

U.S. 45 – IL 132 to IL 173 and Millburn Bypass
Public Meeting #1 Summary

The first Public Informational Meeting was held for the proposed study of the U.S. Route 45 Millburn Bypass on March 3, 2009 at Millburn West School in Lindenhurst from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit early input from the public regarding the project for use in engineering and environmental studies.

A public notice was placed in the February 13 and February 27, 2009 editions of the Daily Herald newspaper and the February 14 and February 28, 2009 editions of the News Sun newspaper. A typical advertisement is included in Appendix 1. Letters of invitation were sent to public officials and agencies, representatives of local communities, utilities, other governmental agencies, and property owners within the study area. A copy of the typical letters and the mailing lists are attached as Appendix 2. Approximately 610 letters announcing the Public Meeting were mailed for this project.

The meeting was held in an open house format beginning with a sign-in table near the entrance of the facility. A total of 184 people signed the attendance register. This likely represented greater than 184 individuals as many couples and parties only signed in once. Our estimate for meeting attendance is approximately 250 people. A copy of the Public Meeting attendance register is included in Appendix 3. Each attendee was provided with a project brochure, included as Appendix 4, and then directed to view the project exhibits, which were arranged in a series of six information stations. The stations were organized as follows:

1. Study overview
2. Project development process
3. CSS approach
4. Community Advisory Group (CAG)
5. Environmental and community context
6. Transportation alternatives.

A map of these progressive stations as well as an outline of the information each station was portraying was included in the brochure that was given to each attendee as they arrived at the meeting.

The following exhibits were among those placed on display at the various stations:

- Aerial exhibit of study area
- Brief project history and summary
- Process overview
- Study timeline/Schedule
- CSS overview
- Aerial exhibit depicting environmental features
- Traffic volume exhibits
- Origin-Destination exhibit

- Crash data exhibit
- Aerial exhibit of potential alternatives
- Large scale aerial exhibits of entire area

In addition to the exhibits, various other information media were available at the station tables, which were available for inspection. The exhibits are included as Appendix G5.

The Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT), Christopher Burke Engineering, and Patrick Engineering staff were available at each station to provide information, answer questions, and discuss individual concerns with members of the public at the meeting. A questionnaire was distributed to all attendees, which they could complete allowing them the opportunity to provide feedback on the project and on transportation issues and area context values that were important to them. Comment sheets were also available for those choosing to provide written comments at the meeting or for mailing to the LCDOT after the meeting. Lastly, forms were available for attendees to complete and submit if they desired to be involved in the upcoming Community Advisory Group that will be used as part of the stakeholder involvement process for this project.

115 questionnaires were completed as a result of the public meeting interaction, along with 46 written comments that were provided at and following the Public Meeting. 47 CAG forms were also received. Copies of the questionnaires, written comments, and CAG forms are included in Appendix 5 as well as a summary of the questionnaire results.

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