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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Village of Sugar Grove Reaches Resolution to Hankes Road Bridge Jurisdictional Dispute**

SUGAR GROVE, Ill. (May 20, 2026) – The Village of Sugar Grove is pleased to announce a long-awaited resolution to the jurisdictional dispute surrounding the Hankes Road Bridge. Through strong collaboration and persistent effort across multiple agencies and community partners, an agreement has been reached that will significantly improve the safety and long-term reliability of this critical connection between communities.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will complete major structural improvements to the Hankes Road Bridge. This work will include repairing the bridge substructure and fully replacing the bridge deck. The bridge itself will remain under IDOT jurisdiction, including a commitment to covering future resurfacing and overlay work.

The Village of Sugar Grove will assume jurisdictional responsibility for minor surface repairs, pavement markings on the wearing surface, and guardrail maintenance when required. Today, the Village and the Township Road District executed an intergovernmental agreement to collaboratively manage pothole repairs until IDOT's completion of the bridge rehabilitation. In addition, the Sugar Grove Township Road District has agreed to continue the existing snow plowing arrangement.

"I am proud to share that this agreement resolves a 37-year jurisdictional dispute that will result in a bridge that was once seen as a division between communities now become a safe and reliable connection," said Village President Sue Stillwell.

The Village extends its sincere appreciation to the many individuals and organizations whose collaboration made this outcome possible. Special thanks go to Trustee Tony Speciale, Senator Dave Syverson, Senator Matt Hanson, the Township of Sugar Grove, the Sugar Grove Township Road District, Doug Musser, the Village of Sugar Grove Trustees, Vasselli Law, Steven Schilke of IDOT, and other leaders at the state level.

The Village also wishes to thank the countless residents and community members who provided emails, photos, suggestions, and letters over the years. Their ongoing advocacy and engagement have been invaluable in reaching this milestone.

"Together, we have achieved a resolution that strengthens our infrastructure, enhances safety, and demonstrates the power of persistent community partnership," added President Stillwell.

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