

## **Letters to the editor: Stop wasteful studies for Willow Road widening**

<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/winnetka/news/forum/2178840,winnetka-hamos-letter-041510-s1.article>

April 22, 2010

This week the Community Advisory Group (CAG) on Willow Road met for the third time to discuss the future of the road. What day did they choose for this meeting? April 15 -- Tax Day.

I am outraged that on the same day we are asked to write hefty checks to the state for our annual taxes, the state would hold another wasteful meeting to discuss spending \$20 million more on Willow Road than is necessary.

I can't understand why, with the state in deep financial crisis, IDOT would ask taxpayers to spend \$25 million dollars on improvements to Willow Road when it only costs \$5 million to \$7 million dollars to resolve the issues at the center of this debate. The better, less expensive plan has already been vetted and approved and can be built today.

Even the CAG meetings are a waste of taxpayer dollars. They are nothing but a false show of good faith as IDOT continues to pursue the more expensive proposal. IDOT is merely going through the motions of democratic participation, by allowing the public to voice concerns and then completely disregarding them, and paying for the meetings from the hard-earned tax dollars generated by those disenfranchised people.

I am tired of wasting valuable time and money prolonging a project that could have been completed four years ago. Had the state just followed the original plan, the road would be built, traffic would be cleared and the state of Illinois would be \$20 million richer.

**Bob Hayward**

**CAG Member - Northfield**