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75th St. CIP Community Advisory Group - Phases II and III Meeting #2 Meeting Summary September 10, 2019

Summary:

The second Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting for Phases II and III of the 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project (75th St. CIP) was held Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at Freedom Temple Church of God in Christ, 1459 W. 74th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60636. The meeting was scheduled to run from 10 a.m. to noon. The meeting began at 10:15 a.m. and project team members remained with participants until 12:15 p.m. In total, 31 people attended. Twelve were CAG members, eighteen were project team members and one was a representative from the host venue, Freedom Temple Church of God in Christ. Attendees' names and affiliation are listed on pages four and five. One written comment form was received (see page nine).

Lilliane Webb, Metro Strategies, opened the meeting with a safety briefing and review of the project materials provided to meeting participants (listed on page eight). Next, Jakita Trotter, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), delivered welcoming remarks, thanked Freedom Temple for hosting the meeting and initiated project team introductions. Project team members stated their names and affiliations during introductions. Ms. Trotter began the presentation by reviewing the meeting's agenda, project's purpose and need, current funding and project timeline and phases.

Samuel Tuck III, IDOT, and Tom Livingston, CSX, updated the CAG on project activities since the last meeting in February 2019. Mr. Tuck emphasized the project's commitment to Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) engagement on the 75th St. CIP, evidenced through the pre-bid networking sessions and DBE participation on awarded contracts. IDOT's Highway Construction Careers Training Program (HCCTP) at Dawson Technical Institute was noted as a pathway for individuals to gain training for construction jobs on the 75th St. CIP. Mr. Tuck noted graduates of the program are working on CREATE project B9. The next testing period for admittance to the HCCTP construction training program begins in October 2019. Mr. Livingston added that workforce development consultants have been added to the final design team supporting CSX on the Forest Hill Flyover (P3) and 71st Street Grade Separation (GS19) projects. Additionally, he shared that all design options for the Forest Hill Flyover (P3) will fall within existing railroad and City of Chicago right-of-way.

Mr. Livingston reviewed the 75th St. CIP education program, a multi-pathway approach for supporting educational opportunities for project area residents in elementary school through young adulthood. An official education program announcement is anticipated for mid-October 2019. The 75th St. CIP public open house will be held October 30, 2019 and the next Community Advisory Group meeting is anticipated for Spring 2020.

At this point in the presentation, questions were taken from CAG members. These items are covered on pages two through four in the Specific Discussion Topics and Associated Follow-Up section.

Following these questions, Jeff Sriver, Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), introduced community mobility improvements. He explained that during the Phase 1 Study (2010-2014), elected officials and CAG members cited local mobility problems as a community concern. As such, community mobility improvements became a component of the project's Purpose and Need in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). CDOT developed a list of potential community mobility improvements within a quarter mile buffer of the Forest Hill Flyover (P3) and 71st Street Grade Separation (GS19) as these projects are already funded for construction. Mr. Sriver explained that more projects were identified for improvement than there is funding to implement and thus the project team needs CAG members' input to help prioritize the options. A similar prioritization exercise is anticipated in the future for the Belt Junction and 80th Street Junction Replacements (EW2) and Rock Island Connection (P2) project areas, which are only funded for final design at this time.

Jason Biernat, CDOT, explained the six improvement types: street repairs under viaducts, sidewalk and curb repairs, street repaving, tree planting, bus stops and pedestrian safety improvements. Mr. Biernat led CAG members in a polling exercise using TurningPoint software and clickers to gauge the relative importance of each community mobility improvement type. Street repairs under viaducts were cited as the most important improvement.

Following the polling exercise, CAG members were divided into two groups and assigned to a table. At each table, project team members presented poster-sized maps with the potential improvement locations and requested CAG members place stickers or post-it notes on the posters to indicate the projects most important for improving community mobility. When asked, project team members assisted CAG members with placing their stickers and took notes on community mobility concerns. CDOT will use the results from the polling and poster exercises as well as input received from CAG members by survey to determine the improvements funded for implementation. The station activity concluded at 12:10 p.m. and CAG members left shortly thereafter.

Specific Discussion Topics and Associated Follow-Up:

1. Pastor Elliott Powell, Freedom Temple Church of Christ in God, asked when classes begin for the Highway Construction Careers Training Program. Ms. Webb noted that the next round of testing for admittance starts October 2019, and CAG members will receive a reminder email about testing. Ms. Webb directed CAG members to contact Lisa Cockerham, HCCTP director, with further questions. Her contact information is on the [Construction Jobs on CREATE Projects Flyer](#) provided in their folders.

2. Resident Rosemary Sydnor asked how many parks run parallel to the project and if the Chicago Park District (CPD) has been engaged on the 75th St. CIP. Ms. Sydnor expressed concern with the project's impact to parks and feels that information about the project has not been appropriately passed down to CPD. She noted that she was recently at a Hamilton

Park event with representatives from CPD, including Alonzo Williams, Chief Program Officer, and the representatives were not familiar with the 75th St. CIP. Mr. Tuck noted that CPD was included in the Phase I and Phases II/III stakeholder lists and engaged as part of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The FEIS included a commitment by the CREATE partners to develop and implement landscaping plans to restore areas of the parks affected by construction of the 75th St. CIP in coordination with the Chicago Park District. Mr. Sriver thanked Ms. Sydnor for bringing this to the project team's attention and committed to reaching out to CPD. He noted that the majority of park impacts are associated with the Belt Junction and 80th Street Junction Replacements (EW2) and Rock Island Connection (P2) projects, which are not yet funded for construction. Mr. Sriver mentioned that five years elapsed between the completion of the FEIS in Phase I and the commencement of final design in Phase II and it is likely that a new CPD contact will be needed for Phases II/III.

Ms. Sydnor asked where the 75th St. CIP education program will be implemented. Ms. Webb responded that it will be implemented in elementary, middle and high schools in Chicago Public Schools in the communities bordering the 75th St. CIP. Ms. Webb noted that this information is being finalized and anticipated to be announced at the education program kick-off event in October 2019. Ms. Webb stated the CAG will be invited to attend the education announcement.

3. Resident Amanda Norman noted the vegetation overgrowth at the viaduct along 74th Street near Parnell Avenue. Project team members reported this track belongs to Norfolk Southern. Mr. Livingston directed Ms. Norman to the [Railroad and City of Chicago Contact Information Flyer](#) to report the issue and Ms. Trotter forwarded the concern to Norfolk Southern following the meeting.

4. Resident Daisy Ryan requested new vibration measurements be taken between the CSX railroad tracks and the homes on Hamilton Avenue. She noted the tracks are already close to the homes and that building tracks closer to them could cause damage to the houses. Mr. Livingston responded that measurements were taken during Phase I studies and that expected noise and vibration impacts were documented in the FEIS. New measurements may be taken again as part of the final design work that is beginning this year. Mr. Livingston will confirm these measurements are the same as the numbers reported during Phase I in the FEIS. Mr. Tuck added that the purpose of the CAG meetings is to obtain input that can be considered and incorporated into the design. The project team will monitor vibration as the project warrants it, keep stakeholders informed and address concerns as the project progresses.

5. Following the presentation of the different community mobility project types, resident Rosemary Sydnor noted that street repairs under viaducts are being completed and asked about the viaduct structures themselves. Mr. Sriver commented that maintenance and repair of the bridges above the viaducts fall within the railroads' purview. The City of Chicago is responsible for the maintenance of the public way (street and sidewalk) below the railroad structures. Thirty-six viaducts, outlined in the FEIS, will be improved as part of the 75th St. CIP. Eleven of the 36 viaduct improvement projects will include substantial structural work. Three additional viaducts have been identified for their street repair concerns under the community mobility program. Mr. Sriver requested that issues with particular viaducts be

noted on the street repairs under viaducts map. Structural improvements to viaducts that are not part of the viaduct program identified in the FEIS would need to be a railroad project. Community mobility improvement funds would not be used towards improvements to railroad structures.

6. After the polling exercise, resident Daisy Ryan noted an issue with a stop sign/stop light at 79th Street and Hoyne Avenue. The project team noted comments of this nature would be solicited and recorded in the upcoming poster activity. The concern was recorded on the pedestrian safety improvements board and will be considered the prioritized improvement list.

7. Following the meeting, a CAG member approached the registration table to recommend the next CAG meeting be held in a smaller space with better acoustics and a better sound system. The project team is taking this recommendation under advisement.

8. A handful of CAG members requested the next CAG meeting be held in the evening. They shared that a number of their neighbors who would like to get updates on the project are unable to attend daytime meetings due to work obligations. It was suggested that there would be stronger attendance if the meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. The project team reminded CAG members that their neighbors can attend the public open house which will be held in the evening on October 30. CAG members Vonnie Keyes and Daisy Ryan were provided additional copies of the open house flyer to share with their neighbors. At the beginning of Phase II, the project team met with elected officials to discuss the CAG. Elected officials recommended having the meetings during the daytime because the majority of CAG members represent agencies, organizations and businesses—places of daytime employment. The project team is committed to maximizing CAG member participation and is taking this information under advisement.

CAG Member in Attendance:

Residents (7)

- Patricia Christian
- Vonnie Keyes
- Amanda Norman
- Jeanette Purnell – Triple Street Block Club
- Daisy Ryan – 76th, 77th, 78th Block Club
- Joseph Ryan – 76th, 77th, 78th Block Club
- Rosemary Richard-Sydnor – 73rd Lowe Block Club

Churches (2)

- Pastor Elliott Powell – Freedom Temple Church of God In Christ
- Pastor Lethaniel Smith – I Care Christian Ministries

Community Development Groups (1)

- Lynette Hazzard – Teamwork Englewood

Elected Officials (1)

- JeVon Moore - Representative of Alderman David Moore, 17th Ward

Schools (1)

- Ikyta Scott – Representative of Principal Joshua Long, Southside Occupational Academy High School

R.C. Hardy, Freedom Temple Church of God in Christ, also attended and participated in input exercises.

CREATE Program Partners and Consultants in Attendance:

- Jason Biernat, Chicago Department of Transportation
- Jeffrey Sriver, Chicago Department of Transportation
- Cecilia Diaz, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
- Brett Guarino, CSX
- Tom Livingston, CSX
- Michael Kowalczyk, Federal Highway Administration
- Michael Hurley, HNTB
- Jakita Trotter, Illinois Department of Transportation
- Samuel Tuck III, Illinois Department of Transportation
- Melinda Kelly, Melkel Group
- Tanya Cohn, Metra
- Chrissy Breit, Metro Strategies
- Keith Spencer, Metro Strategies
- Lilliane Webb, Metro Strategies
- Alicia Garcia-Anber, Trinal
- Melissa Williams, Trinal
- Erik Varela, Union Pacific
- Tanya Adams, WSP



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Sign In

75th Street Corridor Improvement Project
Community Advisory Group Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2019, Freedom Temple Church of God in Christ

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Voannie Keyes			
AMANDA NORMAN	Blackclub	7	
Kyfa Scott	SouthSide Occ.	7	
DRISY RYAN	76 th , 77 th , 78 th Hamilton		
Joseph RYAN	"		
Jelon Moore	17 th Ward	7	ga.org
Jeanette Purnell	Triple Street block club	7	in
Rosemarie Richard-Sybil	73 rd Lowe Block	(7	
R.C. Hardy	Freedom Temple	(7	it



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Sign In

75th Street Corridor Improvement Project
Community Advisory Group Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2019, Freedom Temple Church of God in Christ

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
ELLIOTT L. POWELL	FREEDOM TEMPLE church		...CAG
JA Christian	Resident	(7	Edm
Posyan L. Smith	I CAG	(7	
Herzard, Lynnette	Teamwork Englewood	7	englewood.org



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Project Team Sign In

75th Street Corridor Improvement Project

Community Advisory Group Meeting

Melinda Kelly MELKEL Group
September 10, 2019 Freedom Temple Church of God in Christ

Initial	Name	Agency
	Bill Thompson	AAR
	Joe Alonzo	CDOT
<i>JB</i>	Jason Biernat -	CDOT
<i>JS</i>	Jeffrey Sriver -	CDOT
<i>CAD</i>	Cecilia Diaz	Cook Co. DOTH
	Sis Killen	Cook Co. DOTH
	María Choca Urban	Cook Co. DOTH
<i>TL</i>	Tom Livingston -	CSX
<i>BA</i>	Brett Guarino	CSX
<i>MAK</i>	Michael Kowalczyk	FHWA
<i>MH</i>	Michael Hurley -	HNTB
	Lillian Yan	HNTB
<i>JT</i>	Jakita Trotter -	IDOT
<i>S.T.C.</i>	Samuel Tuck III -	IDOT
	Tanya Cohn -	Metra
	Janice Thomas	Metra
<i>CB</i>	Chrissy Breit	Metro Strategies
<i>KS</i>	Keith Spencer	Metro Strategies
<i>LW</i>	Lilliane Webb -	Metro Strategies
	Laura Wilkison	Metro Strategies
	Herbert Smith	Norfolk Southern
	Liisa Stark	Union Pacific
<i>EV</i>	Erik Varela -	Union Pacific
<i>TA</i>	Tanya Adams	WSP
	Christopher Ferguson	WSP

mw
AA

Melissa Williams Trinal
Alicia Garcia-Ahner Trinal

Materials in Project Folders:

- [Meeting Agenda](#)
- [Photo Release](#)
- [Mobility Improvement Options Handout](#)
- [Comment Form](#)
- [75th St. CIP Public Open House Flyer](#)
- [Construction Jobs on CREATE Projects Flyer](#)
- [75th St. CIP Community Benefits Fact Sheet](#)
- [Railroad and City of Chicago Contact Information Flyer](#)
- [CREATE Program Employment Information](#)
- [CREATE Program Brochure](#)
- [75th St. CIP Brochure](#)

Exhibit Boards:

Three exhibit boards were on display throughout the meeting for CAG members to view. These boards included a map of all CREATE projects, an isometric map detailing the 75th St. CIP and board outlining the Construction Mitigation Measures that will be implemented on the 75th St. CIP.

Ten Community Mobility Improvement posters were developed for the station prioritization exercise:

- [Street Repairs Under Viaducts Map](#)
- [Street Repairs Under Viaducts Voting](#)
- [Sidewalk and Curb Repairs Map](#)
- [Sidewalk and Curb Repairs Voting](#)
- [Bus Stop Map](#)
- [Bus Stop Voting](#)
- [Street Repaving Map](#)
- [Street Repaving Voting](#)
- [Tree Planting Map](#)
- [Pedestrian Safety Map](#)

Comment Forms and Photo Releases:

One comment form (see scanned document) was submitted anonymously. Everyone who attended the meeting received a photo release form. No one submitted a new photo release form. Ms. Vonnie Keyes stated that she does not consent to having her photo taken. Photo release forms were received at the February 13, 2019 Community Advisory Group meeting from Amanda Norman, Demetri Alexakos, Daisy Ryan, Jerilynn Johnson, Jeanette Purnell, Joseph Ryan, Linda Johnson, Tonya Walls and Willard Payton.



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COMMENT FORM

Please write your question(s) or comment(s) in the area below (please print). If you would like to receive a response to your question(s) or comment(s), please include your name, mailing address and email.

Future Meetings should continue to be in the community. - Great job reminding me of the meeting.

- Public announcements to local radio stations when job training classes are available.

- ~~Viaduct~~ repair needed around Hamilton Park.

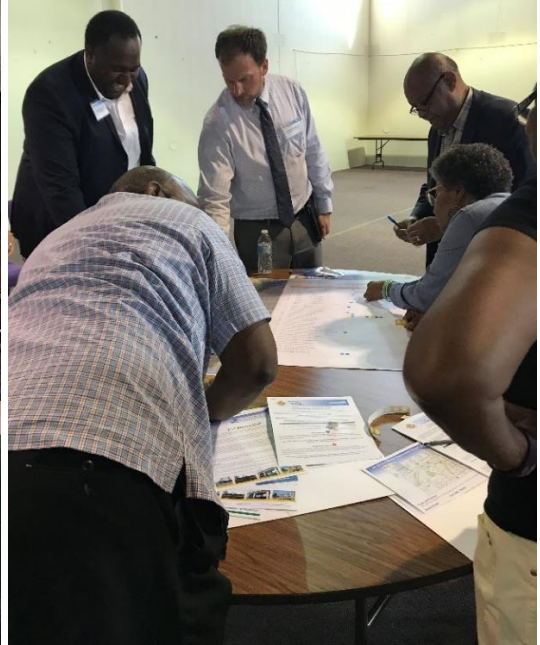
- Periodic 3 min. breaks needed!

- Speed breakers needed + side streets off around Hamilton Park!

Please return this form to a project team member, email form to cbreit@metrostrategiesinc.com or return by mail to the address below.

75th Street Corridor Improvement Project
c/o Metro Strategies
17 N. State Street, Suite 850
Chicago, IL 60602

Photos from the Community Advisory Group Meeting



Project #	Project Description	Priority
1	60th St from Clarendon to Western	High
2	60th St from Hayne to Hamilton	High
3	60th St from Sealey to Hoyne	High
4	Hayne from 60th St to 60th St	High
5	Hamilton from Macquarie to 61st St	High
6	Hamilton from 67th St to 68th St	High
7	68th St from Hamilton to Bell	High
8	Hamilton from 68th St to 69th St	High
9	Hoyne from 68th St to 69th St	High
10	Alley between 69th St and 69th St from Hoyne to Hamilton	High
11	72nd St from Hamilton to CSX tracks	High
12	Oakley Ave from 72nd St to 73rd St	High
13	72nd St from Hayne to CSX tracks	High
14	73rd St from Oakley to Clarendon	High
15	73rd St from Bell to Oakley	High
16	Bell from 73rd to 74th St	High
17	75th St from Sealey to Hoyne	High
18	75th St from Dead End to Sealey	High
19	Sealey from 75th St to 76th St	High
20	76th St from Sealey to Hoyne	High
21	76th St from Clarendon to Western	High
22	77th St from Clarendon to Western	High
23	78th St Du-Du-Sac from Hamilton to Dead End	High
24	Repair bike lane on Damen from 75th St to 79th St	High
25	80th St from Damen to Hoyne	High
26	81st St from Campbell to Maplewood	High
27	81st St from Artesian to Campbell	High
28	81st St from Clarendon to Western	High
29	81st St from Oakley to Clarendon	High
30	81st St from Oakley to Clarendon	High
31	81st St from Clarendon to Western	High
32	Artesian from 82nd St to 83rd St	High
33	Hamilton from 83rd St to 84th St	High



