

*Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
State Infrastructure Bank Program*

1. Applicant/Community: Village of Fontana on Geneva Lake, Walworth County

Address/P. O. Box: 175 Valley View Drive, PO Box 200

City & Zip Code: Fontana, WI 53125

Contact Person: Dennis Martin

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2. Project Eligibility: Circle the following area(s) below that best describes the transportation improvement eligible under Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act Title 23 Program and Title 49 Transit Program.

National Highway System

Urban Arterial

Minor Arterials

Major Collectors

Bridges

Railroad Capital Improvement

Transit Facility or Transit Capital Improvement

Safety Improvements

Traffic Management

Activities Listed in Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP)

Elderly and Disabled Transportation

3. List the municipal government(s) responsible for the repair and maintenance of the public facility. (Indicate lead agency if more than one applicant.)

**Village of Fontana on Geneva Lake**

4. Describe the proposed transportation infrastructure improvement. Give the geographic location of the project.

**Emergency repair project and reconstruction project on the lakefront bridge that is located on South Lakeshore Drive over the Abbey Harbor channel from Geneva Lake to the Abbey Harbor.**

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5. Describe the economic benefit(s) of the proposed transportation improvement. (If appropriate, describe how the improvement will preserve, promote or encourage economic development for the community. If possible, quantify any positive impacts in terms of job creation or retention, number of types of businesses served by the project, prospective for new expanding businesses opportunities and private investment, etc.)

The bridge must be reconstructed to keep the two sides of the village connected for motorists and pedestrian traffic in order to preserve the existing tourism and recreational based economy. Every business located in the Village of Fontana is dependent in some manner to the bridge, which must be replaced. The transportation system in the Village and the entire west end of Geneva Lake depends on the bridge being open.

AND/OR

Describe the potential transportation efficiencies that will result when the project is completed. (i.e. better traffic circulation, reduction of congestion, improved safety, improved air quality, accessibility, increased connectivity with other intermodal facilities such as airports, harbors, rail corridors, facilitating other mode of transportation such as pedestrian walk-ways, bicycle paths, and transit facilities, etc.) Indicate if the proposal is part of a local or regional land use plan.

The bridge is currently only opened for automobile and pedestrian traffic and once reconstructed will reestablish the existing efficient traffic system without detours. The reconstruction of the bridge also will ensure safe and expedient emergency response from the Village of Fontana Fire and Rescue Department to both sides of town. The department is located a quarter-mile from the bridge, which is necessary for emergency vehicles to get to the other side of the Village without the delays of following a detour.

6. Provide a cost estimate of the transportation improvement. Please attach applicable unit prices for project design and engineering (design and engineering plans in metric if possible, projects let after September 2000 must be in metric), real estate, construction, reconstruction, utility relocation, and contingencies, etc. **\$1.5 million estimate for the emergency repair and for the replacement projects. The preliminary engineering plans for the bridge replacement are just underway.**

7. Provide a site plan (map) showing area transportation corridors and facilities (roads, rail lines, airports, harbors, bridges etc.)

**Attached – Bride location highlighted in “RED.”**

8. Provide the daily initial and projected volume of autos, trucks, semi-trailers, bike or pedestrian using the new facilities or ridership for a transit, bus or vanpool project.

**The WisDOT AADT count for the nearest section of this roadway was 4,100 in 2009. There are also a large number of pedestrian users of the roadway, especially in the summer months that have not been measured as this route is part of a lakeshore path that encircles the entire Geneva Lake.**

9. Provide a narrative and documentation that demonstrates community and business support for the transportation facility. Describe the project sponsors/participants and type and level of support.

**The Village of Fontana is the only project sponsor/participant and funding source available.**

**With regard to a narrative and documentation demonstrating community and business support for reconstructing the bridge, following are excerpts from Village of Fontana Board of Trustees meetings.**

***June 26, 2014 Village of Fontana Board of Trustees meeting Minutes excerpt:***

**Consider Emergency Repair Project for South Lakeshore Drive Bridge**

The emergency meeting was called by Trustees McGreevy and Spadoni at 11:00 am on June 26, 2014 after the Village received a report from its contracted bridge inspection engineering firm, Collins Engineers, Inc., Milwaukee, and a subsequent order from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to immediately close the bridge on South Lakeshore Drive at the Abbey Harbor. Martin stated that the Public Works Committee recommended the hiring of Collins to perform a comprehensive inspection of the bridge after structural concerns were noted by Director of Streets Ron Adams and brought to the attention of the committee. The Village Board authorized an initial inspection that was conducted two months ago, and a subsequent comprehensive study at the recommendation of Collins, which was completed Wednesday, June 25, 2014. Martin stated that the Village has contracted with Walworth County for several years on the Wisconsin DOT required bridge inspections, which reportedly have only addressed the surface level of the bridge. Martin stated that when Adams reported to the committee that he had noted serious concerns when completing a road maintenance project on the bridge, the committee received a recommendation from the Village engineer to contract with Collins for an extensive structural inspection of the bridge. Tom Collins stated that the June 25<sup>th</sup> inspection revealed that the majority of the below surface pilings have buckled and the bridge could be compromised at any moment. Collins stated that they reviewed the investigation findings Wednesday evening and contacted the Village Thursday morning to recommend the immediate closure of the bridge and the sidewalks under the bridge. Collins stated that they determined the bridge structure can currently only handle the dead weight load of the bridge and pedestrians. Following a staff meeting with the Village engineer and attorney, President Petersen directed staff to close the bridge and post signage as soon as possible. The Village was subsequently contacted by the Wisconsin DOT and the emergency meeting was called. Following discussion, Collins Engineers Senior Vice President Stan-Lee Kaderbek stated that he could design a short-term repair project to reopen one lane of the bridge for automobile traffic; that pedestrians can walk over the

bridge, but not on the sidewalks under the bridge; and that the Abbey channel can remain open for use except during the repair and reconstruction projects when the new pilings are being installed. In response to liability concerns stated by Attorney Thorpe, Kaderbek stated that as long as someone monitors the level of the bridge and records the elevation measurements three times a day, Collins Engineering will sign off on a statement regarding the safety of the current bridge and allowing pedestrians to walk on it and boaters to drive under it in the channel. Collins Engineers inspector Ray Forsythe stated that the only structural concern, now that traffic has been blocked from crossing the bridge, are the sidewalks under the bridge as they are no longer on a solid foundation. Following further discussion, Kaderbek stated that he can design a short-term repair plan that could be completed in a matter of days, with favorable weather. Kaderbek stated that he could have a draft of the repair plan to the Village by the next morning. Wisconsin DNR Environmental Review Specialist and Transportation Liaison Craig Webster stated that he will assist the Village and Collins in obtaining the necessary permits, and the DNR stands ready to get the permits approved verbally if necessary in order to expedite the repair and replacement projects, and to keep the Abbey channel open to Geneva Lake. The Village Board members reached the consensus that the repair plan should be designed by Collins Engineers with the subsequent bridge replacement project in mind, that the proposed plan should be presented at another emergency meeting for final approval, that the temporary repair plan should be designed to open one lane for automobile-only traffic by July 3, 2014 and through mid-September, and for the traffic to be controlled by traffic lights on both sides of the bridge. Adams stated that earlier in the day, he contacted Scherrer Construction, Burlington, and Jeff Wilkins had come out to inspect the bridge and indicated that his firm could mobilize for the immediate start of a repair project. Tom Collins stated that the state requires the use of prequalified contractors to work on bridge projects, and the repair project contractor will need the materials and equipment to be readily available. Wilkins stated that Scherrer is prequalified with the state and he could have the necessary steel beams for the repair project delivered to the site within 24 hours. State Representative Amy Loudeneck stated that she has already been in contact with the DNR and DOT administrations, as well as the governor's office, to discuss emergency funding; and her office is ready to assist the Village with any other issue that should arise. Following further discussion, it was clarified that the bridge currently can be crossed by pedestrians and that boaters can use the channel; that boat traffic will be stopped during the construction periods; and that the sidewalks under the bridge cannot be used until the replacement project has been completed this fall. Fire and Rescue Department Assistant Chief Scott Peterson stated that plans will be made for fire and rescue vehicles to be stationed and/or available on both sides of the bridge.

Trustee McGreevy/Trustee Prudden 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to authorize Collins Engineers, Inc., Milwaukee, to work with Scherrer Construction, Burlington, on designing a temporary bridge repair plan to get the bridge open for one lane of automobile traffic through the summer season, and to bring the design proposal and cost estimates back to the Village Board for subsequent approval. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Following discussion, the Village Board directed staff to schedule another emergency meeting on Saturday, June 28, 2014 beginning at 8:00 am to consider the proposed repair plan and the project contracts with Collins Engineers and Scherrer Construction. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the monthly meeting of the Public Works Committee. Spadoni stated that staff should be sure to contact the media and Charter Communications to determine if announcements regarding the bridge can be posted and/or broadcasted. The Abbey Harbor Yacht Club staff will be sending out email and Twitter updates to its members.

Trustee Spadoni/Trustee McGreevy 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to direct staff to schedule an emergency meeting for Saturday, June 28, 2014 beginning at 8:00 am to consider the proposed South Lakeshore Drive bridge repair plan and cost estimates, and to approve the project contracts to be drafted by the Village attorney with Collins Engineers, Inc., Milwaukee, and Scherrer Construction, Burlington. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

*June 28, 2014 Village of Fontana Board of Trustees meeting Minutes excerpt:*  
**Approve Repair Project Plan and Funding for South Lakeshore Drive Bridge**

The emergency meeting was scheduled at the emergency meeting held June 26, 2014, at 5:00 pm and the agenda was posted the next morning. The Village Board approved motions on June 26, 2014 to authorize Collins Engineers, Inc., Milwaukee, to work with Scherrer Construction Company, Inc., Burlington, on designing a temporary bridge repair plan to get the bridge open for one lane of automobile traffic by July 3, 2014 and through the summer season, and to bring the design proposal and cost estimates back to the Village Board for subsequent approval; and to direct staff to schedule an emergency meeting for Saturday, June 28, 2014 to consider the proposed South Lakeshore Drive bridge repair plan and cost estimates, and to approve the project contracts to be drafted by the Village attorney with Collins Engineers and Scherrer Construction. The repair plan distributed for the meeting calls for installing new pilings on both sides of the bridge to support two steel beams to be erected and connected under the current bridge deck structure. One lane will be created for automobile and emergency vehicle traffic; however, trucks will be prohibited. Pedestrians also will be able to walk across the repaired bridge, but not under the bridge; and boaters will be able to use the channel under the bridge except when the piling construction work is underway. Thorpe presented the proposed contracts he finished negotiating with Collins Engineers and Scherrer Construction just prior to the meeting. In response to a question from Spadoni, Thorpe stated that an item in the Collins contract that states "laws of Illinois" is not a concern because his firm has attorneys who are licensed to practice in Illinois if necessary. Thorpe stated that because of the emergency nature of the situation and the need to make sure the record is clear with regard to the approval process, he drafted a resolution for Village Board consideration. Thorpe stated that Todd Wilkins of Scherrer Construction had submitted prior to the meeting the contract exhibit information listing Scherrer Construction's labor rates, which were reviewed without concern by Collins Engineers Senior Vice President Stan-Lee Kaderbek. Thorpe stated that the proposed contract with Scherrer also features one change to a contractor markup provision on time and materials because of the unpredictability of the pilings work. Regarding the financing for the repair project and the eventual replacement project, Treasurer Scott Vilona stated that he has made preliminary contact with Walworth State Bank, the State Investment Pool and Jim Mann at Ehlers Financial Services, Inc. Walworth State Bank President Robert Klockars stated that he talked to Vilona the previous day, and after discussing the situation with the other bank officers, Walworth State Bank will provide a short-term loan if necessary at 2.45 percent interest. Klockars stated that the state pool quoted an interest rate of 2.5 percent, and the Walworth State Bank determined it can offer the lower rate for up to one year and the bank officers are committed to help the village with the financing situation. Thorpe stated that the proposed contract with Scherrer calls for a project completion deadline of July 3, 2014. Todd Wilkins stated that Scherrer Construction has already commenced with staging for the project and they will be ready to start Monday morning, June 30, 2014 weather permitting. Wilkins stated that he will meet the deadline if the weather is not inclement, as lightning or rain would prevent work on installing the new pilings and it would also cause safety concerns for work with steel beams. In response to questions, Wilkins stated that Scherrer will set up traffic control lights for automobile traffic to cross the bridge, and timeframes will be scheduled for the crane or cranes to stop work on the pilings so that boats can be driven in and out of the Abbey Harbor on the construction days, with those timeframes to be scheduled by Scherrer Construction with the Village administrator and the Abbey Harbor Yacht Club staff. There will be no truck traffic allowed on the repaired bridge; however, fire and rescue vehicles will be able to drive over the bridge one at a time. Wilkins stated that if authorized, he could bring in two cranes to expedite the completion of the repair project. Wilkins stated that a second crane would add \$10,000 to the project expenses. Cindy Wilson asked for project and contract details and the cost estimate for the repair project, which is \$139,000 to \$200,000. Dan Greben asked if the Village would be making plans for emergency vehicles to be parked on each side of the bridge, and if emergency vehicles would be allowed to cross the repaired bridge. President Petersen stated that village staff has already made plans for fire, rescue and utility vehicles to be immediately available on both sides of the bridge. Spadoni stated that he received a message from State Representative Amy Loudenberg that morning which states that she has talked to officials with the DNR and DOT, and with Governor Scott Walker about the availability of financial assistance for the bridge repair and replacement projects, and the Village staff is supposed to keep her updated and seek her assistance when necessary. Trustee McGreevy stated that he wanted to commend the village staff members, state officials, and contracted professionals who all worked very hard in the last two days to get the repair project planned and approved.

Trustee McGreevy/Trustee Pappas 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve Resolution 06-28-14-01, regarding authorization of emergency bridge repairs, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote. Trustee McGreevy/Trustee Prudden 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the bridge repair construction contract with Scherrer Construction Company, Inc., Burlington, as presented, with the addition of a clause for a 15 percent markup fee for materials and labor, if necessary. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Trustee Spadoni/Trustee McGreevy 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to authorize an amendment in the scope of work clause in the bridge repair construction contact with Scherrer Construction Company, Inc., Burlington, to authorize an additional crane for the project for a cost not to exceed \$10,000. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Trustee Spadoni/Trustee McGreevy 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the temporary bridge repair plan as drafted by Collins Engineers, Inc., Milwaukee, and the engineering design and project inspection services contract for the bridge repair project with Collins Engineers, with the estimated total project cost of \$139,000 to \$200,000, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

*July 7, 2014 Village of Fontana Board of Trustees meeting Minutes excerpt:*

**Direction on South Lakeshore Drive Bridge Replacement Planning**

Attorney Thorpe stated that the Village will need a new contract to hire Collins Engineers, Inc., for the bridge reconstruction project, and that the actual construction contract will have to be put out for bids. Martin stated that staff has proposed a contract on an hourly basis with Collins for the preliminary design services and for funding application assistance. A motion was made by Trustee Spadoni and seconded by Trustee Kenny to have Collins Engineers prepare a draft agreement for a new bridge design contract. Thorpe stated that the contract should be retroactive to the date the grant application discussions and meetings commenced, which was earlier that day. Collins suggested the Village Board members provide direction on what types of changes, if any, are desired for the new bridge. Discussion ensued on the estimated length of time to construct a new bridge. Collins stated it really depends on whether the Village plans to go through state funding channels or not, as well as if any modifications that will be made to the new bridge that would require Army Corps of Engineers and/or DNR permits. Any dredging, excavating in the waterway, changes in size, etc., will all require permits and applications which can slow down the process by several years. Martin stated staff is currently researching the funding and permit options in order to obtain the most practical and cost effective solution. Unofficial minutes from the staff meeting held earlier in the day, which detail the DOT State Infrastructure Bank Program funding options, were included in the Village Board meeting packets.

Trustee Spadoni/Trustee Kenny 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION for Collins Engineers to prepare a draft agreement for preliminary bridge design services retroactive to July 7, 2014, and the MOTION carried without a negative vote.

Trustee Spadoni read a list of names of individuals and businesses that the Village Board wanted to thank for their help during the bridge repair project, which included Dennis Martin, Julie Olson, Theresa Linneman, Ron Nyman, Ron Adams, Dennis Bar, the DPW and Utility crew members, Al Kaminski, Collins Engineers and Roy Forsyth, Scherrer Construction Company and Todd Wilkins, the Walworth State Bank Board of Directors, the Coffee Mill, Abbey Resort, Pie High Pizza Company, Gordy's, Chucks, Novak's Deli, and Representative Amy Loudenberg. Added to that list by Trustee Prudden were the Water Safety Patrol, Fontana Police Department, Fontana Fire and Rescue Department, Tom Hausner and the Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency, Abbey Marina staff and Edwin Snyder, III and Edwin Snyder, IV, and Darrell Frederick and Austin Pier Company. Todd Wilkins of Scherrer Construction stated he was very proud of his team and how his employees and the community came together to get the bridge finished. Wilkins stated it was the largest team effort he has ever witnessed.

President Petersen asked Al Kaminski if he would be willing to head the bridge project and be the point of contact for the Village Board members regarding any bridge planning matters, to which Kaminski agreed. Kaminski's services will be tied into the consulting contract for the ongoing DPW administrative review project.

President Petersen/Trustee Kenny 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to direct Al Kaminski to provide communication services and head up the bridge replacement planning services as the point of contact for the Village Board members. The MOTION carried without a negative vote.

10. Document project impacts, i.e. right of way acquisition, environmental, air quality, archeological, historical, agricultural, business and residential relocations, easements, permits, etc., on or near the proposed project.

There will be no project impacts as the bridge is already existing and is just being reconstructed in its existing site.

11. Indicate the amount requested from the State Infrastructure Bank. List any other matching or contributing funds for the project. Indicate the financial resources, collateral, special assessments, etc., necessary to pay back the SIB loan.

\$1.5 million

No other matching or contributing funds are available to Village of Fontana.

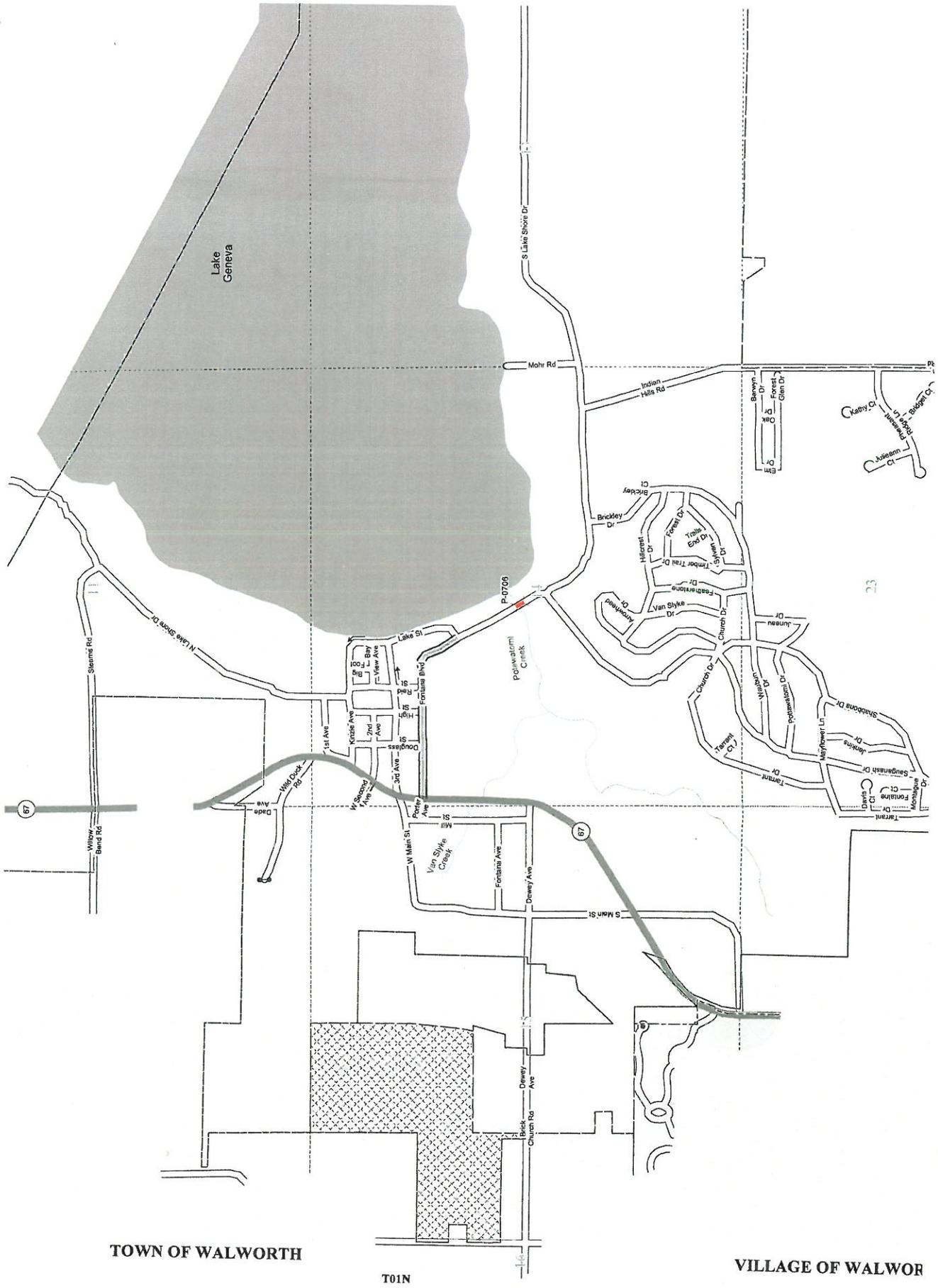
The Village has an equalized value that exceeds \$1 billion and will be paying back the loan through the General Fund Debt Service.



Application submitted by

9/8/2014

Date



TOWN OF WALWORTH

VILLAGE OF WALWOR

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