

KELSEY ROAD BRIDGE OVER FLINT CREEK

LAKE COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION



CHALLENGE

Replace a deteriorated roadway bridge over Flint Creek, its adjoining wetlands and a forest preserve bike path.

Kelsey Road is a busy county highway carrying traffic along the east side of the Fox River through the Lake Barrington – Tower Lakes area. The original bridge had deteriorated to an extent that a replacement bridge was needed.

The Lake County Division of Transportation called on HLR to develop a plan to design a bridge that would minimize impacts to Flint Creek and its wetlands, provide comfortable passage for the pedestrian/bike path along the creek and provide aesthetic features to better fit in its prairie-wetland surroundings.

SOLUTION

HLR began with thorough scoping and coordination of the project with Lake County, Illinois. This enabled the design of a bridge that met the county's cost requirements while handling future traffic growth, crossing Flint Creek with minimal impact, improving clearances for an existing pedestrian/bike path and including aesthetic treatments for compatibility with the surrounding prairie-type wetlands. Preliminary work also included coordination with environmental regulatory agencies for wetland and floodplain involvements.

To gain approval for the project, HLR coordinated with regulatory agencies including:

- IDOT for cultural resources review
- Lake County Stormwater Management Commission for stormwater drainage and erosion control issues
- US Army Corps of Engineers for wetland and Waters of the US issues
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources for biological and natural resource issues
- Lake County Forest Preserve District for bike path issues, roadside plantings and bridge aesthetic treatments

HLR also provided Phase II detailed engineering design for the project. Plans, specifications and estimates were provided including a detailed traffic detour plan to route traffic safely during construction.

RESULTS

Construction of the project was completed in 2006.

Benefits of the proposed project include:

- Wider, safer roadway
- Improved bike path underpass
- Environmentally compatible with surroundings

CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

\$1.2 Million

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2006 APWA PROJECT OF THE YEAR

