

MEMORANDUM

November 10, 2006

MEMO TO: John Perry, Village Administrator

FROM: Christopher Bethel, Acting Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: I-355 Extension Soundwall –
I-55 between Woodward Avenue and Lemont Road

Background

Information on a potential soundwall along I-55 between Woodward Avenue and Lemont Road was previously presented to the Village Board and discussed in a workshop on February 16, 2006 (Attachment 1). The general direction at the conclusion of the February 16th meeting was for Village staff to stay alert for future available funding options or other new information that would impact this project (see Attachment 2 for workshop minutes). Since the February meeting Village staff has continued to diligently search for funding sources and opportunities in an attempt to assist the approximately forty (40) homes who would benefit from a soundwall.

Toll Authority – Interstate 55 / Interstate 355 Northeast Quadrant Noise Abatement Study

Following a meeting with residents and Village staff in June, 2006, the Tollway agreed to conduct a soundwall study. That study was completed by Wight Engineering and received by the Village in October (Attachment 3). The study offers four potential walls along Heritage Parkway which would be 4,500 feet in length and 15 feet high. Depending on construction materials, the cost estimate for the wall is between \$1.7 and \$6.7 million. Rocco Zuccherro, Deputy Chief of Engineering for Planning for the Tollway confirmed these are conservative cost estimates based on a stand-alone project. Mr. Zuccherro is confident that there would be a significant cost savings to any of the scenarios if the Village took advantage of their existing Tollway contractors working on the I-355 extension.

Potential Course of Action

Past Village policy and practice is that soundwalls have not been funded nor maintained by the Village. In an effort to secure outside funding for this project, Village staff has explored a wide variety of potential funding sources, which are detailed in Attachment 4, including a general description and likelihood of obtaining funding. Staff's conclusion is that there is limited funding available for soundwall projects.

In a recent conversation with Mr. Zuccherro, he stated that the Tollway believes that based on the timing of the Tollway extension project and conditions of the Heritage Parkway frontage, the Tollway would assist with the funding of a soundwall under their 50/50 cost sharing program. Mr. Zuccherro has stated that the materials, technical documentation and locations for the four soundwall options identified in the Wight report and the results of the prior noise analysis meet the requirements of the cost sharing program. The approval of Tollway funding is subject to the

necessary approvals by the Tollway Board and the submittal of documentation by the Village regarding the Farmingdale Development meeting the cost share program. Mr. Zucchero also committed, subject to Village direction, to completing the design engineering and obtaining a bid from the Tollway contractor for the construction of this soundwall.

Considering Village policy and funding options noted in Attachment 4 and Tollway information noted above including contractor pricing, staff now believes that a 4,500 foot wood wall may be completed utilizing 100% outside funding (Attachment 5). The Tollway would attempt to complete the plans and obtain a bid for this work in early January 2007 with an assumption that work would be completed in Winter 2007/2008. Subject to confirmation by Mr. Zucchero, but as a general estimate, the Tollway would need to have direction by the Village by June 2007 in order to proceed with the work by a Tollway contractor. The proposed location of the wall at the access control fence between Heritage Parkway and I-55 would place the structure under the ownership of the Tollway or be transferred to IDOT.

Workshop Questions to Address

Based on the information presented above, Village staff is seeking direction on three points:

- 1) Should Village staff pursue the funding opportunity the Tollway has presented for a 50/50 cost share, along with presenting a request to Congresswoman Biggert for consideration to obtain funding through Federal Highway Transportation Funds, and a contribution from Gallagher and Henry in order to construct a 4,500 foot wood soundwall (which is the lowest cost option offered)?
- 2) Should Village staff request that the Tollway complete the engineering plans for the soundwall and obtain bids from the Tollway contractor for this work in order to have an actual project cost?
- 3) If a funding shortfall occurs between the bid cost for the soundwall and the amount of funding available, or if a funding source fails to contribute, should Village staff pursue a cost sharing arrangement between the Village and residents to split the remainder or shortfall?

SUMMARY OF SOUNDWALL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

<u>Source</u>	<u>Feedback Provided</u>	<u>Funding Information</u>
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority	The Tollway has stated they are willing to fund the construction of a soundwall at a 50/50 cost share, subject to the submittal of necessary documentation and approval by the Tollway Board.	Possible
Gallagher and Henry Construction	The McAdams annexation agreement (includes the Farmingdale and Vicente areas) has no requirement for funding of a soundwall.	No funding
Gallagher and Henry Construction	As a part of the Smoter Development, the Village can request funding to assist with the cost of a soundwall. The Gallagher and Henry contribution would not exceed \$362,292 which is 21% of the cost of a wood wall based on the proportionate section of the wall in front of the Smoter development.	Possible
IDOT / Design and Environment Bureau	Per Barbara Stevens of IDOT the funding program for soundwalls is defunct, try to contact the IDOT programming department.	No funding
IDOT / Programming Bureau	Per Tim Milam of IDOT there is currently no IDOT funding program for soundwalls.	No funding
Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)	Per Tim Milam of IDOT, and confirmed at the ITEP website, soundwalls are not an eligible project under ITEP funding.	No funding
Federal Transportation Bill Funding – request for new funding	Per John Noak from Congresswoman Biggert's office there is significant competition for funding and with more competition the funding is not likely to be as high as it was for prior projects. The timeline for knowing whether funding would be available is approximately October 2007. The maximum amount that could be expected is \$400,000, but could be less.	Possible
Federal Transportation Bill Funding – request for transfer of funding	Staff inquired of John Noak from Congresswoman Biggert's office if Darien decides not to use their funding, could it be transferred to the Village. It is not possible to transfer funding.	No funding
DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference	Per Tam Kutzmark, a soundwall next to an existing roadway is not an eligible project for highway funds under the surface transportation program (STP).	No funding

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES AND PROJECT COSTS

WOOD SOUNDWALL - \$1,725,200 (actual cost from Wight Study)

This example assumes no savings to the cost estimate from the Wight Study by using an existing Tollway Contractor working on the I-355 extension. Mr. Zucchero has stated he is confident there would be a significant cost savings if the Village took advantage of the the existing Tollway Contractors.

Source	Level of Funding
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority - 50%	\$862,600
Gallagher and Henry Construction - 21%	\$362,292
Federal Transportation Bill Funding - maximum amount	\$400,000
TOTAL FUNDING	\$1,624,892
Wood Soundwall Cost	\$1,725,200
(SHORTFALL) / EXCESS	(\$100,308)

WOOD SOUNDWALL - \$1,400,000 (hypothetical cost example)

This example assumes a savings of \$325,200 by using an existing Tollway Contractor.

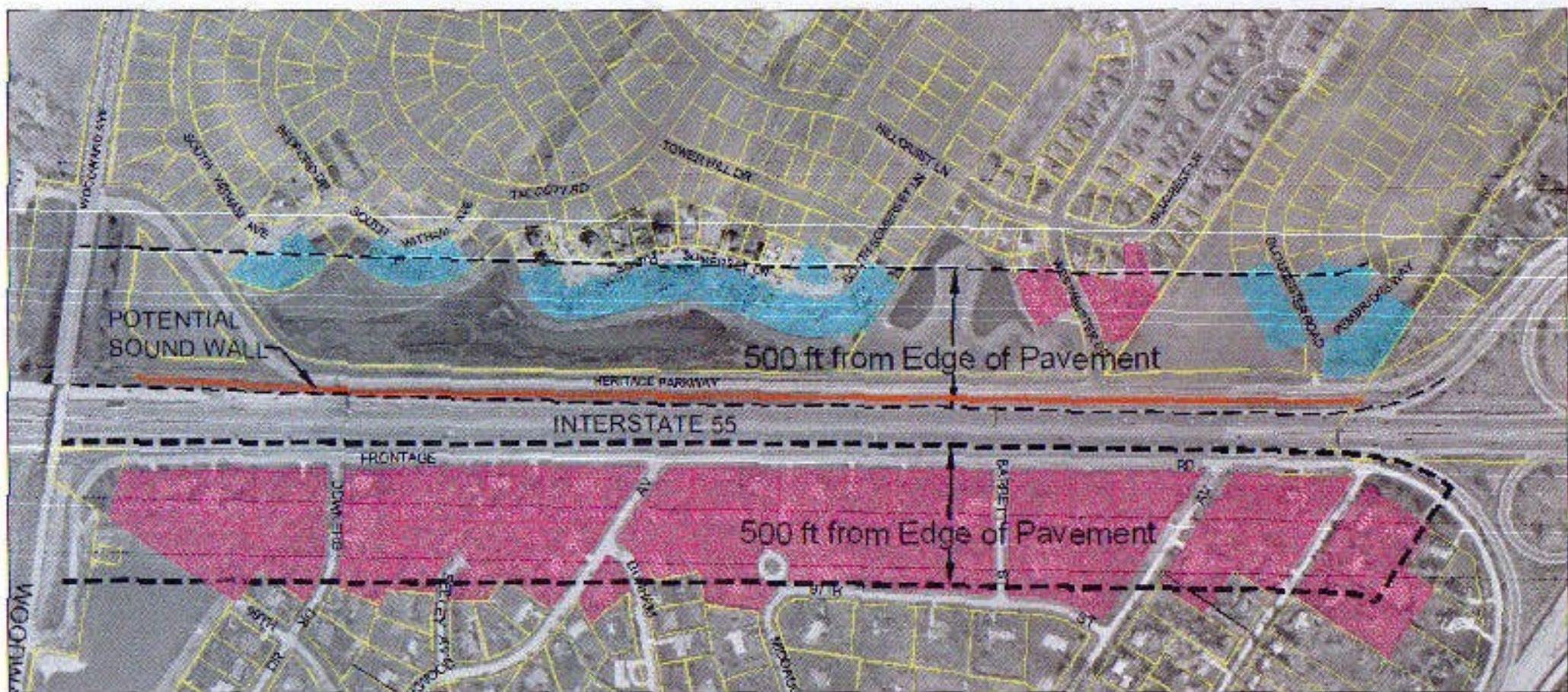
Source	Level of Funding
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority - 50%	\$700,000
Gallagher and Henry Construction - 21%	\$294,000
Federal Transportation Bill Funding - maximum amount	\$400,000
TOTAL FUNDING	\$1,394,000
Wood Soundwall Cost	\$1,400,000
(SHORTFALL) / EXCESS	(\$6,000)

WOOD SOUNDWALL - \$1,100,000 (hypothetical cost example)

This example assumes a savings of \$625,200 by using an existing Tollway Contractor.

Source	Level of Funding
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority - 50%	\$550,000
Gallagher and Henry Construction - 21%	\$231,000
Federal Transportation Bill Funding - maximum amount	\$400,000
TOTAL FUNDING	\$1,181,000
Wood Soundwall Cost	\$1,100,000
(SHORTFALL) / EXCESS	\$81,000

-  PLATTED BEFORE APRIL 1999
-  PLATTED AFTER APRIL 1999



BENEFITED PROPERTIES - NOISE WALL

REV. OCTOBER 13, 2008
REV. MARCH 10, 2009
DECEMBER 13, 2009