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The Charleston office welcomes **Cindy Hall** to their Administrative Team and the Naperville office welcomes **Tina Taylor** to their Marketing Team.

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A Message from Joe...

Hopefully “old man” winter has ended for the season and spring’s good weather is approaching us while projects will be getting back on the construction track. I’ve been to quite a few industry events these last few months, and it seems that the economy is still very much on everyone’s mind. And just about the time it looks to be picking up there is another setback like the spike in oil prices or the tragic earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan. At some point the question is raised, “so how are you doing in this tough economy?” Of course the answers vary and the term “cautious optimism” usually gets tossed out. Hope and optimism are great assets. While I am not going to compete with Oprah’s book club, I’ve recently very much enjoyed a book that I was given as a Christmas gift. I think “*Life Without Limits*” by Nick Vujicic provides a great perspective on hope and optimism. At the very least, if a guy born without any arms or legs can be optimistic, I certainly can be too. Like many, we have had our challenges related to the economy, but I am looking forward to this year with enthusiasm. I hope you are too. I hope you enjoy the “new look” to our newsletter and website. We are looking forward to having a great year ahead with you!

Optimistically yours,
Joe



ESI employee, Dan White and family enjoying the game!



2010 Achievements...

Every October since 2000, Zweig White has recognized the most successful architecture, engineering, and environmental consulting firms with The Zweig Letter Hot Firm List. Over the years, the “Hot Firm” designation has become synonymous with success in the industry. ESI Consultants, Ltd. is proud to have earned this esteemed recognition two years in a row! Firms are compared over the trailing three year period. The firms with the best combined scores are the winners on The Zweig Letter Hot Firm List. The winning firms were honored at a special award ceremony during The Zweig Letter Hot Firm 2010 Conference and Celebration, Oct. 27-28, 2010 in Washington, DC.

With Spring Training just around the corner our minds begin to drift back to last August when ESI held our 5th Annual Kane County Cougars Event. Clients, business associates, employees and their families all enjoyed a great game, beautiful weather and fireworks to end a perfect evening. We look forward to you joining this coming August for an even bigger and better event!



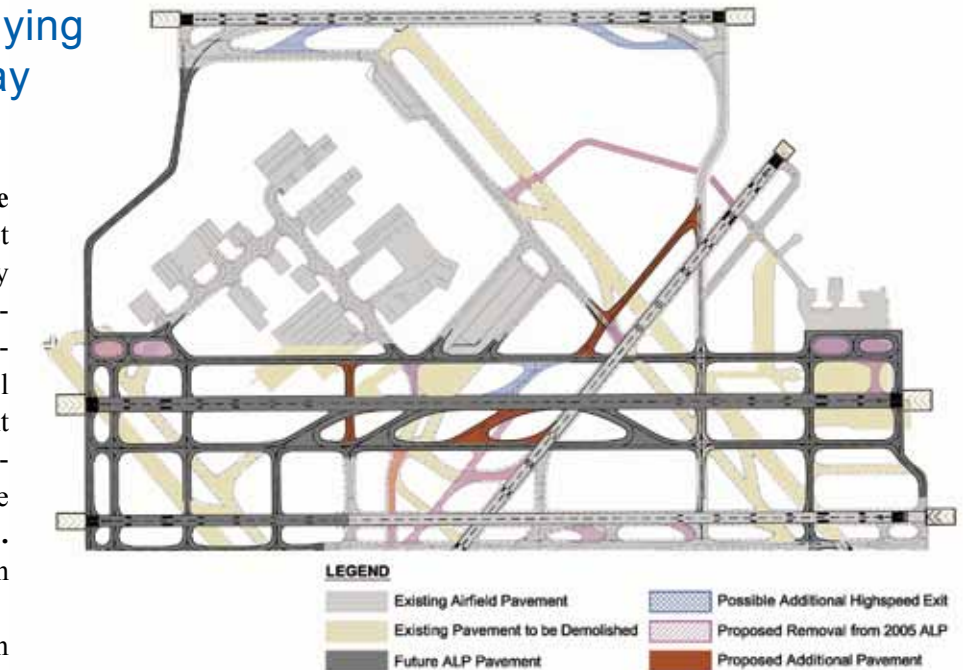
O'Hare Airport — ESI Flying High with O'Hare Runway Modernization Program

The City of Chicago's O'Hare Modernization Program is the largest airport rehabilitation program currently under way in the country. The multi-billion dollar reconfiguration of the intersecting runways to a modern parallel runway configuration will reduce flight delays and increase capacity at the nation's second busiest airport well into the 21st Century. ESI Consultants, Ltd. has been a trusted team member on two key projects in the program.

Since June of 2009, ESI has been providing design services on the new 9C – 27C Runway that will serve as the centerpiece of the new reconfigured north airfield. ESI is serving as a sub-consultant to nationally recognized airport consultant, HNTB Corporation, for the development of reports, preliminary engineering and final engineering documents for a new 13,000 foot fully capable runway at O'Hare International Airport as part of Phase II of the Modernization Program.



and associated taxiway interconnections. For the preliminary phase, ESI's main tasks included assistance with horizontal and vertical geometry development, creation of the main earthwork model, and development of the preliminary design reports for staging of the runway construction. ESI's **Sylvan Popovici** utilized his expertise in Microstation and Geopak to help the team meld the runway horizontal and vertical geometrics with the earthwork TIN model to create a complete 3D conceptualization of the ultimate runway and enabling taxiway configuration. With the project



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now into its Phase II development, ESI is providing vital assistance to the HNTB team in development of the multiple construction project document packages that will be necessary to build the new runway without disrupting the existing air traffic operations.

ESI is also providing design services as a subconsultant to MEC for the development of reports, preliminary engineering and final engineering documents for the reconstruction of the existing 3000 foot Taxiway WQ, that will provide a critical link during the phased construction of the north airfield. The project includes removal and replacement of the concrete runway pavement, addition of 35 foot wide bituminous shoulders, grading, drainage modifications including new underdrains, new runway lighting, signing and pavement markings. ESI's staff, led by **Brandt Zentner, CFM**, is providing grading, drainage and erosion control plans and construction cost estimates for the project that is scheduled for bid in spring of 2011. ESI will also assist with construction phase support services including review of shop drawings, processing of requests for information and periodic site visits.

Phase I – Northlake/Elmhurst Access Justification Report

Historic “crossroads” communities often were built up at a point where two local trails met. The cities of Northlake and Elmhurst have the distinct advantage of being located at the modern day “crossroads” of two major interstates (I-294 and I-290) as well as two major arterial routes (IL Route 64 and US Route 20). Theoretically, this creates an ideal place for business and community development. Unfortunately, when these highway networks were first developed, travel patterns were different and not all movements were fully addressed.

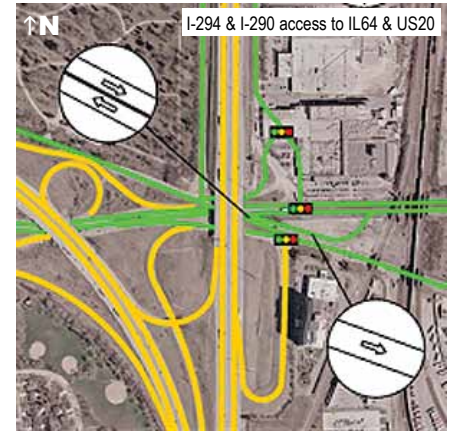
Currently, I-294 traffic exiting Southbound onto IL 64 via I-290 can only exit in the westbound direction. Vehicles that want to travel Eastbound on IL 64 frequently take the Westbound exit and then perform a U-turn maneuver or use residential streets to circle around and head back Eastbound. These types of traffic movements have created safety concerns in the local Elmhurst neighborhood. It is also suboptimal for the commercial and residential vehicles that want efficient access to businesses and homes East of I-294 in Northlake.

ESI Consultants, Ltd. was retained by the cities of Northlake and Elmhurst to investigate the feasibility of adding access from Southbound I-294 to Eastbound IL 64.

This was no easy task in light of the complex intertwining of ramps, connector roads, bridges, underpasses, and traffic signals that facilitate the movement of traffic along and between the areas roadways.

ESI’s effort has included, traffic counts, an origin-destination study, crash analysis, geometric studies, and operational analysis of the viable design alternatives. The preferred alternative selected by Northlake and Elmhurst utilizes a slip ramp from the tollway to the adjacent frontage road and an innovative concept that widens the US 20 over IL 64 bridge to accommodate a counterflow ramp which will provide direct access to Eastbound IL 64.

This is just one of ESI’s many highway projects that support ESI’s prequalification in Environmental Assessments from IDOT.



ACEC – Engineering Excellence Awarded to ESI...

Client:
Village of Long Grove

Project:
Archer Road & Parking Lot Reconstruction

Location:
Village of Long Grove, IL

Firm:
ESI Consultants, Ltd.

Subconsultants/Other Firms:
EJM Engineering, Urban Environmental, Testing Service Corporation, Holbrook Design Group and Compass Consulting Group, Ltd.

ESI Consultants was retained by the Village of Long Grove to engineer parking and traffic solutions to access the historic and quaint downtown district of Long Grove. The re-engineering of this area included the creation of a new road and pedestrian paths in order to enhance circulation and improve mobility, and the reconstruction of Archer parking lot. These environmentally sensitive designs enhance the unique charm of Long Grove and expand pedestrian and vehicle access, while also preserving the historic character. Key issues included utility corridors, drainage improvements, enhanced streetscapes, and incorporation of innovative design elements such as permeable pavement, energy efficient lighting and bio-swales.

The project required coordination with numerous private and public organizations to facilitate the unified design for urban renewal with enhanced green space adjacent to the shopping district. It also created future development sites to create more communal spaces for special events and provided an example project for future redevelopment to continue enhancing the economic vitality of the region.

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2011 Engineering Excellence Merit Award

Archer Road & Parking Lot Reconstruction
Village of Long Grove, Illinois

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Photo includes left to right: Pedro Cevallos-Canday, President, ACEC-Illinois Board of Directors, Maria Rodriguez, Village President, Village of Long Grove, Brian Witkowski, P.E., Project Manager, ESI Consultants, Ltd., Joe Chiczewski, P.E., President, ESI Consultants, Ltd., Brandt Zentner, Project Engineer, ESI Consultants, Ltd., Gary Wilken, Chairman of the ACEC-Illinois Engineering Excellence Awards Committee.

ESI

ESI CONSULTANTS, LTD
Excellence, Service, Integrity

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Check it out!
All new and improved
www.esiltd.com

Visit the website for all our services, projects, company information, and news/events.

We are also in the process of rolling out **new email addresses**, and a new look to our marketing materials!

What's New? ESI Consultants, Ltd. is an active business recycler!

Even in our offices where the buildings do not provide us with recycling options, our staff has stepped up and placed the proper recycling containers in the offices. Many have even volunteered to take certain items home and recycle them properly. With other items such as batteries, the staff has taken them to the proper recycling facilities nearby where they can be disposed of in a safe manner.

Materials such as plastic, aluminum, white paper, newspapers, magazines, glass, metal cans, cardboard and batteries are all being recycled. To see what a difference this makes in our Charleston office alone, staff weighed items over the past year to quantify the impact we have made. You can see by the boxed list to the right, we have made quite a difference already.

Once you start adding up these items you throw away each day, it is interesting to see how many of them actually have cardboard and plastic content in them. It is amazing

to see how many things could be recycled and not placed in the trash which are added to our landfills.

Charleston Office Recycled:

Aluminum – 92 lbs
Aluminum Can Tabs – over 1700
Batteries – 24 lbs
Cardboard – 28 CF
Magazines – 120 lbs
Newspaper – 245 lbs
Plastic – 47 CF or 350 gallons
White paper – 660 lbs



So, a challenge to you is to stop for a moment, take a second to look each time you throw something away, and see where you can recycle it or its parts instead of throwing it away. Join us to help make our planet a better place to live! Check out <http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/citizen-involvement/recycling/index.html> for more information near you.