

Stakeholder Involvement Group Meeting #1

Summary

The first meeting of the Stakeholder Involvement Group (SIG) for the Fremont Center Road Phase I Engineering Study was held on August 13, 2015 at the Fremont Township Offices (22385 W. IL Route 60, Mundelein, IL 60060) at 3:30 P.M.

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the implementation process for the project, describe the stakeholder involvement process, describe the transportation planning process, present the existing conditions of the study area, conduct a needs assessment, and discuss potential transportation solutions.

SIG Members in Attendance:

- Bill Emmerich (Village of Mundelein)
- Steve Jankowski (Catholic Cemeteries)
- Christine Nordmark (Resident)
- Diana O'Kelly (Fremont Township)
- Dan Pierre (Grayslake Fire Protection District)
- Ed Quant (Alter Group)
- Randy Seebach (Lake County Forest Preserve District)
- Deb Slaughter (Resident)
- Chuck Smith (Countryside Fire Department District)
- Betsy Tekampe (Resident)
- Pete Tekampe (Resident – Saddlebrook Farms)
- Claudia Turk (Turk's Greenhouses)
- Don Vitek (Wirtz Family)
- Kurt Woolford (Lake County Stormwater Management Commission)

SIG Members Absent:

- John Baczek (Illinois Department of Transportation)
- Scott Firnbach (Village of Round Lake Park)
- Bill Heinz (Village of Grayslake)
- Keith Johnson (Fremont School District 79)
- Susan Triphahn (Lakewood Grove HOA, Round Lake Trustee)

Project Study Group (PSG) Members in Attendance:

- Emily Karry (Lake County Division of Transportation)
- Darrell Kuntz (Lake County Division of Transportation)
- Rich McMorris (Lake County Division of Transportation)
- Robert Andres (Civiltech Engineering)
- Mary Young (Civiltech Engineering)
- Joel Christell (Civiltech Engineering)
- James Tibble (Civiltech Engineering)

Others in Attendance:

- Bill Grinnell (Fremont Township)
- Erik Nordmark (Resident)

Ms. Young began the presentation with an overview of the project implementation process and the stakeholder involvement process. The project implementation process contains six Feasibility Study and Phase I milestones. The project schedule contains four SIG meetings, which align with the milestones. The roles and responsibilities of the SIG and PSG were defined and it was noted that LCDOT/IDOT will make the final recommendations and decisions.

Mr. Andres presented the historic and current methods used for transportation planning. He described the role of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and their *GO TO 2040* Transportation Plan. Mr. Andres also described the planning responsibilities of other agencies, along with their current improvement programs. He then shifted to discuss how future transportation improvements may affect the Fremont Center Road Phase I Study, particularly the IL Route 53/IL Route 120 project. Consideration of these future improvement plans is critical to identify improvements that will accommodate long term travel demand in the study area.

Ms. Young then presented the existing conditions of the project area. Most roadways in the project area have one through lane in each direction, with the exception of Peterson Road, which is under construction to add a second lane with a center median. The stop controlled T-intersections present safety concerns due to lack of adequate sight distances at the skewed intersections. There are limited pedestrian accommodations and bicycle facilities present in the project area. Initial data collection also identified environmental resources within the project limits that include wetlands, floodplain, and Beelow Lake.

A summary of the crash data within the project limits from 2009-2013 was shown. No cluster sites were identified; however, most crashes in the study area were intersection related.

The existing traffic volumes were presented. It was noted that there are high volumes along IL Route 60, IL Route 83, and Peterson Road.

A summary of the first Public Information Meeting was also provided. The meeting was held on March 18, 2015 and was attended by 97 people. Ten written comments were received.

Ms. Young split the SIG into three groups for an exercise to identify the problems within the project corridor. Each group placed post-it notes and wrote on the Existing Conditions Exhibit to identify the problems within the project area. Some of the problems identified were the following:

- Traffic congestion along IL Route 60.
- Sight distance issues at the Fremont Center Road intersection with IL Route 60.
- Speeding concerns.
- Lack of left and right turn lanes.
- Safety concerns at intersections.
- Lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
- Drainage issues on IL Route 60 due to Beelow Lake.
- Sight distance issues due to vertical profiles.
- School bus safety
- Fremont Township driveway being used as cut through.

Afterward, the groups were asked to discuss potential solutions to the problems that were identified. A summary of the discussion and ideas are below:

- Align Fremont Center Road to intersect IL Route 60 at 90 degrees.
- Extend Winchester Road west to intersect Alleghany Road.
- Extend Alleghany Road south to intersect IL Route 60 at 90 degrees.
- Add more travel lanes along IL Route 60.
- Connect schools, forest preserves, parks, and neighborhoods with bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- Extend Fremont Center Road to Behm Lane.
- Improve Winchester Road/IL Route 83 intersection.
- Add a Cul-de-sac at Erhart Road.
- Add a roadway to loop the development at the southern end of the project area.
- Re-align Fremont Center Road to the southwest leg of the Peterson Road/IL Route 60 intersection.
- Road extensions would not benefit the area.

Ms. Young explained that the next step will be for the PSG to take the SIG's ideas and develop a range of alternatives. These will be presented at the next meeting (SIG #2), expected to take place in early 2016. At that meeting, the range of alternatives will be presented and the criteria used to evaluate the different alternatives will be reviewed.

The meeting concluded at 5:30 P.M.