



# McHenry County

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## Division of Transportation

Joseph R. Korpalski, Jr., P.E.  
Director of Transportation/County Engineer

Fleming Road Improvements  
Introduction Letter

January 8, 2010

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To Whom It May Concern:

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) has contracted with TranSystems to perform an engineering study for Fleming Road from Country Club Road to Illinois Route 120 (see attached Location Map). The purpose of this letter is to inform you, as a property owner or resident along the project limits, of the beginning of the engineering study process. The project goal, topographic survey subsurface geotechnical investigation, project schedule, public involvement, and communication are described as follows:

### **Project Goal**

The goal of the project is to develop a preferred improvement plan which replaces deteriorated pavement, improves safety, limits disruption to property owners, and maintains the character of the corridor. This goal will be achieved by engaging with the project stakeholders which include residents, property owners, local officials, townships, police and fire departments throughout the project duration. Input from and discussions with project stakeholders will help shape the look of the improvement.

### **Topographic Survey and Subsurface Geotechnical Investigation**

The engineering study process will begin with a topographic survey and subsurface geotechnical investigation to collect information used in the study. The topographic survey will identify right-of-way and property corners for use in the preliminary design process and gather physical features along the roadway. Please allow them to enter your lands while performing their required duties as consultants of the County. They are authorized to do this in accordance with Chapter 605, Act 5, Section 4-503 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes (Illinois Highway Code) which reads as follows:

“For the purpose of making subsurface soil surveys, preliminary surveys and determinations of the amount and extent of such land, rights or other property required, the Department, or any county, by its officers, agents, or employees, after written notice to the known owners and occupants, if any, may enter upon the lands or waters of any persons, but subject to responsibility for all damages which shall be occasioned thereby.”

This survey crew will conduct their work in a manner intended to avoid property or crop damage, but any damages caused by their operations will be the responsibility of the County in accordance with the above statute. During this process, you will notice flags and wooden stakes being placed in the right-of-way and around your property. These items are used by the surveyors to mark their reference points and do not indicate where the limits of any improvements will necessarily be.

Also, trees along the corridor will be tagged for identification of the size, health, and species. The tree tags will not compromise the health of the trees, and if a tree is tagged it does not mean that it will necessarily be removed during the project.

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During the subsurface geotechnical investigation, soil samples and pavement cores will be collected with drilling equipment. Samples will be tested to document the existing soil conditions and provide stability and drainage characteristics for supporting a new roadway. This work will be mostly limited to the roadway and shoulder area.

The topographic survey is anticipated to begin in the next few weeks (weather permitting) and the geotechnical investigation are anticipated to begin the next few months.

### **Project Schedule**

The project is initiated with this introduction letter and is anticipated to be in study and design phases for 2010 and 2011 and the construction phase in late 2011 through 2012. The following are a few early estimated schedule milestones:

*January 2010* – Begin Topographic Survey

*January/February 2010* – Newsletter Update and Invitation to Initial Public Meeting

*February 2010* – Initial Public Meeting

*February/March 2010* – Begin Geotechnical Investigation

*March 2010* – Issue Resident Questionnaire

### **Public Involvement**

The County's intention is to regularly correspond with the project stakeholders, solicit suggestions, concerns, and ideas in the form of a resident questionnaire, and provide opportunities for discussions with the public during the study and design phases. Input from the stakeholders will be combined with design criteria and practices to arrive at a consensus for the preferred improvement.

### **Communication**

The primary means to communicate information to the stakeholders will be through newsletters and a project website. The first newsletter, anticipated to be mailed in January or February of 2010, will include information about the time and location of an initial Public Informational Meeting. A website is currently being developed to provide the user the opportunity to keep informed and offer input on project related issues. Look for more information about the website in the first newsletter. If you know of an individual that desires to be added to the mailing list, please contact TranSystems, our project consultant, using the information below.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. David Block, Project Manager with TranSystems at (847) 407-5313 / [dwblock@transystems.com](mailto:dwblock@transystems.com) or myself at (815) 334-4980 / [wrdittrich@co.mchenry.il.us](mailto:wrdittrich@co.mchenry.il.us).

Very truly yours,



Walter R. Dittrich, P.E.  
Design Manager

cc: David W. Block, P.E., TranSystems  
McHenry County Board members