



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MEMORANDUM

ITEM: Resolution 2023-51: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement for Railroad Construction Services by and Between the City of Monticello and Norfolk and Western Rail Company (Norfolk Southern Railway Company, Successor)	DEPARTMENT: City Administration
AGENDA SECTION: New Business	SUBMITTED BY: Terry Summers, City Administrator
ATTACHMENTS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESOLUTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	DATE: September 7, 2023

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the City of Monticello entered into a jurisdictional transfer of the bridge that carries Old Route 47 over the Sangamon River. The state paid the city approximately \$6,000,000 to be used for bridge reconstruction or other motor fuel tax eligible projects. In August of 2016, the state sent a bridge rating letter to the city informing us that the latest bridge inspection report (2015) required the bridge to be closed. This closure was not disclosed prior to the jurisdictional transfer. In 2016, the City of Monticello ascertained the professional services of ESCA Consultants (ESCA) to perform a bridge retirement report. ESCA provided nine alternatives to access our city owned property and watermain and a neighboring private parcel. Cost estimates were provided for each of the alternatives including bridge replacement of approximately \$6.3 million to alternate number 4A of approximately \$1.6 million. Alternate 4A was and has continued to be the preference of former City Councils.

Alternate 4A requires the improvement of an existing at-grade private crossing of the railroad tracks obtained by the city from a previous property owner. The city has been working with ESCA to design and produce bid documents for this alternate and communicating with the railroad company since 2016.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the City Council discuss and approve Resolution 2023-51 as submitted.