



TO: President Gardiner and Members of the Town Council

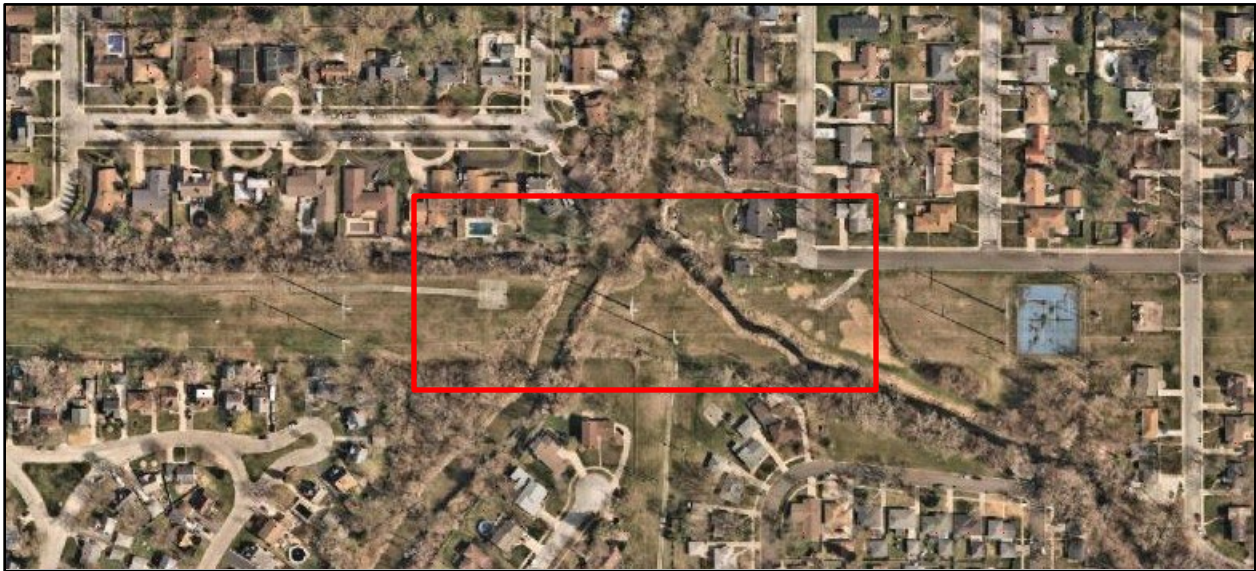
FROM: Jill E. DiTommaso, PE
Deputy Town Manager

DATE: October 2, 2023

RE: Munster-Highland Pedestrian Bridges – “Bridges over Ditches”
Revised Engineering Agreement

Background

In October 2020, the Town engaged Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) to design an extension of the existing bike trail in the NIPSCO easement south of Schoon Ditch into the Town of Highland. Two pedestrian bridges are needed to cross Hart Ditch and Cady Marsh Ditch. Several underground and overhead utilities are located in the corridor, including pipelines owned by Wolverine, Buckeye, and NIPSCO, as well as overhead NIPSCO electric transmission lines.



During project design, utility issues forced the trail alignment to be revised several times. SEH continued to work through these issues under their existing design contract. The budget for the original project has been expended.

Methodology

Now that the trail alignment has been finalized, additional geotechnical information must be obtained, the permitting must be modified, and final design documents prepared.

Additionally, the Town of Highland has requested that a trail following the NIPSCO south to Martha Street be included in the scope of work for the trail project. This addition to the scope will require modifications to the environmental document for the project and additional topographic survey and design.

Attached to this memo is a detailed scope of work with engineering design costs as well as an updated schedule for the remainder of the design work associated with this project. Funding will be from general obligation bond proceeds.

Recommendation

By motion and voice vote, approve the supplemental letter agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. for additional design engineering services related to the Munster-Highland Pedestrian Bridges project in the amount of \$108,100.