#### RECEIVED St. Charles, IL

### **COUNTY OF KANE**

### 0 2 2014

CDD

COUNTY BOARD

Philip H. Lewis-District No. 13

Barbara Wojnicki - District No. 15

Andrew Frasz - District No. 18



Plancounty Government Center

719 S. Batavia Avenue Geneva, Illinois 60134-3011 Phone: (630) 232-5930

FAX: (630) 232-9188 PLewis@kanecoboard.org

DATE:

May 31, 2014

TO:

Mr. Dan Stellato and Members, St. Charles Planning & Development Committee

SUBJECT:

Bluffs of St. Charles Development

As Kane County Board members with a long-term history of planning and development in the La Fox and Campton Hills area west of St. Charles, we are with this letter expressing our strong opposition to the Bluffs of St. Charles development for the following reasons:

- 1. Rural Planning: The land west of the Tri-Cities has been the focus of regional and collaborative planning by Kane County and planning partners St. Charles and Geneva. This has resulted in two communities, Fox Mill and Mill Creek, with a third, Settlements of La Fox, approved. These communities achieved 50% open space with generous setbacks, preservation of view sheds, and extensive water resource planning. The proposed Bluffs of St. Charles development is not consistent with this long tradition of rural planning.
- 2. Unique Features: Kane County has encouraged the overall preservation and enhancement of the areas rustic and agricultural heritage while still allowing for development under the Kane County 2040 Land Use Plan. These efforts include the La Fox Historic District, the Brundige Road Rustic Road designation, and the encouragement of unique enterprises such as the Heritage Prairie Market and four other unique land uses on Brundige Road. The approval of the Bluffs of St. Charles project would take away so many of the attributes that resulted in Rustic Road designation, that it would likely result in cancellation of this unique designation. As traffic would increase dramatically, Heritage Prairie Market would no longer have the rural setting that is the primary basis for its business. KDOT estimates that this one 95 acre development would have the same impact on Brundige Road as the entire 1200 acre Settlements of La Fox PUD.
- 3. Public-Private Open Space: The City of Geneva and St. Charles have invested millions of dollars obtaining a western buffer of land for Green Open Space to set a limit on westward development and provide for recreation and storm water storage/aquifer recharge. The Kane County Forest Preserve has purchased additional parcels totaling hundreds more acres of open space. The St. Charles Park District has purchased land that extends east, north and west of the Illinois Youth Center. Garfield Farm/Campton Historic Land has purchased all the land west of Campton Hills Park to La Fox Road and the Campton Township Open Space owns a large tract south of Rt. 38 west of this proposal. This island of high-density development unconnected to any existing neighborhood has a negative impact on the land already purchased and designated as open space in this area.

4. Connectivity and Existing Facilities: St. Charles has sited several facilities west of Peck Road along Rt. 38. These include a sewage treatment plant, a public works salt storage facility, a State highway facility, an open air police shooting range, the Fox Valley Aero Club model airplane field, and the St. Charles leaf composting field. The proposed development would jump residential development over this one mile district. The shooting range, air field, and compost field are not compatible with a residential development.

For these reasons, we strongly urge rejection of this proposal and would hope this parcel could be purchased for open space by one or more agencies. If development is to take place, we feel St. Charles and the region would best be served if it is as a County PUD using the previously negotiated plan as a guideline.

Sincerely,

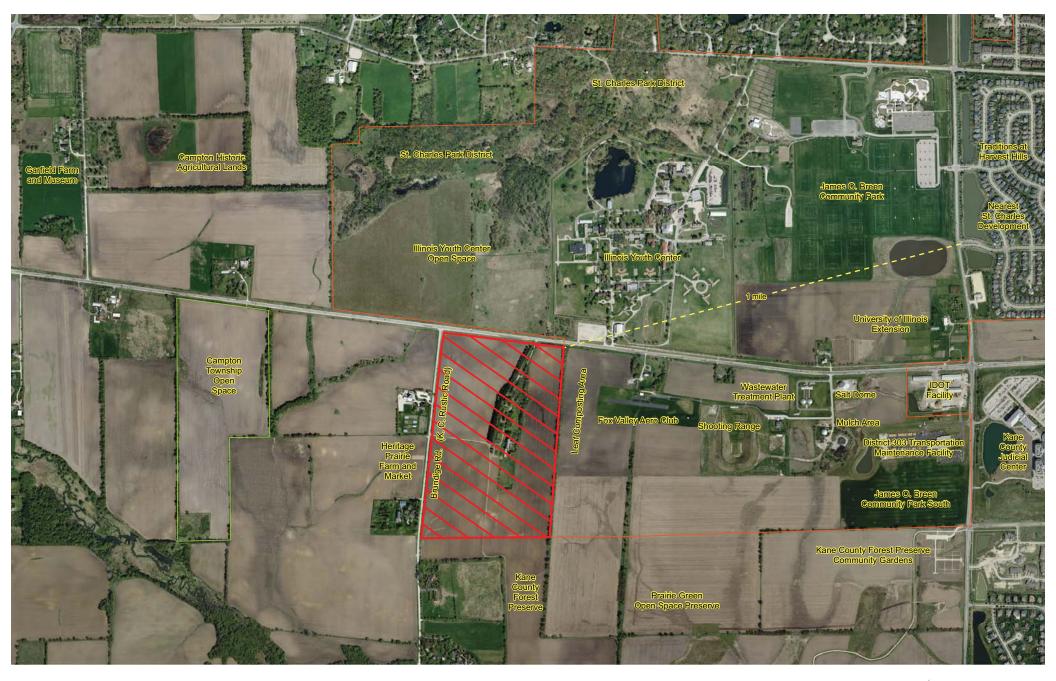
Andrew Frasz, District 18

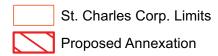
Barbara Wojnicki, District 15

Barbara Winick

Philip Lewis, District 13

## City of St. Charles Proposed Annexation







## GARFIELD FARM MUSEUM

A not for profit 1840s Living Historic Farm and Tavern Museum

P.O. Box 403, LaFox, IL 60147

(630) 584-8485

www.garfieldfarm.org

info@garfieldfarm.org

T.M.

May 29, 2014

St. Charles Plan Commission 2 East Main St St. Charles, IL 60174

Dear Commissioners:

Through 37 years, Garfield Farm Museum has worked with Kane County, the Kane County Forest Preserve, Campton Township, the City of St. Charles, the St. Charles Township Park District, and the Village of Campton Hills to help create plans for the benefit of the community and region. Many precious hours of valuable time and resources have been spent by the museum's non-profit organizations to help create a community in which people will want to continue to live in after any novelty of the new has worn off. Vision for the long term has motivated the supporters of Garfield Farm Museum to make generous contributions of money and time to take existing assets and strengths to create a historic, open space, agricultural and natural area from which all our communities can share and benefit.

From the earliest days of working with the St. Charles Township Park District to secure the St. Charles Youth Center's property for parkland and preserved natural area, to planning with St. Charles Plan Commission, open space designation adjacent to Garfield Farm Museum which the museum then raised over \$2.5 million to acquire and protect, to the most recent input to plan with Kane County a balanced development with open space of what was called the Settlements of LaFox development, it is now with great concern to learn of a proposal to annex adjacent lands into the city of St. Charles. The proposal is the Bluffs of St. Charles that occupy the southeast corner of Il Rt. 38 and Brundige Road.

Annexing into the city of St. Charles is only an attempt to maximize density which is out of character with the community. The establishment of Brundige Road as rustic and historic road is compromised, a proposal of 285 homes on 96 acres provides no open space, it further expands expensive infrastructure which will only burden the taxpayers of St. Charles and the area, and speaks of no preservation of the historic barn and its architecture that previous plans were incorporating. This speaks nothing of the increased traffic and potential burden placed on the school system.

This proposal is of short term vision that entirely defies all the previous work, effort and expenditures numerous taxing bodies, agencies, groups and individuals in the region have put into creating this transition area of the Tricities to the countryside. Both public and private funds taxpayers have already spent in this region are compromised by a proposal that is an attempt to compensate for investment risk being taken in a very questionable development market by a few individuals. The fact that the city is being approached for development of land like this in itself suggests the market for housing that would be in character with the area seen in previous county plans has collapsed and such economics should not be an additional taxpayers' burden because investors' risk has only increased.

There are numerous properties within the city of St. Charles that are calling out for redevelopment that would not add additional burdens of sprawling infra-structure. There is a substantial change in how the newer generations of Americans are defining the American dream. It is critical that all planning agencies don't fall into the trap of trying to recreate an economic/cultural model that no longer exists and is very different from what is now evolving.

lerome M Johnson

Sincerely

Executive Director, Founding Board Member

at Route 38

Carfield Farm Museum

RECEIVED St. Charles, IL

JUN 022014

~ 4

<u>Planning Division</u>

cc: Mayor Raymond Rogina

Campton Township

Kane County

Illinois

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Bluffs of St. Charles Development

La Fox was settled in the 1830's as an unincorporated farming community. Our written history generally defines the La Fox area as approximately 2 square miles bordered by Rt. 38 on the north, Keslinger Road on the south, Harley Road on the west and the Geneva Township line to the east. This area contains the only unincorporated Historic District in the state, and one of only three Kane County Designated Rustic Roads. Kane County is the only county in the state with such a program.

In 2001, the "Grand Prairie" development was proposed on 1200 acres in the La Fox area. The "Bluffs of St. Charles" parcel was part of the overall 1200 acres proposed for annexation to St. Charles. The La Fox Civic Organization was formed to represent our unincorporated community in this development process that would surround, but not include, our existing residents.

Our group, along with 17 public and private entities, successfully argued against St. Charles annexation and then worked for over a year with the developer and county to design a comprehensive plan that the existing residents and developer could live with. This plan was called "The Settlements of La Fox" and was approved by Kane County in 2007. With the downturn in the economy, the plan did not move forward.

We feel strongly that St. Charles should reject The Bluffs of St. Charles proposal for the following reasons:

- 1. As stand alone, high density spot zoning, it does not allow for holistic planning that an overall PUD for the area would provide.
- 2. The parcel, under the PUD, was approved for 90 lots with generous setbacks, preservation of view sheds, preservation of the existing barn and tree line, and compatibility with the Rustic Road designation of Brundige Road. The approved PUD had an internal road system and bridge over Mill Creek that kept traffic levels low on Brundige Road. Additionally, 50% overall open space was achieved under the PUD. The current proposal calls for 285 lots of 6600 sq. ft. each and no preservation of the barn, trees or view sheds.

We ask that St. Charles leave the planning for this parcel in the hands of Kane County and the local residents as a long-term history and partnership of regional planning for the area exists. This planning has always provided for open space and transitional zoning between St. Charles and our other neighboring communities.

Sincerely,

The La Fox Civic Organization Board

Frank Wooding Presdat

RECEIVED St. Charles, IL

1131 0 2 2014

CDD
Planning Division



May 19 2014

Ms. Rita Tungare
Director of Community and Economic Development
City of St. Charles
Two East Main Street
St. Charles, IL 60174

Dear Ms. Tungare,

Thank you for reaching out to us concerning the proposed "Bluffs of St. Charles" development on Brundige Rd. We are writing on behalf of Heritage Prairie Farm, the business directly across the street from the proposed development.

If you are not familiar with our business, allow us to share with you what we do. We are first and foremost a working organic farm. We grow high quality organic vegetables that are enjoyed throughout the county and region. Our products are available at every Whole Foods Market throughout the state. But like many small family owned farms, we have diversified to make our business sustainable.

In addition to the 250 varieties of 40 different vegetables we grow, we also raise a limited number of heritage breed hogs, pasture raised chickens for eggs, maintain around 2 million bees for honey production, host various private and public events throughout the growing season and have an onsite retail store featuring the products from several other local growers and artisans. All of these agriculture or agriculture related activities combine together to create a sustainable business, both environmentally and financially. In the past few years, our reputation for quality has reached both local and national press. We have partnered with various municipal,

2N308 Brundige Road Elburn IL 60119 630.443.5989 heritageprairiefarm.com county, and state groups, as well as various private educational institutions, to help promote sustainable farming and food production.

We have worked very hard to build and grow our business in close alignment with the overall land use plan for Kane County. In fact, we worked closely with Kane County administration to shape our business plan to be of value to all the residents of the county. As our business has grown, so too has our contribution to the county and its residents. We have hundreds of customers that depend on our products and services. Wholesome, locally prepared food is hard to find these days. Our customers rely on us to provide local healthy organic food for their families. We also host hundreds of guests throughout the season who rely on us for education and inspiration. We regularly provide educational tours to groups of all ages to learn how and why we produce food for our community. Even our public and private events are designed to connect people with the source of their food. Few things compare to enjoying a wholesome local meal while enjoying the natural beauty of the farm and its surrounding area. Our business is one of a kind. We feel it is truly an asset to the surrounding community.

While there are thousands of people who rely on the services that we offer, there are dozens more who rely on the jobs we have created. We now employ over 50 people at the height of our season. Even during our brief off season, we have a minimum of 15 full-time employees on our payroll - a feat that few, if any, small family farms can match. In spite of the recent economic crisis and due largely to the hard work of our staff and support of our long-term customers, our business has steadily grown since its startup in 2007. Most recently, in 2013, our total payroll was just under \$550,000, we contributed \$89,034 in payroll taxes and \$41,359 in sales taxes.

We mention all of this because, if the proposed development moves forward as contemplated, our entire enterprise will be jeopardized. Additionally, we feel that the proposed development is substantially in direct conflict with the Kane County Land Use Plan that we worked so hard to build our business around.

The residents of St Charles and Kane County deserve to be able to enjoy the employment, nutritious food, education, and rural charm that Heritage Prairie Farm

2N308 Brundige Road Elburn IL 60119 630.443.5989 heritageprairiefarm.com provides. The "Bluffs of St. Charles" represents a "worst case scenario" that would result in irreparable damage to our business enterprise, significant loss of employment, and the elimination of the numerous benefits our efforts have created for the residents of Kane County. We feel that our neighbors and customers will benefit much more with alternative uses for the proposed development property.

Sincerely,

Jessica Impson, General Manager

Nate Sumner, Operation Manager

Bronwyn Weaver, Owner

Robert Archibald, Owner



#### **CITY OF GENEVA**

22 S. 1st Street, Geneva, IL 60134

5/16/2014

RE: The Bluffs of St. Charles

Rita Tungare, AICP 2 E. Main Street St. Charles, IL 60174

Conceptual review of a proposed subdivision by the Avanti Properties Group

Dear Ms. Tungare,

Per your request, the City of Geneva has completed a conceptual review of an approximately 258 unit single-family residential subdivision on 96 acres located at the southeast corner of Illinois Route 38 and Brundige Road. The concept was reviewed by the Geneva Plan Commission on May 8, 2014 and by the City's development staff team on May 13, 2014. The review comments are as follows:

- The density of the proposed RS-4 Suburban Single-Family Residential District zoning is not consistent with the "Rural Residential" designation of the recently adopted City of St. Charles Comprehensive Plan.
- 2. The proposed density is not consistent with the "Resource Management" designation of the Kane County 2040 Land Use Plan.
- 3. Brundige Road is part of the Kane County Rustic Roads program. The purpose of the program is to preserve rural roads and scenic vistas from residential and commercial uses. The proposed development is not consistent with the designation of Brundige Road as a rustic road.
- 4. The proposed development is a single-use urban subdivision on the outskirts of the City's developed area. It is not a livable, sustainable, and healthy development as virtually all trips to and from will be autodependent. It does not preserve open space, provide recreational opportunities, or create a transition from the city to the countryside.
- 5. The previously approved Settlements of La Fox Development included this property being developed at nearly half of the proposed density. It included one-acre lots along the frontage of Brundige Road to preserve the rural character and it also included a significant amount of open space. It was also part of a much larger and more sustainable planned community which included recreational opportunities, commercial development, and mixed-use areas.
- 6. The City of Geneva is concerned that if approved, the project could set a dangerous precedent for development in the Critical Growth Area. This pattern of development would drastically change the character of the area and could have significant impacts on existing open space areas and water resources, such as Geneva's Prairie Green Preserve.
- 7. If the project moves forward, a traffic impact analysis should be required. The City of Geneva is particularly concerned with the potential of the project to increase eastbound traffic on Keslinger Road.

#### **David DeGroot**

City Planner

P: 630.232.0814

F: 630.232.1494

E: ddegroot@geneva.il.us

W: www.geneva.il.us

8. If the project moves forward a fiscal impact analysis should be required. The analysis should include an analysis of current and expected market trends and the impact the development will have the market.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

David DeGroot

Cc: City of Geneva Plan Commission
City of Geneva Development Staff



May 14, 2014

Mayor Ray Rogina City of St. Charles 2 E. Main Street St. Charles, IL 60174

RE: Concept - The Bluffs of St. Charles proposed subdivision

Dear Mayor Rogina,

Please thank Mark Koenen and Rita Tungare, for sending me a copy of the Concept Plan for The Bluffs of St. Charles proposed subdivision located on Route 38 and Brundige Road.

Our Village Board discussed the concept plan at our meeting held on May 6, 2014. Below is a list of items they authorized me to bring to your attention and request St. Charles give special consideration to while evaluating this subdivision:

- (1) **Groundwater Recharge/Aquifers.** This area is located within our 1.5-mile jurisdictional planning area and is included in our Green Infrastructure Plan. (www.villageofcamptonhills.org, Comprehensive Plan link, Green Infrastructure Report link) I have included two maps from the Report for your information (1) "Natural Resource Evaluation Zone Data Map Area C2" showing the property as a "Kane County Class A1 A4 Sensitive Aquifers" area and (2) "Green Infrastructure Map Area C2" showing a portion of the property is included in the "Evaluation Zone" indicating any development proposed within the Evaluation Zone should take into consideration the impact on these resources.
- (2) **Dark Skies.** The Campton Hills' voters passed a referendum encouraging the Village to consider the adoption of a dark sky light ordinance. The Village Board is currently considering a dark sky ordinance encouraging lighting practices which minimize light pollution, glare, and light trespass while maintaining night-time safety and preservation of the night sky for present and future generations. For these reasons the Village respectfully requests that the City of St. Charles require that full-cutoff, shielded street lights with a BUG rating of U0 be used on the property under consideration.
- (3) **Rustic Road.** Brundige Road was adopted by Kane County on June 14, 2005 as a Rustic Road. The County's Rustic Road program promotes: (1) a

sense of place, (2) resource preservation, (3) recreation and (4) economic development. The overall objective of the County's Rustic Roads Program is to preserve and enhance Kane County's rural character while incorporating new development and transportation needs as subtly as possible. The Village recommends the City of St. Charles adopt the same requirements the County has regarding development along Brundige Road. A copy of the Historic Preservation Commission Report and Recommendation For Nomination to the Kane County Rustic Roads Program to the Development and Transportation Committees nominating Brundige Road, the Resolution adopting Brundige Road as a Rustic Road and a copy of a brochure regarding Kane County's Rustic Roads Program is attached for your information.

(4) **Boundary.** Several years ago the Village received a petition to annex the property on the west side of Brundige Road. The petition was ultimately withdrawn due to pressure from local LaFox residents. The Village requests that the City of St. Charles not accept any development requests for property on the west side of Brundige Road. The Heritage Prairie Farm located on the west side of Brundige Road is the type of business that is well-suited for our semi-rural environment and the kind that Campton Hills desires to have within its borders.

Once again we appreciate the opportunity to review the Concept Plan for The Bluffs of St. Charles subdivision and thank you in advance for your consideration of the four concerns listed above. If you would like any additional information, please do not he sitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Patry of Smith

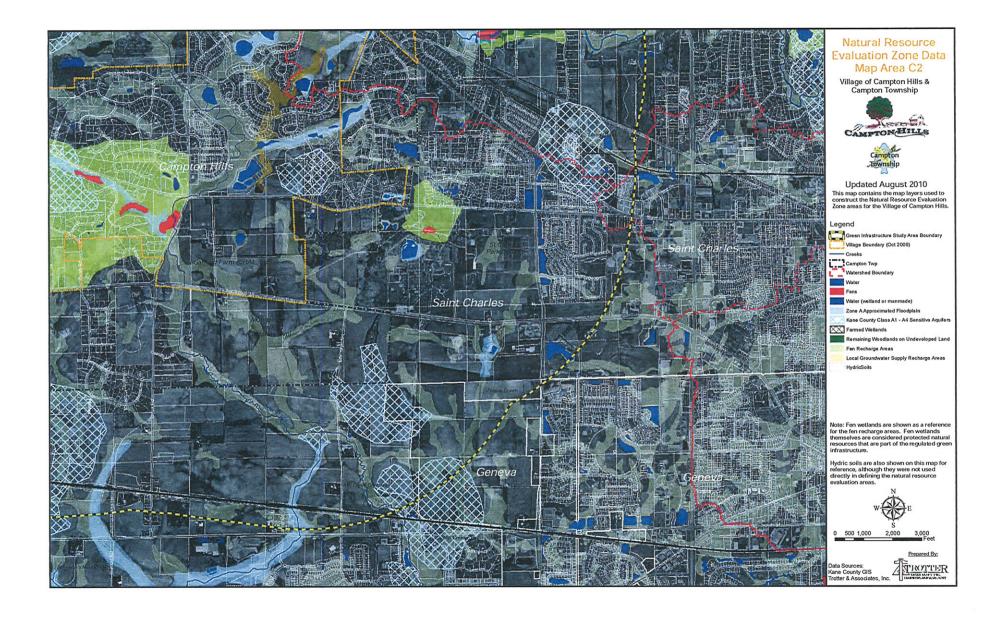
Patry J. Smith

Village President

cc: Mark Koenen, City Administrator

Rita Tungare, Director, Community & Economic Development





# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE KANE COUNTY RUSTIC ROADS PROGRAM TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEES

#### NOMINATION INFORMATION:

Application No.: 02

Name of Road: Brundige Road

**Boundaries:** 

The length of the road beginning at the intersection with State Highway 38, in Campton Township to its terminus at County Highway 41 (Keslinger Road) in Blackberry Township to include the following properties with the stated boundaries and PIN's:

08-36-300-007	60 feet west of the right of way
08-36-300-011	Area within the right of way
11-01-200-017	50 feet east of the right of way
11-01-200-006	Area within the right of way
11-01-200-016	200 feet east of the right of way
11-01-100-008	200 feet east of the right of way
11-01-200-011	200 feet east of the right of way
11-01-300-008	35 feet west of the right of way

#### **Nomination Criteria for Designation**

- It has character, interest, or value, which is part of the development, heritage or cultural character of the area, community, county, state or nation.
- It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the development of the community, county, state or nation.
- It has a unique location, natural features, or physical characteristics that make it an established or familiar visual resource with a high level of integrity or scenic significance.
- It is suitable for preservation.

#### **Summary of Significance**

Brundige Road is a paved and gravel road that traverses the distance between Route 38 and Keslinger Road for about a mile and a half through stands of trees, by farmsteads, open farmland, between Campton and Blackberry Township. As one of the oldest roads in the two Townships, the road was associated with La Fox as a part of the farming community. Today the road has most of the original farmsteads and it appears much as it did after it was built in the 1850's, a narrow farm access road with scenic vistas.

#### Scenic & Natural Significance

The centerpiece of the road is Mill Creek and its natural greenway and floodways, which cross approximately mid-way between Route 38 and Keslinger Road. The creek provides a path for animals moving through the area such as coyotes and deer in addition to being the habitat for beavers and the Blanding's turtle, an endangered species. The creek also provides viewsheds along its entire length.

There are several natural prairie areas along the road as well. One is along the Union Pacific Railroad right of way, and three private prairie areas, two at about 2 acres, and a restoration project along Mill Creek that is approximately 10 acres. In addition to the natural scenic views there are also the man-made vistas of expansive farmland.

#### Historic Significance

The construction of the north portion of Brundige Road was started in 1850 as a farm access road serving the Levi Brundige, Joseph Hilts and G.W. Stone Farms. The south portion of the road was constructed in 1857 after Brundige and Hilts laid out Keslinger Road.

Because the properties along the road continue to be used for farming, Brundige Road retains much of the character of Fox Valley farming at the turn-of -the 20<sup>th</sup> century. An example of this is the Levi Brundige Jr. house, built in 1874, on the south portion of the road. Most of the early farmsteads built on Brundige Road still exist. Several houses and barns have been restored to their original condition.

#### CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN:

The Corridor Management Plan for Brundige Road defines features and characteristics that should be protected and alterations to be reviewed for appropriateness for each property included in the road corridor. Those features protected generally include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Mature trees
- Restored prairies
- Viewsheds along the roadway
- Views of historic structures

Types of alterations to be reviewed for appropriateness generally include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Removal of native desirable healthy trees
- New road access points
- New site development that includes changes to existing topography

#### PROPERTIES THAT HAVE OPTED OUT:

Property owners Suzanne Hendrickson and Martha Kapochis, PIN 11-01-400-004, and Pete Folkerts, PIN 11-01-300-003 have requested that their property be excluded from the nominated road corridor according to Sec. 16-79 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Their property is marked as such on the Corridor Management Plan.

#### Comments Received at the February 24, 2005 Public Hearing:

Participating property owner Bronwyn Weaver stated that she would like to have horse-crossing signs installed.

Adjacent property owners Jim O'Brien & Sue Lytle, as co-trustees, and Peter Brennan both wrote letters stating that at this time they did not want to participate in the Rustic Roads designation and program.

## RELATIONSHIP OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY TO THE ON-GOING EFFORTS OF THE PRESERVATION COMMISSION:

Designation of Brundige Road as a Rustic Road would assist the Commission in meeting the following goals of the Kane County Historic Preservation Plan:

- Goal 1: to "locate, designate, protect, and maintain the County's most important historic and natural sites, districts, and landscapes;"
- Goal 2: to "maintain the elements of the landscape that contribute to the attractiveness and historic character of the suburbanizing and urban fringe areas of the County;"
- Goal 4: to "maintain the historic character of the County's rural towns and villages while encouraging their development as commercial and cultural centers;"
- Goal 5: to "improve the economy of Kane County by encouraging expenditures for restoration work, adaptively reusing buildings to improve local economies, and promoting tourism related to historic resources;" and
- Goal 6: to "foster public education and greater appreciation and understanding of historic and archeological resources, and public support for preservation in Kane County."

#### **Historic Preservation Commission Recommendation:**

Brundige Road should be designated a Rustic Road for its scenic, natural and historic significance.

This Report and Recommendation adopted by the Kane County Historic Preservation Commission this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2005.

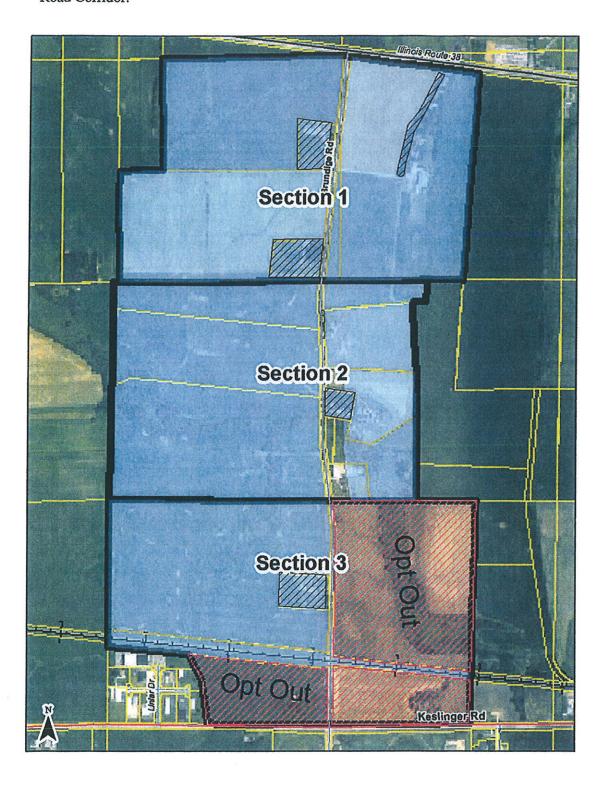
Shauna Wiet, Chair

Kane County Historic Preservation Commission

 $\frac{5/10/05}{Date}$ 

#### LOCATION OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTIES

The road right of way and portions of property that are  $\underline{\text{not shaded}}$  are included in the Road Corridor.



#### RESOLUTION NO. 05-193

## DESIGNATING A KANE COUNTY RUSTIC ROAD (BRUNDIGE ROAD)

WHEREAS, the people of the County of Kane take great pride in the historic buildings, structures, sites, and landscapes of the County that exemplify the heritage or culture of the County of Kane, State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kane has conducted a comprehensive survey identifying certain buildings, structures, areas, sites, and landscapes that are of historic, architectural, cultural, archaeological, educational, or scenic significance; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kane is empowered pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/5 - 30001 (1990), to establish and appoint by ordinance a preservation commission and to designate by ordinance landmarks and preservation districts upon the recommendation of the preservation commission; and

WHEREAS, the Kane County Board adopted the Kane County Historic Preservation Ordinance establishing said Commission on June 14, 1988 as Ordinance 88-99; and amended it on July 11, 2000, with Ordinance Number 00-186 in order to allow for the identification, designation and protection of road corridors; and

WHEREAS, the Kane County Historic Preservation Commission has found that Brundige Road, in its entire length, and with certain adjacent properties as defined in the Corridor Management Plan, exemplifies the characteristics of rural Kane County; and is important in the history of the development of Kane County; and

WHEREAS, the Kane County Historic Preservation Commission has recommended that it be designated a Rustic Road for its scenic, historic and natural significance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Kane County Board, that Brundige Road, as recommended by the Kane County Historic Preservation Commission, is hereby designated a Kane County Rustic Road, placed on the Kane County Register of Historic Places, and afforded the protection of a historic district as provided through provisions in the Kane County Historic Preservation Ordinance.

d by the Kane County Board on June 14, 2005. Karen McConnaughay John A. Cunningham Chairman, County Board Clerk, County Board Kane County, Illinois Kane County, Illinois STATE OF ILLINOIS Vote: COUNTY OF KANE Yes No I, John A. Cunningham, Kane County Clerk and Keeper of the Records in Kane County, Illinois Voice do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the original record on file. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affix the Seal of the County of Kane at my Abstentions office in Geneva, Illinois 6BrundigeRd

John A. Cunningham, Kane County Clerk

#### FEATURES OF RUSTIC ROADS

#### NATURAL FEATURES:

- Expansive views, such as those that overlook stream valleys
- Unusual land forms, ridgelines, ravines, narrow valleys, and rock outcrops
- Water
- · Woods
- Wildflower glades, evergreen groves, flowering native trees, and shrub masses
- · Other areas of native vegetation

#### **BUILT FEATURES:**

- · Churches and old cemeteries
- Farmsteads
- Architecturally and/or historically significant buildings
- Monuments, memorials, and statues
- · Historical markers
- · Concrete automobile club guideposts
- · Railroad and accessory features
- · Designed landscapes
- Roadway pavement, drainage, bridges, tunnels, and other features
- Local activity centers, such as farm supply stores, village stores, inns, mills, factories, and institutions



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

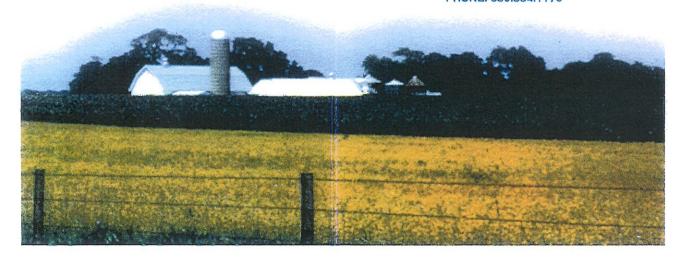
KANE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

719 BATAVIA AVE., GENEVA, IL 60134

PHONE: 630.232.3480

OR

KANE COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION
41W011 BURLINGTON RD., ST. CHARLES, IL 60175
PHONE: 630.584.1170





#### **EVERYBODY NEEDS BEAUTY**

as well as bread,

places to play in

and pray in.



where nature may heal
and give strength
to body and soul alike.

John Muir, The Yosemite

A PROGRAM OF THE
KANE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
AND
THE KANE COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION

ANY OF THE ROADS IN KANE COUNTY reveal the rural character of the area. Views of the country-

side from these roads provide a sense of stability in a fast-changing world. Points of visual interest along rustic roads, both natural and manmade, add to the enjoyment of roadside scenery and to a sense of place. In Kane County, rustic roads provide views of expansive woods and gently rolling farm fields, the Fox River and its tributaries, autumn color, farmhouses, barns, hedgerows, and churches.

Roadside land is often the first and most visible land to be converted to residential or commercial uses. Kane County has taken the lead in establishing the Rustic Roads Program to protect some of its rural roads and scenic vistas for future generations. The Rustic Roads Program promotes:

- 1. A SENSE OF PLACE, by preserving community identity and quality of life;
- 2. RESOURCE PRESERVATION, by protecting the significant scenic, natural and historic resources within road corridors;

- **3. RECREATION,** by providing enjoyment for those who drive for pleasure and sightseeing; and
- **4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,** by generating tourist revenue through the promotion of the scenic beauty of the county.

#### BACKGROUND

The overall objective of the Rustic Roads Program is to preserve and enhance Kane County's rural character while incorporating new development and transportation needs as subtly as possible. The program was developed in response to two of the Strategic Objectives adopted by resolution on August 12, 1997, by the County Board. Objectives three and five set forth in the resolution state that the board will work "To maintain and preserve the natural beauty of Kane County" and "To promote responsible. managed growth patterns through intergovernmental planning agreements." In addition, both the County's 2020 Transportation Plan and 2020 Land Resource Management Plan cited the need for and desirability of establishing a Rustic Roads Program in Kane County. On July 11, 2000, the Program was adopted by the Kane County Board.

#### **OVERVIEW OF PROCESS**

- The Rustic Roads program was established to preserve both roads and the surrounding features that create their character (the road corridor). Designated road corridors minimally include the road right-of-way and can also include properties and features adjacent to the right-of-way. The program applies to roads located in unincorporated Kane County and can include municipal roads through intergovernmental agreements.
- The designation process includes gathering input from property owners within and adjacent to nominated road corridors, the appropriate highway authority, public officials and other governmental jurisdictions.
- Rustic Road designation does not "freeze" roads in time. During the designation process, a Corridor Management Plan is developed which defines the significant features of the road corridor that should be protected and enhanced. Traffic and life safety issues continue to be addressed while those features are preserved.

