



Illinois Department of Transportation

Community Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting #1

September 1, 2011



ILLINOIS

31



Illinois Route 31

ROUTE 176 TO ROUTE 120

www.ILRoute31.com

McHenry County

Introductions

- Illinois Department of Transportation
- STV Incorporated & Sub-Consultants
- Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.
- Community Advisory Group Members
 - » Please refer to list provided in Binder.
 - » Introduce yourself and state which group and/or municipality you represent, as well as why you volunteered for the Community Advisory Group.



Meeting Agenda Overview & CAG Binders

- Meeting Agenda Overview
 - » Please refer to agenda provided in Binder.
- CAG Binders
 - » Meeting Materials
 - » Reference Materials
 - » Notepad and Pen



CAG Ground Rules

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has established CAG ground rules as listed below under its CSS policy and procedures. These ground rules will not be considered final until they are agreed upon by the CAG membership.

1. Input on the project from all stakeholders is duly considered in order to yield the best solutions to problems identified by the process.
2. Input from all participants in the process is valued and considered.
3. The list of stakeholders is subject to revisions/additions at any time as events warrant.
4. All participants must keep an open mind and participate openly, honestly, and respectfully.
5. All participants should work collaboratively and cooperatively to provide input towards developing a solution.



CAG Ground Rules (Continued)

6. All participants in the process must treat each other with respect and dignity.
7. The project must progress at a reasonable pace, based on the project schedule.
8. CAG members should commit to attend all CAG meetings.
9. Members of the media and general public are welcome in all stakeholder meetings, but must remain in the role of observers, not participants in the process.
10. Final project decisions will be made by IDOT and FHWA. Input is sought from CAG members prior to major milestone decisions.



IDOT Project Development Process

PHASE I

Preliminary engineering & environmental study

PHASE II

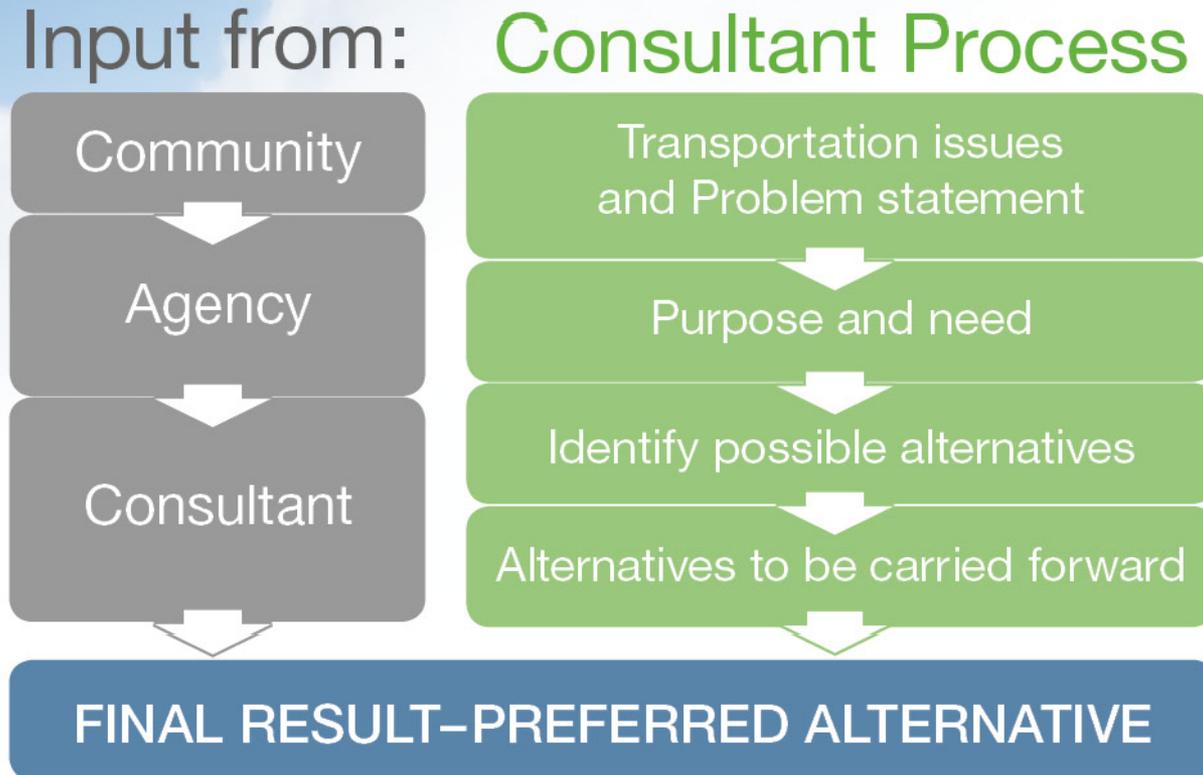
Contract plan preparation and land acquisition

PHASE III

Construction

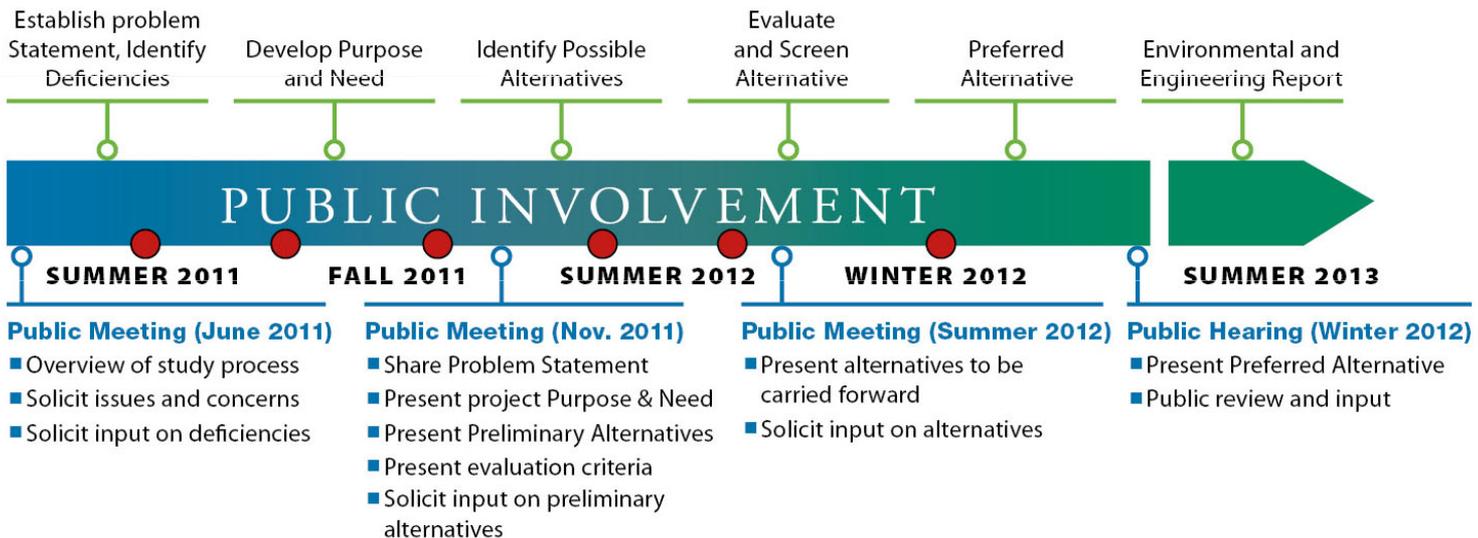


Phase I Study Process



Phase I Study Schedule

■ Project Milestones

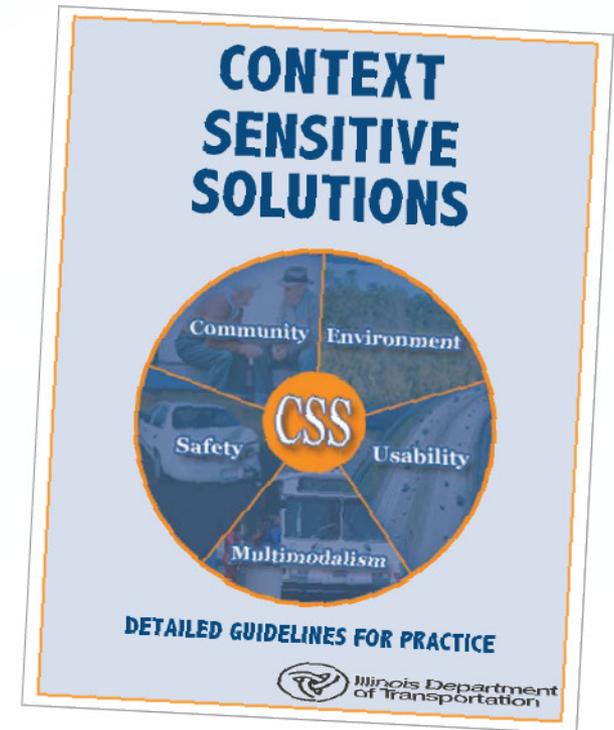


● **Anticipated CAG Meeting Schedule**



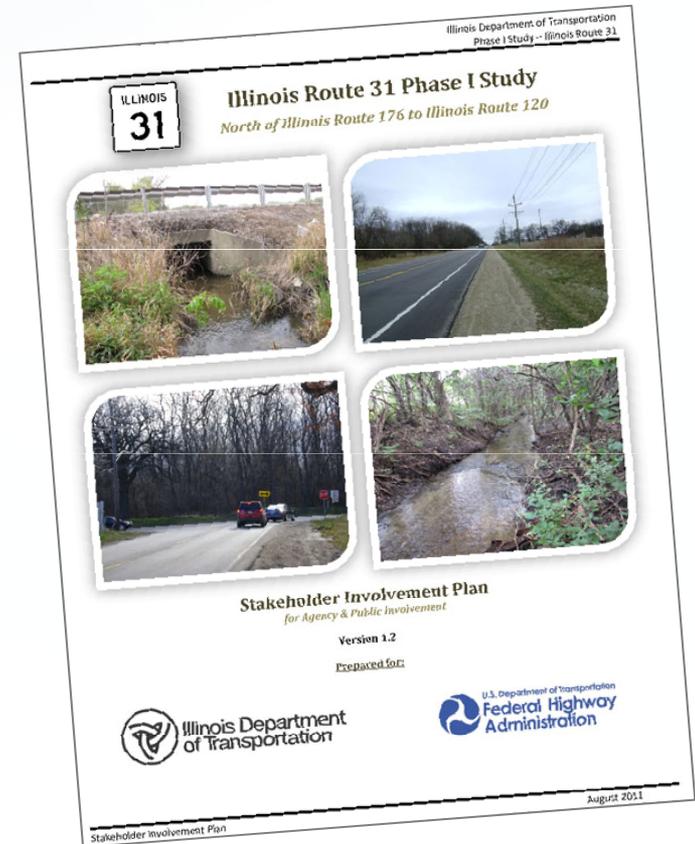
What is Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)?

- Involves all stakeholders
- Fits into its surroundings
- Develop, build and maintain cost effective transportation facilities
- Address all modes of transportation
- Preserve aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources
- Maintain safety and mobility



Stakeholder Involvement Plan (SIP)

- Blueprint for defining outreach tools and methods
- Framework for collecting stakeholder input
- Identifies roles and responsibilities of participants
- Establishes timing of stakeholder activities
- SIP is available for review today in your CAG binder and available for download on project website: www.ILRoute31.com



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

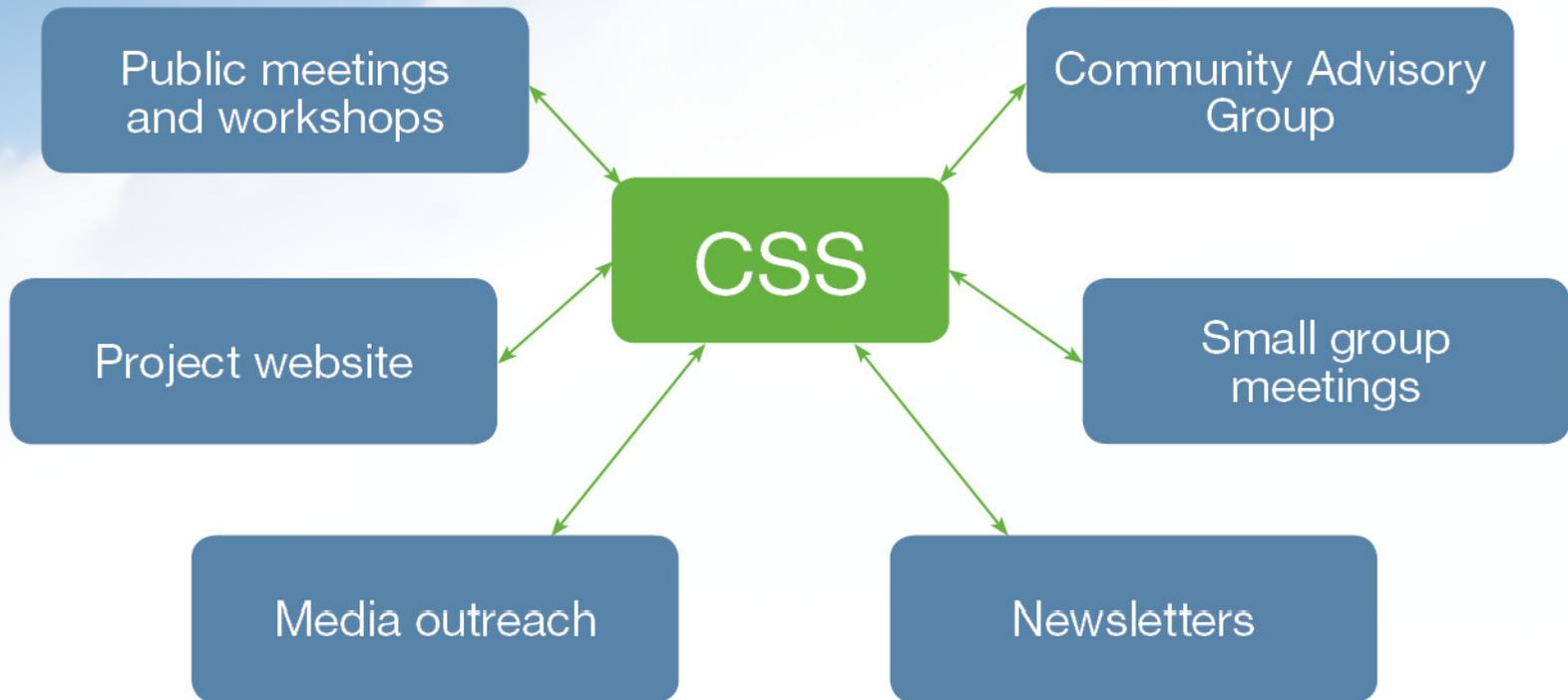
- Passed into law in 1969
- Compliance of this act throughout the project will be required to maintain federal funding eligibility
- CSS results should be fitted into the NEPA process

NEPA process requires the following:

- » Develop Purpose and Need
- » Full and reasonable ranges of alternatives, including “no build”
- » Comprehensive environmental review (avoid, minimize, mitigate)
- » Public involvement
- » Formal documentation/disclosure required (preparation of environmental report)



Public Involvement Opportunities



Project Study Group (PSG)

Project Study Group

IDOT • FHWA • Consultant

■ Purpose

- » Provide technical oversight and expertise in key areas
- » Meetings throughout the study process
- » IDOT and FHWA will make ultimate study decisions for the project.

■ Responsibility

- » Manage the project development process
- » Identify and resolve project issues
- » Promote partnerships
- » Work to collect stakeholder input
- » Acquire regulatory agency clearances and approvals



Community Advisory Group (CAG)

Community Advisory Group

Community Leaders

- » *Leaders with authority to speak on behalf of their organization*
- » *Mayor/Manager and county Chairman or designees*

Stakeholders

- » *Individuals or groups with expertise or technical interest in areas of transportation, land use, environment and economic development in the study area*

■ Purpose

- » Provide input on Purpose & Need statement
- » Provide input on alternatives

■ Responsibility

- » Commit to attend CAG meetings
- » Collaborate with PSG
- » Provide project input
- » Adhere to CAG ground rules



Summary of Public Meeting and Questionnaire Responses

- Please refer to the Public Meeting #1 Summary documents in your binder
- Primary Issues/concerns from Context Audit Form
 - » Pedestrian/Bicycle Accessibility
 - » Traffic Safety
 - » Traffic Congestion
 - » Residential Property Impacts
 - » Business Impacts / Access



Workshop: Project Problem Statement

- What is a Project Problem Statement?
 - » The Project Problem Statement records the reason **why** a project is necessary. What is the transportation problem this project is intended to solve?
 - » It is a concise narrative that defines a situation or circumstances to be solved. It does not describe specific solutions.
 - » It also expresses a desired condition not being achieved; as well as discusses factors that contribute to unacceptable performance.
 - » The problem statement is the first important step used to develop the formal project Purpose and Need statement (NEPA requirement).



Workshop: Project Problem Statement

- What will be accomplished during this workshop?
 - » Identify key transportation issues / concerns.
 - » These issues / concerns will be used to develop a Project Problem Statement.
 - » A suggested format of the Project Problem Statement will be **“The transportation problem(s) to be solved by this project is/are.....”**
 - » Project Alternatives will not be discussed during this workshop.



Workshop: Project Problem Statement

- **Group Exercise**

- » Part A: Brainstorming Key Transportation Issues / Concerns (20-25 minutes)
- » Part B: Developing the Draft Project Problem Statement (20-25 minutes)

- **Group Assignments**

- » Spokesperson to be elected by each group
- » Report back to large group by approximately 2:30 p.m.



Workshop: Project Problem Statement

- Spokespersons report results from small group exercises
- Large group develops a single overall Project Problem Statement (20-25 minutes)



Next Steps and Future Meetings

■ Next Steps

- » Ongoing Engineering Project Development activities:
 - » Traffic Analysis / Projections
 - » Crash Analysis
 - » Environmental Surveys
- » Development of Project Purpose and Need Statement per NEPA requirements

■ Future Meetings

- » CAG Meeting #2: September 22, 2011
- » CAG Meeting #3: October 2011
- » Public Meeting #2: November 2011



Thank You!

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