

ESI

ESI CONSULTANTS, LTD
Excellence, Service, Integrity
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www.esiconsultantsltd.com
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Transportation Engineering
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Natural Resources

What's New...

ESI Consultants hosted our fourth annual outing at the Kane County Cougars game this summer on August 15th, 2009. Over 300 employees, guests, and their families gathered to enjoy an evening with baseball, picnic fare and festivities.

The Cougars claimed victory over the Quad City Bandits. It was a very enjoyable evening and a great opportunity to socialize outside of the hectic work environment. Thank you to all who joined us. We hope you enjoyed yourselves as much as we did!



Dan Feuerborn, Structural Manager, recently responded to questions from *Structural Engineer Magazine* for an article in an upcoming issue.

Midwest Construction News selected Jackson Avenue Bridge Reconstruction for an Award of Merit in Civil Engineering and Public Works category of the Best of 2009 Competition. ESI performed lead Construction Engineering and Structural Support Services on this contract with Rausch Construction as the contractor for the Chicago Department of Transportation.

Growth, profitability, and innovation propelled ESI and other firms to peak performances, despite an unstable market. *CE News* Top Performers 2009 chose ESI for their magazine picks in this inaugural award. ESI was one of a few Midwestern firms selected for this list.

We have implemented some additional functionality to our ESI website. You may now download a limited number of project description sheets for each subcategory of engineering as well as learning more about the services that we offer. To find a posting of this newsletter and find out more about ESI, visit www.esi411.com today!

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Please note that our Chicago office location has changed to 208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1670, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Our phone remains the same: 312.277.1700

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Autumn 2009

ESI Consultants, Ltd.

A Message from Joe...

Most of the leaves have fallen and snow can't be far off as we enter into the upcoming holiday season. For many, this is a close to what has been a challenging year.

It's times like these that let you know whether you are a "half empty" or "half full" person. But if we take a broader perspective, there is nothing new under the sun and there is a time for everything (you just have to look at our Christmas cards to see the full verse on that one). So we continue to work diligently to stay focused on our core values while evolving into the long term vision for our firm that best serves our clients and associates.

I hear many firms talk in terms of "re-trenching" and that is very appropriate, but we also continue to work to address our client's needs with step out, value added services. So whether it is the expanded work we are doing in Program Management or the continued development of our Structural Services (NBIS Program

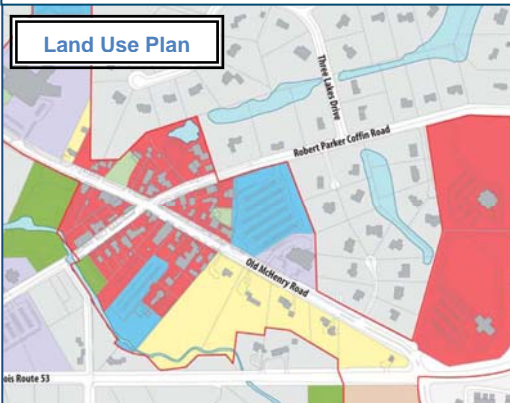
Managers, buildings, bridges, specialty industrial structures) or the Land Acquisition Services we provide, we do more than great engineering and construction services.

We hope that a long term view can provide the foundation that grows for many years to come. Whether in good times or bad or anything in between, we most want to keep focused on what the ESI in our name stands for, "Excellence, Service, Integrity."

This newsletter provides a brief insight into some of our Program and Management services as well as highlights from selected recent design and construction engineering projects. I truly hope you find these newsletters worthwhile and at least a bit enjoyable to read.

Thank you for allowing us to provide you with these updates.

2010 ACEC Merit Awards for Engineering Excellence



The Long Grove Village Downtown Master Plan and Danville Stadium and Parking Lot Reconstruction were each selected for Awards by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Illinois. These projects will be showcased along with the other winners at the 39th Annual ACEC Awards Luncheon at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, Illinois on Friday, February 12th, 2010. Featured at left and inside are previews of these two ESI projects.

The Long Grove Master Plan is a complex long term project with multiple components designed to enhance the historical nature of the buildings, landscape and infrastructure with thoughtful amenities that blend seamlessly with the existing 19th century charm. The Village Master Plan included a thorough collaborative planning process which considered and presented several alternative concepts, refined the desirable options, and then finally implemented these plans for the Village based on the final recommendations. [more inside](#) ➔

Featured Project: Danville Stadium



The Danville Stadium renovation is a long term project with multiple components designed to enhance the historical nature of this wooden baseball stadium. The stadium was built in 1946 and was home to a farm team for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Over the years it has been home to several Midwest League teams and is currently the home of the *Danville Dans*. The *Dans* are affiliated with Major League Baseball Prospect League providing them a venue for this college wooden bat league. Not only has the stadium been home to a variety of baseball teams over the years, but it has also been the setting for movies. Selected scenes for the 1992 movie, **"The Babe"** which portrayed the life of Babe Ruth, were filmed here. This classic wooden baseball park is an ideal setting for recreating the atmosphere of early 1900's major league baseball. The historic architecture and painted green finish recall nostalgic baseball moments to many fans and visitors.

The main focus of the renovation of the stadium was to maintain the historical character of the structure while enhancing the facilities and services provided at the stadium. The first component was to improve the outside of the stadium and provide a much needed improved parking area. The old parking lot was a thin layer of aggregate, filled with pot holes, very poor drainage and was difficult for patrons to traverse. The initial improvements provided a paved surface that matched the adjacent school parking lot that is shared between the two entities. This provided a smooth surface and allowed the facility to provide ADA accommodations that had not existed previously. In order to improve drainage and ensure a long lasting parking surface the existing aggregate was removed, the entire site was regraded

with new aggregate and paved with four inches of asphalt. This provided a sufficient and consistent base over the entire parking lot. To facilitate the efficient flow of water from the lot, a new storm sewer was laid and bio swales constructed between the rows of parking. This design collects and stores water to slow the flow of the water into the new storm sewer drain. The bio swales were then landscaped with trees, shrubs and native flowering plants. This same planting scheme was used around the outside of the stadium providing a warm and inviting atmosphere to fans and families attending games.



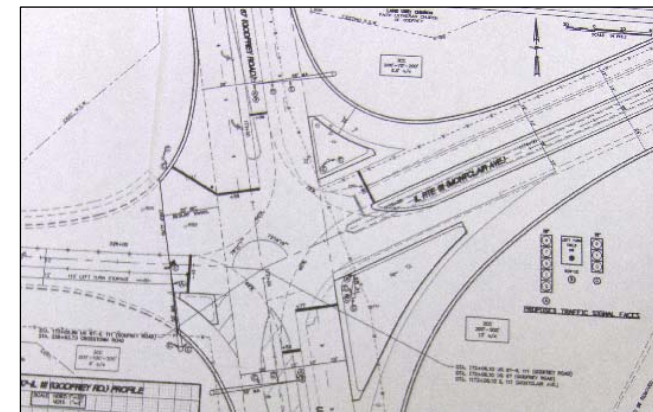
The second phase of the project was to provide a structural inspection of the stadium itself. All portions of the stadium from the roof, seating areas, to the inside amenities and support system were inspected. The results of this in-depth inspection were then used to develop a five year improvement plan for the stadium. Again, the main focus was to maintain the historical character of the structure. The plan will address immediate structural needs and then provide a plan to address all structural areas of the stadium over the next five years. It is currently envisioned that over the life of the plan sections of the stadium structure will be repaired and the historical character of the facility enhanced.

The final phase of the project will be to replace the existing outfield fence. In this phase the entire outfield fence made of plywood panels and portions of the foul line fencing will be replaced. To maintain the historical character the fence will be made of wooden materials that will restore the fence to its original form. This portion of the repairs will be done at a later date and as funding allows. -DC



Program Management

A growing service area for ESI Consultants, Ltd. over the few years has been in the Program Management venue of services. The increased usage of Program Management Consultants by government agencies and even private firms is a growing trend in today's markets. These services help government agencies and companies meet their objectives and improve their efficiency. At the same time it helps them keep costs down by only using the services when needed. ESI has been providing these types of services for several years now and our diverse staff experience allows us to provide Program Management for a wide variety of services and clients.



Local Roads & Streets

ESI Consultants, Ltd. has been providing Illinois Department of Transportation District 8 with Project Management services for their Bureau of Local Roads and Streets. These services include a wide variety of tasks designed to assist the District in completing their Local Roads Program in a timely and efficient manner. In-house and field services have been a part of the duties handled by ESI. From the beginning, ESI has been assisting with Project Development Report and Plan reviews for counties and municipalities in the District 8 area. Our staff has also provided in-house assistance in completing local agency audits. The District had a backlog of audits that needed to be performed and over this past summer ESI assisted the District in removing the vast majority of them from their backlog. We also assisted the District in performing field construction audits for ARRA projects this summer helping the Department meet their auditing requirements for the Federal Stimulus Program. During the last two years, ESI has also conducted field services for the District's Bridge Posting/Closure Inspections. This required visual field inspections throughout all eleven counties of District 8 for all posted and closed bridges. Reports documenting the findings, issuing letters of non-compliance and providing information updating the data base to reflect the actual conditions were provided to the Department.

Land Acquisition

Many improvements require land acquisition before the construction can begin and this is often a log jam in the entire process. For over a year ESI has assisted District 9 Land Acquisition in accomplishing their program by providing Land Acquisition Project Management Appraisal and Negotiation services. Our appraisal and negotiation staff is led by Phil Tegeler, P.E. and has provided their services to projects all over the District 9 area. These on-call services are designed to help move projects along quickly and get them to letting. Our staff completed 19 negotiations, 8 appraisals, reviewed 7 appraisals, and completed 19 waiver valuations during this most recent period. These services were for complete bridge and intersection projects in their program; as well as for excess land parcels under the Department's jurisdiction. -DC



Traffic Studies

ESI currently serves as the Program Management Consultant for Traffic Studies in the Chicago metro area of IDOT, District 1. The work performed includes managing and reviewing various traffic studies. Our team manages the candidate location selections for possible inclusion in the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Programs, and annual submittals to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). We help manage and track costs, schedules and budget requirements, and coordinate with District 1 personnel. ESI staff regularly facilitates progress meetings and briefings for IDOT and the FHWA where details of project and progress are presented. Our team performs analysis as required to respond to public letters and web-mails concerning traffic issues (typically involving requests for crash studies, warrant analysis, signal timing reviews, speed studies, capacity analysis, guardrail analysis). Duties also include Traffic Counts with analysis of peak hours and 24 hour traffic monitoring. - JY