

# IL Route 47

IL Route 71 to Caton Farm Rd.

## Community Advisory Group Meeting #2 - May 7, 2012

### Yorkville Public Library

The second Community Advisory Group meeting for the IL Route 47 study was held on Monday, May 7, 2012 at the Yorkville Public Library. The meeting featured a project overview and update, review of the Community Context Audit responses, discussion of the proposed Problem Statement and Purpose & Need, and the solicitation of input on proposed project alternatives. The meeting was attended by **4 stakeholders:**

- Megan Andrews, Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Brad Sanderson, Engineering Enterprises, Inc. representing the United City of Yorkville
- Mike Simms, Kendall County Sheriff's Department
- Angela Zubko, Kendall County

#### **Project Overview and Update**

Study team members recapped the area and existing roadway conditions in the study area, including traffic volumes and crash data, and a brief explanation of the Stakeholder Involvement Plan was presented. The proposed scope of work will be determined through ongoing engineering evaluation and the public involvement process. It was noted that Phase II final plans are underway for adding lanes south of this study area, and IL 47 is currently being reconstructed north through Yorkville.

Project funding was explained, that while this Phase I Engineering Study is funded, the project is currently unfunded in the FY 2012-2017 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. The project will continue to be monitored and considered for inclusion in future programs. It is expected that the Phase I process will conclude in early 2013. Phase II Engineering will then require approximately 18-24 months for completion.

CAG members were then reminded of the results of Meeting #1, which included the identification of Issues and Concerns within the corridor. A handout summarizing all meeting results to date was provided to attendees.

#### **Community Context Audit Results**

The Community Context Audit assists with the understanding of the character of the community, and creates the foundation for the development of the Problem Statement and Purpose and Need for the

proposed improvement. The study team mailed out 15 audit forms, and 6 completed forms were returned. CAG members were presented with a summary of the results regarding:

- Community Characteristics/Land Use
- Infrastructure Assessment
- Neighborhood Culture, Aesthetics and Street Amenities
- Economic Development
- Community Planning

A copy of the Community Context Audit summary is attached.

**Preliminary Problem Statement and Purpose & Need**

CAG members then discussed the preliminary Problem Statement and Purpose & Need.

a. Preliminary PROBLEM STATEMENT:

*The transportation problem with Illinois Route 47 in Kendall County from Yorkville to Caton Farm Road is that projected vehicular traffic volumes along this Other Principal Arterial route will soon exceed the capacity of the existing two-lane roadway thereby increasing congestion, compromising safety, and reducing the quality of life of the adjacent communities. In order to meet the needs of the affected stakeholders, a transportation solution is needed that will increase highway capacity, reduce crashes, improve the highway drainage, support local agency pedestrian and bicycle accommodation plans, support local and regional economic vitality and development, maintain reasonable access to adjacent properties, and preserve key community characteristics.*

b. Preliminary PURPOSE & NEED:

*The purpose of the proposed action is to provide an improved transportation facility to serve existing and proposed demand in the project corridor. Specifically, the purposes of the project are to:*

- a. *Consider local and regional planning,*
- b. *Provide the traffic capacity necessary to accommodate existing and projected traffic volumes at an acceptable level of service,*
- c. *Provide reasonable access,*
- d. *Improve the safety of the highway,*
- e. *Accommodate all appropriate users, and*
- f. *Address pavement flooding issues without exacerbating current area drainage issues.*

There was consensus from the CAG members that both the preliminary Problem Statement and Purpose & Need accurately addressed the identified issues and concerns within the corridor, and the need for the improvement.

### **Proposed Alternatives**

Large scale plans for two possible alternatives were available for review and discussion with study team members. Typical sections and transitions were presented as well as possible on-road bicycle/pedestrian accommodations reflecting the United City of Yorkville's request not to provide off-road accommodations on this project. The City had previously indicated that they do not intend to extend sidewalks along IL Route 47 south of the existing terminus of facilities at the south end of the Saravanos commercial center. The City had also indicated that they do not intend extend the existing multi-use path that currently terminates within Windette Ridge, just south of Fairfax Way. A few post-it comments were provided:

- The southwest basins for the Kleinwachter property are not online. They overflow to the IL 47 west ditch.
- The grass waterway behind Grainco and the IDOT maintenance facility is being re-worked. Flow will be redirected to mirror prior drainage pattern and flow through the IDOT yard. This project is a joint effort being led by USDA and the Kendall SWCD.
- The pond behind 7511 Route 47 (roughly between Sta. 125+00 and Sta. 130+00) discharges towards the IL 47 west ditch via surface flow. A culvert then passes this flow under IL 47 and into Windette Ridge on the east side of IL 47. This is visible during heavy rain events.

The CAG members in attendance preferred Alternative #1A.

### **Next Steps**

The next steps in the process were identified:

- Finalize Problem Statement and Purpose & Need
- Refinement of the Alternative
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Project Study Group Meeting #2: June 12, 2012
  - Local Official's Meeting #2: July, 2012
  - Public Information Meeting #2: August, 2012
  - CAG Meeting #3: September, 2012