

VILLAGE OF LOMBARD

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"Our shared Vision for Lombard is a community of excellence exemplified by its government working together with residents and businesses to create a distinctive sense of spirit and an outstanding quality of life."

"The Mission of the Village of Lombard is to provide superior and responsive governmental services to the people of Lombard." January 20, 2011

Kristi Lafleur, Executive Director The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority 2700 Ogden Avenue Downers Grove, IL 60515

Re: ISTHA Strategic Advisory Report – Lombard Comments and Response

Dear Ms. Lafleur:

Following up from the correspondence Village staff sent to your attention in December, 2010, the Lombard Village Board has reviewed the recently completed ISTHA Strategic Advisory Report "A Roadmap for the Future - Recommendations and Guiding Principles for Illinois Tollway Decision-Making" produced by the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (ISTHA). The Village respectfully transmits this correspondence to ISTHA for consideration.

The Village recognizes that the document serves as a policy statement and includes eight guiding principles and four priority areas. In the Village's review, we offer the following comments:

### Environmental Stewardship

Two of the principles (Principles 2 and 3) and Priority Area 2 recognize the need for environmental stewardship, including wetland mitigation, stormwater management and water quality improvements. The report also identifies sustainable practices in plant material selection to accommodating non-motorized transportation linkages. The principles also state that the ISTHA develop a policy to incorporate local and regional plans into their project planning. To this end, staff will be forwarding under separate cover the recently adopted Open Space Plan component of the Village Comprehensive Plan for incorporation and inclusion within their planning activities. Moreover, the Village would like to be made an active participant in future planning and engineering studies on projects within the Village's planning area. Lastly, we recommend increased participation and facilitation in establishing such linkages, in the form of partnerships, inter-governmental agreements and funding opportunities.

## Collaboration with Public Agencies

Principle 6 states that the ISTHA become more active in land use planning on a regional basis. We suggest that these concepts can be conceptually supported but we also note that such land use decisions, such as density increases, must be reviewed carefully as such increase can excessively burden other transportation or infrastructure components of the community.

# Promoting the Regional Economy - Maximize Land Planning

Priority Area 1 (page 7) identified a number of activities to maximize the usage of tollway property to serve a wide variety of needs, including an "asset usage study" for non-road related uses. The Village would welcome the opportunity to play an integral role in such analyses so that such studies can advance the goals of the ISTHA and the Village.

### Partnerships with Communities

The report notes the partnership roles the ISTHA can have with municipalities. The Village applauds these efforts and looks forward to partnering with the Tollway on bridge/viaduct aesthetic enhancements and other improvements that draw attention to the community.

### Congestion Pricing

The report introduces the concept of congestion pricing as a potential method to address congestion issues. As this is a very complex issue, the Village would like to be kept informed of any future studies pertaining to this issue and such studies should address the economic impacts of the pricing structures on the regional transportation network as well as the impacts of such pricing systems on the adjacent local, non-tollway roadway networks. This issue was of critical concern to our Transportation & Safety Committee.

### Zoning Coordination

The Village is pleased to see that the report recognizes the municipal role of zoning in tollway decision-making, particularly as it relates to truck traffic usage. The report also seeks support from local communities as it relates to drop-off and pick-up times for deliveries. The Village is willing to work with the ISTHA on this effort, but we must also recognize the impact of delivery limitations may have on existing or proposed businesses within the community.

In closing, we welcome the opportunity to strengthen our working relations with the ISTHA as it continues it planning and development activities.

Sincerely,

VILLAGE OF LOMBARD

William J. Mueller Village President

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