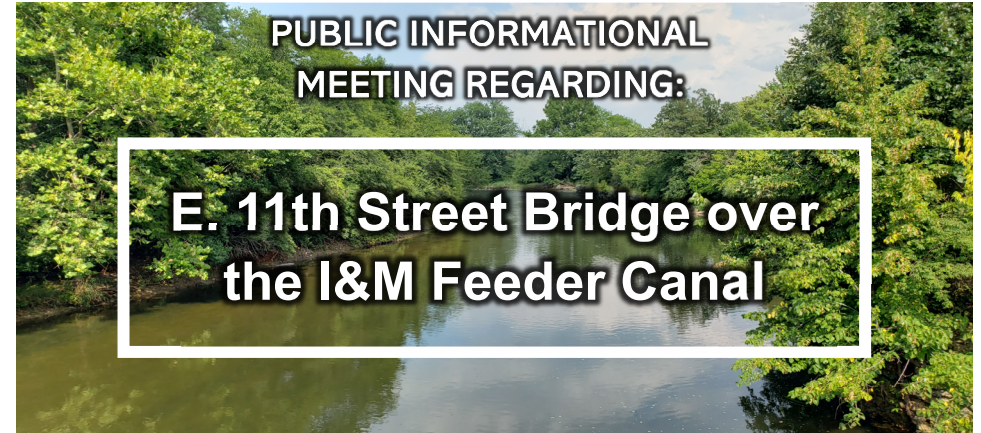


## PUBLIC INVITATION

All persons interested in this project are invited to attend this meeting. Persons with a disability desiring to participate in this activity should contact the person listed below by October 11th, 2024. This contact may be by telephone, in writing, by fax or by telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY).

This is a federally funded project, and the public information meeting is being held in compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and the Illinois Department of Transportation's public involvement policy.

**Jonathan Ellison**  
**Willett, Hofmann & Associates, Inc.**  
**3180 Theodore Street, Ste. 207 | Joliet, IL 60435**  
**Email: [jellison@willetthofmann.com](mailto:jellison@willetthofmann.com)**  
**Ph: (779) 242-1096**  
**Fax: (815) 284-3385**



**October 16th, 2024**  
**5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**  
**Rock Falls Council Chambers | 603 W 10th St**  
**Rock Falls, IL 61071**



## MEETING FORMAT

The meeting will be conducted on an informal basis. Representatives from the City of Rock Falls and Willett, Hofmann & Associates (WHA) will be available during the meeting as well. Representatives will answer individual questions and record comments offered by those in attendance. Verbatim comments will not be recorded. The City of Rock Falls and WHA Representatives will address topics such as the need for the project, the design of the project, right-of-way acquisition, and the tentative construction schedule.

Preliminary reports, including environmental documents (Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment (PESA)) and engineering drawings, maps, and aerial photography, will be available for inspection and viewing during the meeting. The same material is currently available for review and inspection upon request.

## MEETING PURPOSE

The City of Rock Falls is seeking public comments on the effects that proposed replacement of the E. 11th Street Bridge will have on the I&M (Hennepin) Feeder Canal and adjacent Hennepin Canal State Trail. Project details including right-of-way impacts will also be presented at the meeting.

## ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES INVOLVEMENT

The I&M Feeder Canal and adjacent Hennepin Canal State Trail, which is under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, is a significant, publicly owned recreational resource. As such, it is subject to protection under 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966. For the E. 11th Street Bridge project, the City of Rock Falls intends to seek a Section 4(f) "de minimis" impact finding from the Federal Highway Administration based on a determination that the project will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities that qualify the Hennepin Canal State Trail and I&M Feeder Canal for protection under Section 4(f).

## PROJECT IMPACTS

Effects of the E. 11th Street Bridge project on the I&M Feeder Canal will include the replacement of the bridge structure and improvement to the adjacent Hennepin Canal State Trail that crosses 11th Street beneath the bridge. Mitigation will include erosion and sediment control on the site, silt fencing adjacent to the canal to catch potential construction sediments, and a detour route that maintains access to the multi-purpose trail.

Detailed documentation describing the impacts and mitigation associated with the effects of the E. 11th Street Bridge project on the I&M Feeder Canal will be available for review at the meeting.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The proposed project will replace the structurally deficient bridge that carries E. 11th Street over the I&M Feeder Canal and improve the adjacent roadway and multi-purpose trail. The project is in Rock Falls, Whiteside County, southwest of Dixon, IL.

The E. 11th Street Bridge project is currently in the planning phase. Construction is tentatively scheduled for the 2025 construction season.