

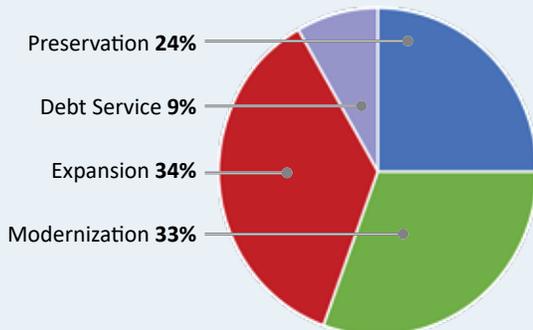
Planning and Building Lake County's Roadway System

Each year, the Lake County Division of Transportation puts together a multi-year highway improvement program which forms the basis for the county board's budget approvals. The program specifies improvements LCDOT is planning to make on the county's roadway system over the coming 5-year period. The complexity of individual improvements determines the amount of time a project remains in the pipeline from the concept phase to beginning of construction.

The publication of the highway program provides the public and municipalities with the opportunity to review and respond to the listed projects. Lake County residents and the traveling public can express opinions regarding proposed construction projects at public meetings or by submitting comments at other times to county officials. All public comments are taken into consideration and balanced with the need to improve safety, reduce congestion and support economic development.

Projects by Category

(2019-2024 Highway Improvement Program)



Lake County adheres to the philosophy of proper maintenance of the existing highway system and improving its operation before allocating resources to the expansion of the system. Therefore, Lake County projects are classified into 3 categories in priority order for balanced funding consideration. The categories are preservation projects, which serve to keep county highways in good condition; modernization projects, which reduce traffic bottlenecks; and expansion projects, which help meet traffic growth demands.

Lake County Division of Transportation

Our mission is to provide a safe, efficient and innovative transportation system to enhance mobility, economic development and quality of life in Lake County.



600 West Winchester Road
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

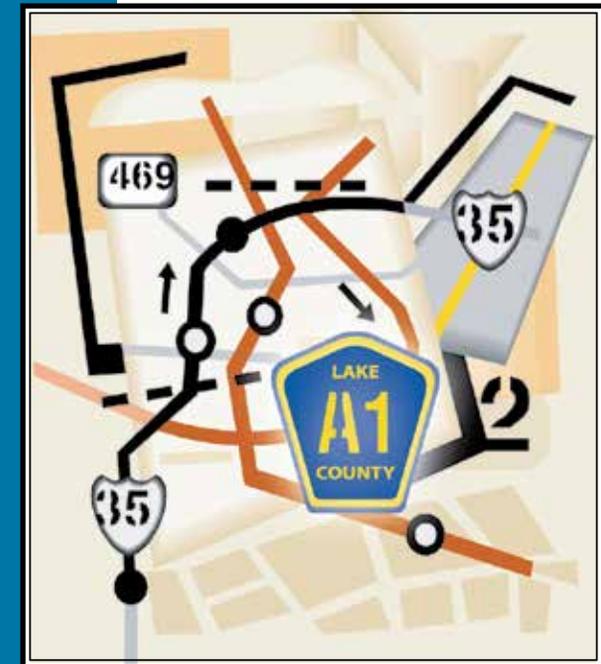
Phone: 847.377.7400
Fax: 847.984.5888

email: dot@lakecountyil.gov
www.lakecountyil.gov/transportation



Elements of a highway project:

The Engineering Process





Elements of a highway project: The engineering process

A highway project, from concept to construction, is a complex process that involves time, money and expertise in many areas—including citizen involvement. Our commitment to be resident-friendly road builders means that in the engineering phase we invest in environmental components, minimize right-of-way needed and use eminent domain only as a last resort.

Increased regulation and permitting requirements have added considerably to the time it takes to complete a roadway project. Depending on a project's complexity, it may take from one to five years for a highway project to move from concept to beginning of construction.

Planning and Project Selection

Safety, traffic operations, road condition and Lake County's long range plan are all important factors in choosing a roadway for improvement. Once potential projects are identified and initial costs are estimated, the DOT works with the county board through its Public Works and Transportation Committee to prioritize projects against available funding.

If a project is selected, it becomes part of Lake County's 5-year Highway Improvement Program. The program is updated each year based on current needs.

Preliminary Engineering

In this phase, studies are begun to consider future demand forecasts, traffic impacts, and effects on homes, businesses, and drainage. Key environmental issues including review of threatened or endangered species, historic or landmark structures and trees, and wetlands are also examined.

Public informational meetings may be conducted during this phase to present proposed project alternatives and to identify and discuss areas of concern.

The recommended improvement is finalized at the completion of this phase.

Design Engineering

Detailed construction plans, specifications, and cost and time estimates are prepared during this phase. Participation agreements with municipalities and utilities are also finalized at this time.

Right-of-way staff meet with affected property owners to discuss land purchases if required. Our right-of-way staff makes every effort to ensure that offers made reflect fair and equitable compensation for the property.

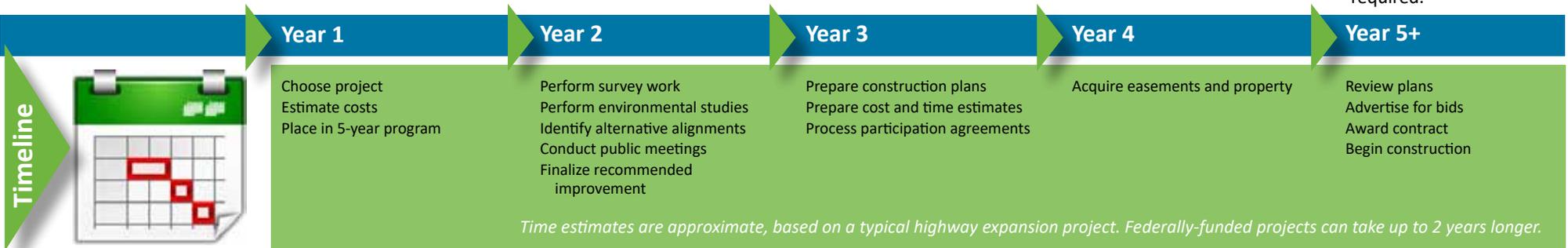
Any detours necessary during the construction phase of the project are also planned at this time.

Preparing for construction

Final plans, specifications and estimates are reviewed in preparation for construction contract bidding. Project-specific funds are provided by the county board during this phase.

Bids for projects are advertised in local newspaper(s). All bids received are reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The low responsible bidder is awarded the contract by the county board.

The project contractor then finalizes contact with utilities, local businesses and residents. Construction begins. Press releases are issued when the contract is awarded and when detours are required.



Time estimates are approximate, based on a typical highway expansion project. Federally-funded projects can take up to 2 years longer.

Visit us on the web at www.lakecountyiil.gov/transportation