Welcome

Illinois Route 131 / Green Bay Road Project

Public Information Meeting

at Beach Park Middle School

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Public Meeting Process

1. Sign-In and Take Newsletter
2. Watch Audio-Visual Presentation
3. View the Exhibits
4. Ask Questions of the Project Team
5. Provide Comments
THE CSS APPROACH
Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) is an approach that involves stakeholders early and often in development of a consensus solution. CSS is an approach that focuses on developing and building projects that reflect the surroundings or “context” and the outcome (design) and the process. This approach considers various disciplines from the beginning of the project through construction. The purpose of CSS is to gather and duly consider input on the project from all stakeholders, in order to produce the best solutions to any problems identified by the process.

THE ROLE OF THE STAKEHOLDERS
A stakeholder is a person or business who uses the infrastructure or lives within or near the project area. This includes residents, landowners, minority communities affected by a project, businesses, advocates for policy, elected officials in whose jurisdiction the project is located, governmental regulatory agencies, and travelers who use the facility. The role of the stakeholders is to advise the Illinois Department of Transportation on issues related to the design throughout the entire study process and to help identify elements of the project purpose and need. All input from all participants in the process is valued and will be considered.

THE DEFINITION OF CONTEXT
Context is all elements related to the people and place where a project is located. This includes both visible elements such as environmental or historic resources and invisible elements such as community values, traditions, and expectations.

THE DEFINITION OF CONSENSUS
Consensus is defined as a majority of the stakeholders in agreement, with the minority agreeing that their input was duly considered. IDOT will try to achieve stakeholder consensus on project choices. However, IDOT is responsible for the final project decisions.
Project Schedule

**START**
- Performance Studies
- Identify Deficiencies
- Develop Purpose and Need
- Identify Possible Alternatives

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**
- Evaluate and Screen Alternatives
- Detailed Environmental and Technical Studies
- Preferred Alternative
- Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA)
- Final Environmental Assessment (FEA)
- Future Phase

**WE ARE HERE**
- Fall 2008
- Spring 2009
- 2009
- 2010

**Public Meeting 1**
- Educate stakeholders on project process and study area
- Solicit issues/concerns from stakeholders

**Public Meeting 2** (Early Spring 2009)
- Develop Project Purpose & Need Statement
- Solicit project alternatives from stakeholders

**Public Meeting 3** (Early Fall 2009)
- Present alternatives to be evaluated
- Solicit input from stakeholders

**Public Meeting 4** (Late Winter 2010)
- Educate alternative evaluation findings
- Present preferred alternative
- Solicit stakeholder input

**Public Hearing** (Early Fall 2010)
- Present recommended alternative
- Present draft EA

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Project Study Goals and Objectives

- Identify all Stakeholders of the project
- Provide the opportunity for continuous stakeholder input into the project’s development
- Determine project solutions with stakeholder input and consensus
- Identify transportation needs for the corridor
- Highlight potential issues to be considered in the study
- Develop a project Purpose and Need
- Identify reasonable alternative solutions to the transportation problems
- Evaluate and choose concept alternatives
- Choose preferred alternative/recommended improvement
Project Working Groups

Project Study Group (PSG)

The PSG will make the ultimate project recommendations and decisions on this project. The PSG also has the primary responsibility for the project development process. This group will meet throughout the study process to provide technical oversight and expertise in key areas including study process, agency procedures and standards, and technical approaches. The PSG also has primary responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Stakeholder Involvement Plan. This group consists of a multidisciplinary team of representatives from IDOT, FHWA, and the project consultant (HNTB). The membership of the PSG will evolve as the understanding of the project’s context is clarified.

Corridor Planning Group (CPG)

The purpose of the CPG is to provide input on the development of the Purpose and Need statement and the alternatives to be carried forward for evaluation in the Draft Environmental Assessment. The CPG consists of community leaders (Mayor or Manager from each of the six communities in the study area and the Chairman from Lake County, or other designees) that are directly affected by the study, and who have authority to enter into intergovernmental agreements.

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

The TAG’s provide a means for obtaining structured input from a diverse set of stakeholders. The three TAG categories (Environmental, Land Use, and Transportation) will focus on technical aspects of the project development process and will provide external subject-matter information and input with respect to environmental, land use and transportation. The TAG will be comprised of the general public with expertise or particular interest in these areas, along with planning agencies and environmental groups.

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2000 Population and 2030 Projected Growth
(source: Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning)

- Gurnee: 24.1%
- Waukegan: 5.5%
- Beach Park: 66.1%
- Wadsworth: 124.5%
- Zion: 42.5%
- Winthrop Harbor: 99.5%
- Pleasant Prairie: 31.9% *

* Pleasant Prairie: Projected growth for year 2025
EXISTING TYPICAL SECTION
IL ROUTE 131
Next Steps

• Form and meet with Corridor Planning Group and Technical Advisory Groups
• Purpose & Need Development

➢ Public Meeting 2
   Early Spring 2009
   Public Input on Purpose & Need
   Identify/Solicit Alternatives
   • Finalize Purpose & Need Statement
   • Identify Design Alternatives

➢ Public Meeting 3
   Early Fall 2009
   Present Alternatives to be Evaluated
How to Get Involved

• Fill out Comment Form
• Sign up to be on the mailing list
  ➢ Include your name, mailing address, and email address
• Attend Public Meetings
• Sign up to join a Technical Advisory Group
  ➢ Transportation
  ➢ Land Use Planning
  ➢ Environmental Resources

• Go to Website
  ➢ Find out what’s new
  ➢ Read about study progress
  ➢ Get involved
    o Give us your comments and suggestions
    o Add your name to a mailing list
  ➢ Tell a friend
  ➢ View links to other pertinent data
Website

www.IL131Project.com

Website Features:

- Provides project description and planning process overview
- “Get Involved” section contains information on Public Meetings and links to contact the project team
- Updated frequently with project progress