

U.S. 45 – IL 132 to IL 173 and Millburn Bypass
Community Advisory Group #1 Summary

The first meeting of the US Route 45 Millburn Bypass Community Advisory Group (CAG) was held on June 16, 2009 at the State Bank of the Lakes in Lindenhurst from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce members of the CAG to the Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT), Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and consultant members of the project study team. In addition, the meeting included a project overview, a discussion on the overall Phase I (preliminary engineering and environmental studies) project development proceedings, the overall project public involvement plan and CAG proceedings, and a workshop to develop a CAG Project Problem Statement. All attendees are listed on the last page of this document.

The meeting agenda was as follows:

- I. Welcome / Introductions
- II. Project Overview / National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process
- III. Public Involvement Plan (PIP) / CAG Process Overview
 - a. Goals and Objectives
 - b. Ground Rules of Participation
- IV. Summary of Public Meeting and Questionnaire Responses
- V. Project Problem Statement (CAG Workshop)
- VI. Next Steps / Overall Project Schedule

The following exhibits were among those placed on display around the meeting room:

- Overall GIS exhibit of study area
- GIS exhibits showing the cultural and environmental resources in the area
- Average Daily Traffic exhibits
- Peak Hour Traffic exhibits
- Origin-Destination Traffic exhibit
- Study timeline/Schedule

In addition to these exhibits, the following information was provided within the project binders that were distributed to each member of the CAG:

- CAG Member Name Badge
- CAG #1 Meeting Agenda
- Copy of PowerPoint Presentation
- Copy of the Public Improvement Plan (PIP)
- Summary of the first Public Information Meeting that was held on March 3, 2009
- Summary of Questionnaire Results from the Public Information Meeting
- NEPA Fact Sheet
- Phase I Project Schedule Exhibit
- Blank Pad of Paper and Pen

A PowerPoint presentation guided the overall meeting. Chuck Gleason of LCDOT began by giving a welcome and facilitating introductions of everyone present. Mike Matkovic of

Christopher B Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) continued and gave a project overview and a description of the NEPA and Federal Project Development process as it relates to this study. This included a discussion of the updated overall project limits being addressed as part of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for US Route 45 from IL Route 132 to IL Route 173 as required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as discussed in the PIP. It was noted that the main objective of the CAG is to provide input to LCDOT and IDOT with respect to bypass alternatives being considered within the Millburn Historic District Area.

Jarrod Cebulski of Patrick Engineering Inc (Patrick) continued the presentation by walking through the principles of a Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) project development approach that is being utilized for this project to ensure meaningful stakeholder input and key project development milestone points. Jarrod also reviewed the contents of the PIP including the specific goals and objectives of the CAG, and the ground rules of participation in the CAG. After discussion, there was general concurrence from the CAG in the overall PIP as well as the specific goals/objectives and ground rules.

Ryan Westrom of Patrick then provided a short summary of some of the feedback received at the initial Public Meeting held on March 3, 2009. Those results indicated that the most important issues were traffic congestion, residential property impacts, and roadway safety. The traffic problems people had experienced most included traffic congestion, truck traffic, and inconsistent travel time. This segued into the CAG workshop activity, led again by Mike Matkovic of CBBEL.

As part of the workshop, the CAG was divided into three groups (yellow, green, and red). Within these groups, members were asked to discuss the transportation problems present at the US Route 45 at Millburn Road/Grass Lake Road intersection(s) and craft a brief statement of the transportation problems to be solved by this project. The Project Problem Statements formulated were as follows:

Group #1 (yellow)

Issues:

- Congestion
 - Rapid Development
 - Addressing Growth
- Truck Traffic
 - Avoid scales → Enforcement
 - Result of increased tolls on Tollway
 - Efficient progression
 - Garbage dump destination to north
- More semi trucks and not construction related
- Offset side streets
- Access
 - Along Route 45
 - To and through Historic District
- Road condition okay
- Accommodating traffic growth
- Traffic Safety
- Noise
- Air Quality

Statement: *The transportation problem to be solved by the U.S. 45 at Grass Lake Road/Millburn Road project is to ease present and future congestion, improve safety and accessibility through the historic district area, and also minimize overall environmental impacts.*

Group #2 (green)

Issues:

- Congestion
- Safety (geometrics)
- Multimodal (bikes/sidewalks)
- Historic impact
- Mobility (move people)
- Tollway access (where the tolls are)
- Economic development

Statement: The transportation problem solution will address congestion, improve safety for all modes (bike/ped/horse), improve mobility in all directions, and allow for consistent travel times. Additionally, it will minimize impacts to the natural and manmade environments including the historic district and open space, while promoting economic vitality.

Group #3 (red)

Issues:

- Congestion
- Truck Traffic
- Offset side streets
- Eastbound traffic in the AM
- Westbound traffic in the PM
- Weekend traffic
- Livability of intersection
- Historic preservation
- Noise, pollution, vibrations, etc.
- Afford growth
 - Congestion at other intersections
- Through traffic (N-S)
- Compatibility with adjacent projects (improvements)
- Protecting land (preservation)
- Safety
- Pedestrian access
- Bicycle lanes

Statement: Solving the transportation problem involves creating the opportunity to accommodate future traffic flow while incorporating the integrity of the historic district and minimizing the environmental impacts.

The entire group then gathered back together and reported out their individual groups' thoughts, after which the CAG collaborated on formation of a consensus statement. The statement they arrived at was:

The transportation problems to be solved by the U.S. Route 45 at Grass Lake Road/ Millburn Road project are present and future congestion, safety and accessibility for all modes of transportation, and also impacts to natural and manmade environments.

After the workshop, the CAG meeting concluded with an overview of the upcoming project development activities and schedule. The next meeting of the US Route 45 Millburn Bypass CAG is scheduled for the Fall of 2009 at which the focus of discussion will be the project Purpose and Need (which will contain the CAG Project Problem Statement) and initiation of the project alternatives development process.

CAG #1 attendees were:

PSG Members	Organization
Chuck Gleason	LCDOT
Paula Trigg	LCDOT
Marie Glynn	IDOT
Mike Matkovic	CBBEL
Matt Huffman	CBBEL
Marty Worman	CBBEL
Sean LaDieu	Huff & Huff
Jarrold Cebulski	Patrick
Steve Lynch	Patrick
Ryan Westrom	Patrick

CAG Members	Representing
Andrew Kimmel	Lake County Forest Preserves
Bob Holbach	Millburn Tree Farm
Craig Richardson	Heritage Trails Homeowners Association
Daniel Venturi	Lake Villa Township & Lindenhurst/Lake Villa Chamber of Commerce
Dawn Revenaugh	Millburn Glass Studios
Dominic Marturano	Village of Lindenhurst
Gerald F. Swanson	Self
Glenn Westman	Lake County SMC
Kevin Klahs	Lindenhurst Police Department
Kevin McKeever	Providence Ridge subdivision
Larry Leffingwell	Tempel Farms
Linda Berger	Forest Trail subdivision
Michael Mark	Self
Michael Scholler	Providence Woods Homeowners Association
Milt Anderson	Self
Pete Szpak	Heritage Trails Homeowners Association
Philip Rovang	Lake County Planning, Building and Development
Scott Martin	Old Mill Creek Historic Preservation Commission
Scott Pfeiffer	Cross Creek Homeowners Association
Thomas Druce-Hoffman	Self
Tom Lippert	Lindenhurst Park District
Wolfgang Berthold	Old Mill Creek