

# Olympian Drive Update

## September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The following is a summary of major items of activity for the Olympian Drive and North Lincoln Avenue projects over the past six months.

### **Project A – Olympian Drive from Apollo Drive to North Lincoln Avenue**

#### **ICC Petition Status**

Several status meetings have occurred with the Illinois Commerce Commission Administrative Law Judge and the attorney for interveners in the case. A site tour was held in April to view the area around North Lincoln and Olympian Drive. Coordination with the railroad on the length of the bridge has settled on a structure that is slightly longer than originally proposed, but meets the railroad criteria for adding another mainline west of their current tracks. Most recently the Judge has determined that the jurisdiction of the ICC only involves the construction of the bridge and the approaches to the bridge and the need for the roadway is based on the highway authority recommendation. No confirmed date has been set for the formal hearing.

#### **Environmental Clearances**

Nearly all environmental clearances have been received for the project. These include noise, wetland, threatened and endangered species, special waste, Illinois Department of Agriculture and the US Army Corp of Engineers. The only outstanding item is the cultural resources, which the Illinois State Archeological Survey has completed site testing of one specific location, which we are waiting for the results of.

#### **Design Status**

The latest design change for the project includes the design of a traditional intersection at Olympian Drive and Lincoln Avenue. This redesign was based on the advice of the County Board and their preference for a traditional intersection over a roundabout. The traditional intersection plans have been forwarded to IDOT, the City of Urbana and the County for review. The preliminary bridge design and structural geotechnical report for the construction of the bridge has also been completed and forwarded to IDOT for review.

#### **ROW Acquisition**

All ROW plats, appraisals and review appraisals have been completed for the property required for construction of the project. Meetings have been held with two of the three landowners to discuss prices for the acquisition. As of yet no settlement amounts have been reached and the County Board has authorized the use of condemnation if a settlement can't be reached by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Public Meeting**

No dates have been set for the final public meeting. If the ICC approved the construction of the bridge and the final cultural resources report shows no additional archeological work is necessary, a final meeting will be scheduled.

### **Project X – North Lincoln Avenue from Saline Court to Olympian Drive**

#### **Environmental Clearances**

Nearly all environmental clearances have been received for the project. These include noise, threatened and endangered species, special waste and the Illinois Department of Agriculture. The only outstanding items are the wetland impacts and cultural resources. The wetland locations in the corridor were recently received by the State and reviewed. The location of some earthwork areas were revised to avoid the wetlands and this information was sent to IDOT for approval. The determination of cultural resource locations by the Illinois State Archeological Survey is yet to be determined.

#### **Design Status**

The preliminary design of the revised layout approved by the Champaign County Board has been completed. This includes both a two-lane interim construction and four-lane ultimate construction. The footprint of these design were used to update the environmental clearances for the project and to develop revised cost estimates. A report supplement has been prepared and is waiting for final environmental clearance before being forwarded to IDOT for approval.

#### **Public Meeting**

Once all environmental clearances are received, a public meeting will be schedule.