



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of Highways Project Implementation / Bureau of Local Roads & Streets
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Room 205 / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

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March 15, 2023

CIRCULAR LETTER 2023-10

Cathy Johnson
COUNTY CLERK
VERMILION CO. IL

VULNERABLE ROAD USER (VRU) SAFETY ASSESSMENT - ENAGEMENT & KICK-OFF WEBINAR

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS / MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS / MAYORS / METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS – DIRECTORS / TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS / CONSULTING ENGINEERS

INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE:

With the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” (BIL), a very important requirement was included that requires that the Illinois Department of Transportation (Department or IDOT), with assistance and support of our Local Public Agencies (LPA), to perform a Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment as part of the state’s Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). Vulnerable Road Users (VRU) are an extremely important element of our overall transportation network; their safety is critical; and a focal point of the Department. Vulnerable Road Users are defined as pedestrians, bicycles, or other cyclists.

The VRU Safety Assessment is to be an appendix to the state’s Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) which you may be aware was completed in 2022. The law establishes that the VRU Safety Assessment must be completed no later than November 15, 2023. Your support, input, participation, and knowledge are very important in correctly and comprehensively including as much information and data as possible.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT:

A major component of the VRU Safety Assessment is stakeholder consultation to consider safety issues and concerns at the local level, and to work with stakeholders to identify and develop projects and strategies to address VRU safety. Local stakeholders will be critical to addressing local safety needs and concerns that IDOT may not be aware of. The value each of our stakeholders provides is critical as your familiarity and knowledge of your system helps identify the areas where solutions work; as well as locations where VRUs may feel or are known to be unsafe.

KICK-OFF WEBINAR & REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

IDOT will be hosting an informational session to unveil the plans for the development of the VRU Safety Assessment. We request that you and your organization attend, participate, and partner with IDOT by providing your input for the development of this assessment.

Your input extends beyond traditional input requests, as tools are being created for stakeholders to provide wholesome and key input throughout the development of the VRU Assessment.

The kick-off webinar will take place March 30, 2023, from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm (noon).

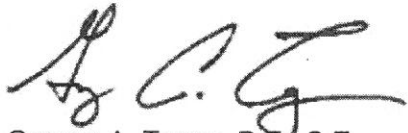
Please register for the webinar in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/ILVRUSafety> or by scanning the QR code:



QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

If you have any questions regarding this Circular Letter, the VRU Assessment, ways you can assist the Department, and for registration - please contact us at DOT.VRUSafety@illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Tapas', written over a faint horizontal line.

George A. Tapas, P.E., S.E.
Bureau Chief of Local Roads and Streets

cc:

Shane Schneider, Illinois Association of County Engineers
Brad Cole, Illinois Municipal League
Jerry Crabtree, Township Officials of Illinois
Arnie Vegter, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois
David Snyder, FHWA – Illinois Division
Alan Ho, FHWA - Illinois Division
Todd Schmidt, FHWA – Illinois Division
Justan Mann, Illinois Department of Transportation