



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

February 21, 2012

CIRCULAR LETTER 2012-06

ILLINOIS STATE BIKEWAY PLAN – REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS/DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS/MAYORS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

The Illinois Department of Transportation has issued a Request for Information (RFI) concerning the Illinois Bikeway Plan. The purpose of this RFI is to solicit specific ideas and goals that will help create a comprehensive and effective State Bikeway Plan. Comments and suggestions will be considered as the department develops a Request for Proposals (RFP) to create a State Bikeway Plan for Illinois. The department is not looking for any bids on a State Bikeway Plan or seeking qualifications for potential contracts related to the development of a State Bikeway Plan at this time. This RFI is for information and planning purposes only. Please refer to the RFI for requirements on comment submittal. Comments are due by March 15, 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darrell Lewis".

Darrell W. Lewis, P. E.
Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

Attachment

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

For

**Illinois State Bikeway Plan
Office of Planning and Programming
Illinois Department of Transportation**

Information Due Date: **March 15, 2012**

Information Due Time: **1:30 p.m. (prevailing time)**

Questions regarding general Request for Information (RFI) procedures should be directed to: Lara Erewele Illinois Department of Transportation Bureau of Business Services 2300 S. Dirksen Parkway – Room 302 Springfield, Illinois 62764 217-524-7939 217-782-3409 - fax Omolara.Erewele@illinois.gov	Send or deliver eight (8) copies of your Request for Information/Qualifications (RFI) response by due date and time to: James. M. Reinhart Attn: Lara Erewele Illinois Department of Transportation Bureau of Business Services 2300 S. Dirksen Parkway – Room 302 Springfield, Illinois 62764
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Completed by:

Association/Organization Name (if applicable)

Association/Organization Representative Name (or individual's name if no affiliation)

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

Association/Organization Representative Signature (or individual's signature if no affiliation)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

For

Illinois State Bikeway Plan Office of Planning and Programming Illinois Department of Transportation

Introduction

The Department would like to thank you in advance for reviewing this Request for Information (RFI) and assisting us in this effort. Your comments and suggestions will be considered as the Department develops a Request for Proposals (RFP) to create a State Bikeway Plan for Illinois. The department is not looking for any bids on a State Bikeway Plan or seeking qualifications for potential contracts related to the development of a State Bikeway Plan at this time. This RFI is for information and planning purposes only.

The purpose of this RFI is to solicit specific ideas and goals that will help create a comprehensive and effective State Bikeway Plan. Before the department issues a Request for Proposal on a State Bikeway Plan we felt it would be advantageous to gather input from outside sources that are familiar with the needs of the bicycling community in the state and their region. Certainly public involvement will be a critical component of a State Bikeway Plan, but the Department wanted to seek early input to shape our approach to the State Bikeway Plan.

A State Bikeway Plan will provide a means to share information with the public, provide a vision for future development of the bikeway system and will need to address several issues. Following are the Department's thoughts on some of the elements we felt should be part of the State Bikeway Plan. These are provided only to share our initial ideas and provide you with a sample of items that may be included in a State Bikeway Plan.

- gather input from the public and special interest groups
- gather information on existing bikeway accommodations throughout the state to produce an inventory with a possibility of mapping the bikeway system
- determine what improvements are needed in the near and long term future and the type of investments required to meet those needs
- identify funding mechanisms currently available for bikeway related improvements and discussion of future funding options
- identify potential corridors for future investment
- evaluate and identify projects that provide the best benefits for the region and/or state
- educate the public on state and federal policies and guidelines related to bicycle accommodations
- investigate possible accommodations related to the US Bicycle Route system
- explore best practices and innovative ideas to improve safety
- guide the evolving development of this growing modal option
- investigate methodologies which can be used to guide project selection based on benefits and other related factors

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

For

Illinois State Bikeway Plan Office of Planning and Programming Illinois Department of Transportation

We would appreciate your response to this RFI in the following format:

- Cover Page
 - Association/Organization/Vendor name (if applicable)
 - Association/Organization/Vendor Representative or individual's name
 - Contact information for the Association/Organization/Vendor representative or individual
 - Signature of the Association/Organization/Vendor representative or individual
- Response to the substance of this RFI (please include attached questionnaire, your responses, and any additional comments or suggestions you might have)
- Brochures and/or other related literature from your Association/Organization/Company

All information included in the RFI will be kept confidential by the Department to the extent permitted by law.

Please note that we cannot reimburse you for any expenses associated with responding to this RFI, but we do appreciate your efforts and value your input.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

For

Illinois State Bikeway Plan Office of Planning and Programming Illinois Department of Transportation

RFI Questionnaire

Please review the following list of questions and respond as completely as possible.

Development of a State Bikeway Plan

1. Are local communities aware of the funding opportunities available to them for accommodating bicyclists?
2. Is there enough coordination between adjacent communities or perhaps between communities and a Metropolitan Planning Organization for development of bikeway corridors and connecting projects?
3. Do communities take into consideration the potential local and regional significance and benefits a comprehensive bikeway system can have?
4. What do you see as the critical elements in accommodating the near and long term needs of the bicycling community?
5. What factors should be considered when bikeway projects are selected for funding?
6. Is the Department doing enough to support bikeway improvements? If not, what suggestions do you have?
7. How important do you feel the U.S. Bicycle Route System is to the State of Illinois and how much emphasis should the Department put on coordinating and mapping out a connecting route through Illinois?
8. Are you aware of any innovative funding mechanisms other states or communities have used to fund bikeway projects?
9. What would be an appropriate goal or a mission statement for a State Bikeway Plan?
10. In addition to the questions/ideas presented above, what other elements do you consider to be critical to the development of a State Bikeway Plan?