



Illinois Route 31 from IL 176 to IL 120 - Phase I Study Public Meeting #1 Summary

The first public meeting for the Illinois Route 31 Phase I Study was held on Thursday, June 9th, 2011 at the City of Crystal Lake City Hall at 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014, from 4 – 7 PM. The meeting was an open house format with a continuous PowerPoint presentation, exhibit boards for review, and large scale aerials of the study area to which meeting attendees provided comments, suggestions, issues and concerns. The meeting was attended by **55 people; 7 comment forms, 8 context audit forms, 3 email / mail comments, and 16 CAG Membership Request Forms** were received.

The following public officials were in attendance:

- City of Crystal Lake
 - Victor Ramirez, Director of Public Works
 - Abigail Wilgreen, Assistant City Engineer
 - Steven Carruthers, Civil Engineer
 - Elizabeth Maxwell, Planner
- City of McHenry
 - Doug Martin, Deputy City Administrator
- Village of Prairie Grove
 - Jeannine Smith, Village Administrator
 - Everett Pratt, Village Trustee
- McHenry Township Fire Protection District
 - Rudy Horist, Deputy Fire Chief
- McHenry County Sheriff
 - Eric Ellis, Police Sergeant
- McHenry County Highway Department
 - Wally Dittrich, Design Manager
- McHenry County Board
 - Paula Yensen – 5th District
 - Nick Provenzano -3rd District

- McHenry County College/Shah Center
 - Dr. Vicky Smith, President
 - Catherine Jones, Executive Director of Shah Center Programs
 - Beverly Thomas, Coordinator, Family Violence Coordinating Council
 - Greg Evans, Director of Physical Facilities

Additional agencies/organizations represented included:

- McHenry County Bicycle Advocates
 - Eberhard Veit, President
- League of Illinois Bicyclists
 - Lou Svadlenka
 - Cheryl Svadlenka
- Illinois Trails Conservancy
 - Bev Moore
- Silver Creek Sleepy Hollow Creek EDMC
 - Lynn Rotunno, EDMC Watershed Coordinator

Meeting attendees had the opportunity to sign-up for consideration to participate on the Community Advisory Group (CAG). Sixteen (16) membership request forms were received.

The comments received covered a variety of topics, with the most predominant themes including:

-Congestion/safety concerns

-Noise mitigation

-Immediate need for improvements at the intersection of IL 31 and Edgewood Road

-Mountable medians for commercial access

-Request for additional dedicated turn lanes throughout project

-Request to widen to four through lanes of traffic

Additional comment topics included consideration that IL 31 is a primary ambulance route to Centegra-McHenry Hospital at Bull Valley Road, inclusion of bike paths/multi-modal transportation, speed limit in vicinity of large hill near Thunderbird Lake at the center of the project, and pedestrian and bicycle accommodations at proposed traffic signals.

The public comment period for this Initial Public Meeting was open through June 23rd, 2011.