



Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To:	Jose Rios	Attn:	Vanessa Ruiz
From:	Jack Elston	By:	Joseph Galloy
Subject:	MOA Ratification – Cleared for Design Approval and Letting		
Date:	June 24, 2025		

Will County
Wilmington, Wilmington Township
FAI 55/I-55/Historic US 66
Highway Reconstruction & Improvements
Job # P-91-003-19
Sequence # 22051C, 22051D
SHPO Log # 035050820

Further coordination with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is required for the above referenced project. Attached is a Memorandum of Agreement upon which the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), SHPO, and IDOT have agreed to the reconstruction of IL 129, which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as it was once Historic Route 66, upon the following stipulations:

A. National Register of Historic Places Nomination. The IDOT, in coordination with the Officer, will develop a nomination to list the Downtown Wilmington Historic District in the NRHP. This process must be initiated with the Officer's National Register office within one (1) year of the ratification of this MOA and must be completed before the term of the MOA expires.

- i. Should the Downtown Wilmington Historic District be found to be ineligible in any capacity, a nomination for listing an alternate Route 66 resource in Will County in the NRHP shall be written.

Potential alternates are as follows:

- a. Milano Bakery, 427 S. Chicago St., Joliet
- b. Braidwood Recreation Club, 33915 IL 53, Braidwood
- c. Arnie Bauer Chevrolet GMC, 901 E. Baltimore, Wilmington
- d. Polk-A-Dot Drive In, 222 N. Front St., Braidwood
- ii. Should an alternative property be necessary, the property shall be agreed upon in writing by the FHWA, Officer and IDOT.

B. Route 66 "Then & Now" Video Documentation and Dissemination. The IDOT, in consultation with the Officer, will develop a documentary video about the history of Route 66 in Will County and its importance to nearby

communities. Aerial, video or drone imagery and photographs showcasing the NRHP-eligible section of IL 129 must be included. The documentary may feature historic photographs, maps and/or videos. The video will be roughly 10 minutes in length and will be provided in a format easily accessible to the public and Route 66 enthusiasts. The IDOT shall submit to the Officer for review the draft video within twelve (12) months of the initiation of construction activities. The IDOT will ensure the final video is submitted to the SHPO for approval and is then provided to consulting parties and other interested groups.

The project is now Cleared for Design Approval and Letting. However, the stipulations noted above need to be completed before the MOA expiration date of June 24, 2030.

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