

Item #6E:
Report On Infrastructure Projects & Reviews
RPC Covered Bridge Restoration Or Replacement

May 6, 2014

Charlie Wachs
Village Trustee
3376 Old McHenry Road
Long Grove, IL 60047-9623

Re: Coffin Road Bridge

Dear Charlie,

Over the last several weeks, JLA and H.W. Lochner, Inc., have been coordinating with IDOT on possible funding for the treatment of Coffin Road Bridge. IDOT reviewed our Phase 1 *Architectural and Engineering Feasibility Study* and discussed in-house on the subject. The resulting information and recommendations were summarized by Brad Noack of Lochner, Inc.,:

Federal/state funding is reserved for bridges meeting current width/loading/etc. requirements. My experience is that one can ask for FHWA waivers for somewhat lesser requirements with good reason, but in my opinion, this is not possible for the Coffin Rd. Bridge given the severe load restriction and one lane (rather than two). Further, IDOT says there is no federal or state funding specifically for historic bridges, so even if the bridge is ultimately listed on the registry, no preference or extenuating waiver would be given. Based on the above, any repair project funding would be non-participatory local funds, expected to be somewhere around \$350,000 (my order of magnitude estimate).

IDOT has pointed out that federal/state funding is possible at this location, but only in the event that the bridge is replaced with one that meets current requirements for width/loading/etc. Procurement of this funding would be a competitive process and is by no means a guarantee, but is very possible. The federal/state portion would be 80% of the project cost of design and construction with the remaining 20% paid locally. I would expect 20% of the replacement option to be somewhere around \$150,000 (VERY preliminary order of magnitude estimate).

Considering the findings in the Phase 1 *Architectural and Engineering Feasibility Study* and our discussions with IDOT, we see two possible directions for this bridge:

1. Full restoration with removal of wood cover to new location (RECOMMENDED)
 - Restoration of Bridge in place to current load restrictions following preservation standards
 - Relocation of wood cover to nearby property to continue to act as a centerpiece for the Village
2. Removal to new location and replacement (ALTERNATE)
 - Removal of original structure to new adjacent/nearby location as footbridge

- New bridge of simple yet compliant design at site – meeting safety and updated loading standards – with wooden (or wood substitute) cover based on 1970's design.

In order to complete the Preliminary Repair Plan for this project, H.W. Lochner Inc. and JLA request your decision on which treatment you would like to pursue. Once the Repair Plan is complete for the chosen direction, work may move directly into the design phase (under a new contract).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you,



Carri Andrews
Project Architect, Johnson Lasky Architects