October 2, 2014

CIRCULAR LETTER 2014-18

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) SELF EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS/DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS/MAYORS CONSULTING ENGINEERS

It is the policy of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to comply with Section 504 (49 CFR Part 27) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794) and Title II (28 CRF Part 35) of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (42 USC 12132). These acts require state and local governments to perform a self-evaluation of their current services, policies, and practices to identify areas which do not meet ADA requirements. Public agencies with 50 or more employees (including both full and part-time employees) must then develop a transition plan and a schedule to address deficiencies.

Chapter 8 of the Bureau of Local Roads and Streets Manual provides more details on self-evaluations and transition plans. A wide variety of transition plan examples and detailed information may be found on the internet; guidance is provided at the following websites: the United States Department of Justice at http://www.ada.gov/smtown.htm and the Federal Highway Administration at http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/programs/ada sect504ga.cfm

Issues regarding potential non-compliance may be presented to the Department, or directly to the Federal Highway Administration without IDOT involvement. If an acceptable transition plan is not in place, federal and state project authorizations may be withheld on future projects utilizing federal or state funding.

Circular Letter 2014-18 Page 2 October 2, 2014

Please contact the BLRS Local Policy unit at DOT.LocalPolicy@illinois.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

James K. Klein, P.E., S.E.

James K. Klein

Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

PW/tw

cc: Catherine Batey, FHWA

Vickie Simpson, Office of the Illinois Attorney General