

PUBLIC NOTICE: Section 4(f) De Minimis Impact

Project: IL 84 Reconstruction from the Rock River to 0.2 mile north of US 6 and Cleveland Road from IL 84 to 0.2 mile east

Section: (2, 12MFT)R-3

Location: Henry County

Action: Notice of Proposed Section 4(f) De Minimis Impact Finding
Description of Project and 4(f) Impact

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is planning to reconstruct IL Route 84 from the Rock River to 0.2 miles north of US Route 6 through the City of Colona, IL. The purpose is to improve operating conditions along the route, improve safety, address roadway mobility, correct existing geometric deficiencies and encourage pedestrian and bicycle usage along IL Route 84. This project requires the temporary acquisition of land from the Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park; and the City of Colona Memorial Park, which are protected under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

- **Impacted Property #1:** Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park
- **Nature of Use:** Temporary Easement – Temporary occupancy for the construction of a retaining wall along the east side of IL-84, and for the construction of extensions to the pedestrian tunnel under IL-84 and along the north side of the Hennepin Canal

• **Avoidance/Minimization/Restoration:**

Avoidance: The IL 84 alignment is centered over an existing embankment created for the roadway. The alignment is not changing, allowing the existing embankment to accommodate the widened roadway and the addition of the multi-use path on the east side of IL 84. Additionally, the use of a retaining wall along the east side of IL 84 will be incorporated to eliminate the need to place fill within the existing waters of the Hennepin Canal's 4(f) resource.

Minimization measures incorporated: Design of steeper side slopes (1:3) than standard within an urbanized area along the west side of the roadway embankment over the canal.

Grading was developed to ensure all "grading" activities to be accomplished entirely within the State's Existing ROW.

Narrow pieces of temporary easement are needed to allow for construction activities of Storm Sewer outlets toward the Canal with applicable permanent erosion control measures that include permanent riprap.

Restoration: All disturbed areas will be re vegetated / re seeded at the completion of the project, and returned to the current green space, and maintain the current nature and intended use of the Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park.

- **Impacted Property #2:** City of Colona Memorial Park
- **Nature of Use:** Temporary Easement – Temporary access rights of ROW managed by the City of Colona will be acquired where the improvement abuts and crosses the Colona Memorial Park property in order to construct a multi-use path on the northeast side of IL 84 and on the east side of Cleveland Road.

Temporary easements and a drainage easement will be acquired to construct an underground enclosed storm sewer across the site.

Temporary impacts will close access across the construction of the multi-use path and across the storm sewer construction to Colona Memorial Park in limited durations during their respective construction operations. Additionally, on-street parking along IL 84, Cleveland Road, and Colona Road will be restricted during construction.

The landscaped fountain, garden area, paved walkway within the park, and seating area will not be impacted by this project, and will remain open at all times.

• **Avoidance/Minimization/Restoration:**

Avoidance : The IL 84 alignment is centered on the existing roadway. The alignment is not significantly changing, allowing the improvement to minimize right-of-way impacts along both sides of the alignment. As noted, the improvement is designed to avoid any impacts to the garden, bench, and paved areas of the site, and only grassy areas will be disturbed.

Minimization measures incorporated : The side slopes adjacent to the multi-use path that will be located on the south and west edges of this park will be constructed with a similar elevation as the existing ground allowing for nominal grading within the site to provide positive gravitational drainage. This will allow for the entire grassy portion of the site to be utilized for community events after construction.

Restoration : All disturbed areas will be re vegetated / re seeded at the completion of the project, and returned to the current green space, and maintain the current nature and intended use of the Colona Memorial Park.

Proposed Section 4(f) De Minimis Impact Finding

IDOT has determined that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes of the two sites, the Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park and the City of Colona Memorial Park, that qualify the resources for protection under Section 4(f). Therefore, IDOT intends to seek a " *de minimis* " impact finding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Opportunity for Public Comment

This is an opportunity for the public to review and comment on the effects of the project on the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park and the City of Colona Memorial Park for protection under Section 4(f). The Section 4(f) *De Minimis* documentation, which outlines the mitigation and minimization measures of site restoration and reseeded is available for public review at:

- **Website:** <https://idot.illinois.gov/programs-and-projects/featured-projects/il-84-colona>
- **Office:** Illinois Department of Transportation
Office of Highways Project Implementation
Region 2, District 2
819 Depot Ave.
Dixon, Illinois 61021

Comments [WC(1) [JP2] can be submitted by May 1 , 2026 via email to Brad. Cushman@illinois.gov or by mail to:
Illinois Department of Transportation
Attn. Brad Cushman
819 Depot Ave.
Dixon, IL 61021

[WC(1) Is IDOT going to specify a public comment period?

[JP2] The date may need to be adjusted so there is at least 30-days from the time this notice is posted.

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