

# Questions and Answers



LIBERTYVILLE TOWNSHIP

Road District

## Oak Spring Road Bridge Improvements Phase I Study Public Meeting #2 – August 11, 2020

The Road District received the following Questions and Comments during the comment period for the Public Information Meeting held on August 11, 2020. Answers and responses follow in **bold**.

- A. I note the inclusion of bicycle railings and paths on the bridge plans. Will there be any improvements that will allow for safer use of Oak Spring Road itself for pedestrians and cyclists as a part of this project? With particular reference to that portion of the road to the east of the bridge, a sidewalk along the shoulder of the road would be a huge improvement to safety and enjoyment.

**Oak Spring Road is under the jurisdiction of both the Road District and the Village of Libertyville. At this time, due to funding limitations, there are no plans to reconstruct the road to add bike lanes or sidewalks.**

- B. My neighbor has advised of your contact info. I'm aware the pending bridge on Oak Spring Road is going to be fixed, widened, and allow for bike traffic on both sides. This sounds great. If there is a way to have the bike path continue on to the one at the lake, and continue in the opposite direction from the bridge to St. Mary's Road also, that would be ideal!

**Oak Spring Road is multi-jurisdictional from St. Mary's Road to Appley Avenue. Portions of the road are maintained by the Road District and the Village of Libertyville. Other than pothole filling and possibly pavement patching, I don't believe the Village intends to resurface for a number of years and I do not believe they are planning to add any bike lanes. In addition to constructing a new bridge, the Township Road District will resurface our portion of Oak Spring Road when the Village does. Currently, the Road District does not have plans to add any bike lanes. However, the resurfacing will include the paved shoulder which should improve the riding surface.**

- C. I have volunteered cleaning up the Des Plaines River for over 20 years, and I have some concerns.
- A. Over the years, we've seen bridge workers throw their trash into the river, instead of into proper trash disposal receptacles. This is simply not acceptable. Will there be an adequate number of trash cans, and will the road workers be instructed to use them, instead of the river, for waste disposal?

**The bridge reconstruction will be built using Federal Funds and will have to comply with IDOT Standards. The Road District will work to ensure that in addition to the Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, attention to preserving the River is included in the bid documents.**

- B. I'm concerned about where the job site portable toilet will be located. As I'm sure you're aware, the parking lot at the canoe launch floods with some frequency. Keeping the portable toilet and its contents out of the river should be a top priority.

**The construction documents will include this information to help ensure that sanitary facilities are kept out of the floodplain.**

- C. What is the plan for construction debris containment? How are you going to keep both old and new bridge parts out of the river? This seems to be a typical issue with bridge repair projects over rivers, though there doesn't seem to be a good reason for it.

**The bridge reconstruction will be built using Federal Funds and will have to comply with IDOT Standards. The Road District will work to ensure that in addition to the Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, attention to preserving the River is included in the bid documents.**

The Road District would like to thank all the residents that attended the meeting and discussed the Oak Spring Road Bridge project with our representatives and engineers and for those that provided comments and input. We look forward to concluding our Phase I study and moving on to the preparation of construction documents and ultimately construction of a new bridge.

Martin J. Neal  
Libertyville Township Highway Commissioner