersection of Illinois Route 53 and Old Hicks Road in the Village of Long Grove, Lake County, is a map that shows existing and planned bicycle facilities from approved and adopted bikeway plans, including:

- *Northeastern Illinois Regional Greenways & Trails Plan* (Adopted by the Board of CMAP and the MPO Policy Committee, October 2009)
- *Lake County Division of Transportation, Transportation Plan – Bikeways Element*<sup>1</sup>
- *Northwest Municipal Conference Bike Plan – Regional Corridors* (Updated and Adopted by the NWMC Board in 2010)
- *Village of Long Grove Paths & Trails Map* (2007)

The attached map is based on information from currently available sources. The map shows not only existing and proposed bicycle facilities, but also how they relate to transit service, roadway facilities, and surrounding land uses.

As the map indicates, the project site lies along planned facilities specified in the *Village of Long Grove Paths & Trails Map*. These facilities are planned to run along Illinois Route 53 (between Long Grove Road and downtown Long Grove) and along Old Hicks Road (from project site, south to Chester Road, where it connects to paths in the Buffalo Grove Forest Preserve and around recently constructed park athletic fields).

**Current conditions:** Current conditions at the project site are shown below in **Figure 1**. As can be seen, the project site is a T-intersection. Currently, the minor street (Old Hicks Road) is stop controlled. Traffic along Illinois Route 53 has the right-of-way and does not stop. There are currently no treatments or elements specifically designed to accommodate non-motorized travelers at the project site.

---

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.lakecountyil.gov/Transportation/Publications/Documents/LakeMap\\_Back.pdf](http://www.lakecountyil.gov/Transportation/Publications/Documents/LakeMap_Back.pdf)

Figure 1: Current Conditions



Source: [www.maps.google.com](http://www.maps.google.com)

The posted speed limit along Illinois Route 53 is 45 mph. ADT is 17,200 to 19,800 with 1,600 trucks (IDOT, 2011). We do not have data for Old Hicks Road.

The land-use within the 1-mile buffer zone is largely residential and preserved and agricultural open space.

***Recommendation regarding accommodation of planned facility through coordination with the local and sub-regional entities.*** We recommend that IDOT consult with the Village of Long Grove and the Lake

County Division of Transportation in order to accommodate the planned facilities, as shown on our map, running along both Illinois Route 53 and Old Hicks Road at the project intersection. Specifically, we recommend that IDOT, in coordination with local and sub-regional entities, determine the location and nature of these facilities and how, if necessary, users of them will be able to safely cross the project intersection.

Incorporation of these facilities in the scoping and design of the project should include, if needed, PROWAG<sup>2</sup>-compliant sidewalks and marked crossings of roadways, including high-visibility, longitudinally-striped crosswalks, appropriate warning signage,<sup>3</sup> and other traffic control devices or engineering treatments intended to increase the safety of pedestrians and bicyclist at and near the project site.

Consideration and inclusion of these facilities in the planning, engineering, and re-construction of the intersection of Illinois Route 53 and Old Hicks Road will, if done now, reduce revision and associated costs in the future, and help ensure the safety of all roadway users in this area.

**CMAP Policy:** All highway reconstruction projects must be consistent with the officially adopted regional transportation plan. Therefore, please be aware of the following strategic guidance.

The adopted *GO TO 2040 Regional Comprehensive Plan* (posted at <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/2040/download-the-full-plan>) includes the following recommendations:

[Improvements to the bicycle and pedestrian system] can include sidewalks and other pedestrian facilities, off-street bicycle or multiuse paths, on-street facilities, or other efforts to provide accommodation for non-motorized transportation. Both bicycling and pedestrian travel are important components of an integrated, intermodal transportation system. GO TO 2040 supports improving the bicycle and pedestrian environment through projects such as these. The plan also supports policy-based

<sup>2</sup> See guidance in the proposed *Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines* (PROWAG) at <http://www.access-board.gov/prowag/nprm.htm>

<sup>3</sup> See MUTCD, **Section 2C.50 Non-Vehicular Warning Signs** (pp. 130-131) at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2009/part2c.pdf>.

efforts to improve the bicycle and pedestrian systems, such as the use of complete Streets principles to accommodate non-motorized travel in roadway design (p 272).

A good walking and bicycling environment is essential for our region. Barriers to pedestrians, bicyclists, and people with disabilities can discourage mobility, require expensive auto trips, or even prevent trips. GO TO 2040 supports improving conditions for non-motorized transportation. CMAP has played a central role in encouraging local, county, and state implementers to implement pedestrian and bicycle improvements, and these elements are addressed as critical elements of livable communities in GO TO 2040 (p. 358).

Lastly, please be aware that when in an urban area, the recently enacted "Complete Streets" law (Public Act 095-0665) requires that all road reconstruction projects accommodate bicycle and pedestrian modes of travel:

*"In or within one mile of an urban area, bicycle and pedestrian ways shall be established in conjunction with the construction, reconstruction, or other change of any State transportation facility."*

(This intersection is within one mile of an urban area).

Please use the enclosed map and this letter to help plan the accommodation of non-motorized traffic at and near the intersection of intersection of Illinois Route 53 and Old Hicks Road in the Village of Long Grove, Lake County. For this map, planned routes are conceptual. Alignments are approximate.

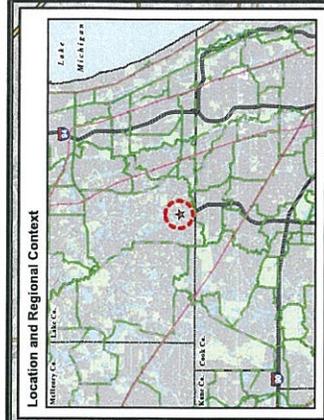
Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this information. If you have questions about this information, please contact me at 312-386-8822.

Sincerely,



John O'Neal  
Transportation Planner

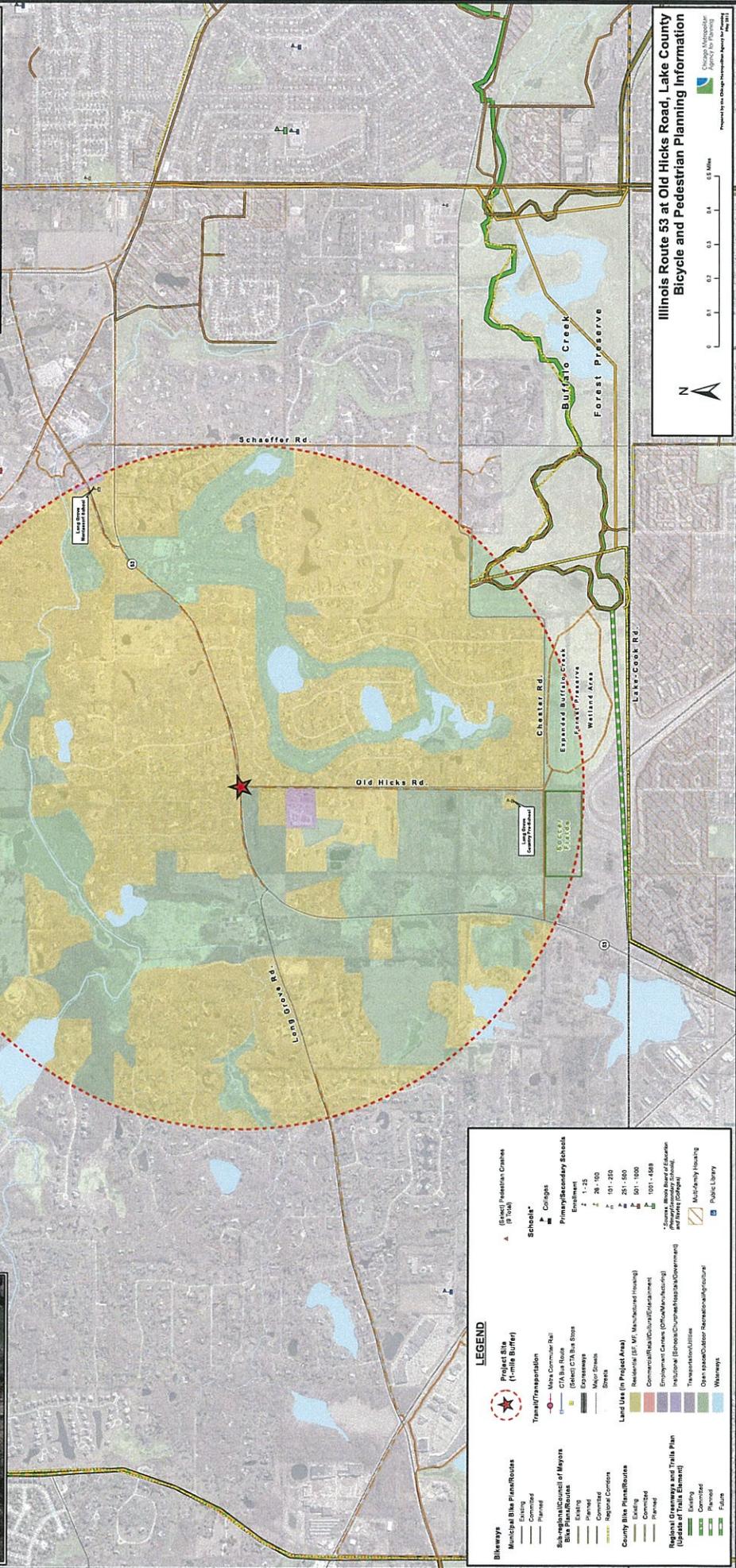
cc: Carlos Feliciano, IDOT District One, Bureau of Programming, Project and Environmental Studies  
Sam Mead, District 1 Bicycle Coordinator, IDOT  
Jim Stoner, District 1 Pedestrian Coordinator, IDOT  
Bruce Christensen, Lake County Division of Transportation  
Valbona Kokoshi, Lake County Division of Transportation  
David Lothspeich, Village of Long Grove  
James Houge, Village of Long Grove  
Dan Persky, Active Transportation Alliance  
Ed Barsotti, Executive Director, League of Illinois Bicyclists



Location and Regional Context



Current Conditions



**Illinois Route 53 at Old Hicks Road, Lake County  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Information**

Chicago Metropolitan  
Agency for Planning  
and Development  
Project for Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
Page 20 of 21

0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 1.4 1.6 1.8 Miles

N

**LEGEND**

**Bikeways**

- Municipal Bike Plans/Routes
  - Existing
  - Planned
- Sub-regional/Council of Mayors
  - Existing
  - Planned
- County Bike Plans/Routes
  - Existing
  - Planned
- Regional/City and County
  - Existing
  - Planned
  - Future

**Project Site (1-mile Buffer)**

- Star

**Transit/Transportation**

- Metra Commuter Rail
- CTA Bus Routes
- CTA Bus Stops
- Stations
- Highways
- Major Streets
- Streets

**Land Use (in Project Area)**

- Residential (SF, MF, Manufactured Housing)
- Commercial/Office/Manufacturing
- Employment Centers (Office/Manufacturing)
- Religious (Schools/Churches/Temples/Governments)
- Transportation/Utilities
- Open Space/Outdoor Recreation/Agricultural
- Waterways

**Schools\***

- Colleges
- Primary/Secondary Schools
- Enrollment
  - 1-25
  - 26-100
  - 101-250
  - 251-500
  - 501-1000
  - 1001-10000

\*Source: Illinois Board of Education and various local school districts.

**Public Library**

- Public Library