

# MEMORANDUM

To: Robert Kosin, Village of Barrington Hills, Village Administrator  
Patty Meroni, VBH Chairman Roads & Bridges

From: Daniel J. Strahan, P.E., CFM  
Gewalt Hamilton Associates

Date: August 13, 2014

Re: Functional Classification  
Village of Barrington Hills

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At the July 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, the Board requested a summary of the functional classification system be presented based on a request received from residents that a number of roads in the Village be reclassified as local roads and streets. The memo below summarizes the process by which such requests can be made and examines the various roads currently designated as FAU routes that are maintained by the Village.

## Functional Classification System Background

The following excerpt from Chapter 43 of the IDOT Bureau of Design & Environment (BDE) Manual describes basis of the Functional Classification System:

*The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 required that every State functionally reclassify its public roads and streets. The database is also used to identify routes for the National Highway System (NHS), for administering the Federal-aid programs, and for assessing the extent, conditions, and performance of the highway system.*

The ISTEA was legislation passed by the federal government which included a broad array of provisions for transportation funding. As noted above, one of these provisions charged the states with the responsibility to “functionally reclassify its public roads and streets.” Subsequent federal legislation has affirmed this system as the means to determine eligibility for federal funding.

The Functional Classification System classifies highways and streets based on the character of service they are intended to provide, based on two often conflicting functions- access to property and travel mobility. The scope of designations, in order of increasing access to property and decreasing travel mobility, includes Local Roads & Streets, Collector Roads and Streets, Minor Arterials, and the Principal Arterial System. Roadway characteristics considered when determining an appropriate classification include traffic volume (ADT), adjacent roadway classification, spacing, signage & signalization, and traffic generators along its length.

The designations also vary depending upon whether the roadways are deemed to be located within an urban or rural area. The urban/rural designation is not based on land use or roadway characteristics, but rather are established by the State in cooperation with CMAP, and approved by the Federal Highway Administration. As shown on the attached map, the Chicago/D1 urban area includes all of the Village of Barrington Hills, extending as far west as Huntley and Woodstock in McHenry County.

## Process to Change a Roadway Functional Classification

In Illinois the Functional Classification System is administered by IDOT, though municipalities and other agencies are able to request additions/revisions to this database through their local council of mayors. As the Village of Barrington Hills participates in the McHenry County Council of Mayors, any request to change the classification of a roadway would start with this group. The major steps of this process are included below:

- Reclassification request is initially submitted to the McHenry County Council of Majors. It is recommended that requests be discussed with the Planning Liason or IDOT prior to submittal. The request would need to be made on the appropriate forms and include support letters from any agencies that share jurisdiction for the road in question.
- If approved by the Council of Mayors by resolution, the submittal is forwarded to IDOT District 1 in Schaumburg for review and approval.
- If approved by IDOT District 1, the submittal is forwarded to the IDOT Central Office in Springfield for review and approval.
- If approved by the IDOT Central Office, the submittal is forwarded to the Federal Highway Administration for review and approval. Upon FHWA approval notification is sent back down to IDOT and the Council of Mayors and the update to the database is made.

## FAU Routes Maintained by the Village of Barrington Hills

There are seven (7) roads maintained by the Village of Barrington Hills that are designated as “Minor Collector” or higher. The table below lists the key characteristics of these roads along with comments addressing the potential to reclassify each road to a Local Street:

Road	FAU #	Classification	Jurisdiction	Comments
<b>Algonquin/ River</b>	3879	Major Collector	VBH, Algonquin, ATRD	Concurrence of ATRD needed between Haegers Bend and Plum Tree; Concurrence of Algonquin needed west of Haegers Bend.
<b>Haegers Bend</b>	3875	Major Collector	VBH, ATRD	Concurrence of ATRD needed north of Spring Creek.
<b>Helm</b>	2297	Major Collector	VBH, Carpentersville	Concurrence need from Carpentersville
<b>Merri Oaks/ Cuba</b>	1260	Major Collector	VBH, Cuba Twsp	Concurrence needed from Cuba Township; Cuba Road Bridge replacement currently slated for federal funding
<b>Plum Tree</b>	3879	Major Collector (West of Ridge); Minor Arterial (East of Ridge)	VBH, Fox River Grove	Concurrence needed from Fox River Grove
<b>Ridge</b>	3708	Minor Arterial	VBH	Spring Creek & Merri Oaks/Cuba dead end into Ridge; would also need to be reclassified prior to revision.
<b>Spring Creek</b>	4007	Major Collector	VBH, ATRD	Concurrence needed from ATRD; justification could be provided for section east of Haegers Bend based on intent to keep island in place.