



Meeting Notes Community Advisory Council Meeting #3

Randall Road Improvements Study County Line Road to Ackman Road McHenry County

August 22, 2007

This meeting was the third presentation of the Randall Road Improvements Study to the membership of the Community Advisory Council (CAC). The purpose of the meeting was to identify critical issues, identify and obtain consensus on the project purpose and need, review the proposed evaluation process, and initiate identification of evaluation criteria. The meeting took place at 9:30 a.m. at the Lake in the Hills Village Hall located at 600 Harvest Gate. The agenda for the meeting included the following:

- Introductions
- Approval of June 25, 2007 and July 10, 2007 Meeting Notes
- Summary of July 25, 2007 Public Meeting #1: Scoping
- Summary of CAC Meeting #2
 - Critical Issues/Context Audit Results
- Brainstorming Session: Identifying Project Purpose and Needs
- Introduction to the Evaluation Process
- Identifying Evaluation Criteria
- Focus for CAC Meeting #4 on September 12, 2007

Following are highlights of the main topics discussed at the meeting.

I. Introductions

At the meeting there was representation from the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Chamber of Commerce, Baxter and Woodman Consulting Engineers, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, City of Crystal Lake, HDR, Illinois Department of Transportation Bureau of Local Roads and Streets, Kane County Division of Transportation, McHenry County Board, McHenry County Defenders, McHenry County Division of Transportation, and Village of Lake in the Hills. A copy of the sign-in sheet is an attachment to this document.

The membership list was mentioned as needing to be updated. Any changes in information should be forwarded to HDR. In addition, any membership changes should be brought forward as well.

II. Approval of June 25, 2007 and July 10, 2007 Meeting Notes

Meeting notes were sent to CAC membership via e-mail. Hard copies of the notes were available at the meeting. There were no comments on the June 25, 2007 meeting notes or the

July 10, 2007 meeting notes. The meeting notes were approved as presented. The notes will be posted to the project website.

III. Summary of July 25, 2007 Public Meeting #1: Scoping

The first Public Meeting was held on July 25, 2007 at the Crystal Lake South High School cafeteria. The meeting was held in an “open house” style format. The purpose was to introduce citizens to the project, solicit input on critical issues, identify project purpose and needs. Twenty-two exhibit boards were on display and project staff were available to answer questions. A total of 24 individuals signed in at the meeting and six comment sheets were received. The deadline for submission of comments is August 27, 2007. After the deadline, the Public Meeting Summary Memo will be updated to include a summary of all comments received within the commenting period and finalized. Extra public meeting brochures and comment forms were available at the meeting. Photos from the meeting were displayed in the PowerPoint presentation.

IV. Summary of CAC Meeting #2

The first CAC meeting focused on traffic, crash, and maintenance statistics, the identification of critical issues, and the context audit summary. The second CAC Meeting focused on the review of the Context Audit Results Summary. Good, detailed information was obtained with regards to the project and study area. A revised summary of the Context Audit Results was distributed that included comments received at and a summary of additional Context Audit forms received since the second CAC Meeting. .

V. Brainstorming Session: Identifying Project Purpose and Needs

A handout/worksheet was distributed that listed critical issues and a blank purpose and need statement for use during the brainstorming session. The first part of the brainstorming session involved the review of the critical issues listed. CAC membership divided into small groups and determined if there were critical issues that were missing from the list or any items that should be removed from the list. Based on the results of the first brainstorming session, public comments from Public Meeting #1, and the Context Audit Results the following are the critical issues of the Randall Road Improvements Study:

- Preservation/accommodation of significant local/regional civic centers (LITH and Algonquin Village Halls, schools, police, LITH airport), commercial centers, residential districts, natural features and sensitive lands
- Access to local businesses, schools, and shops
- Access to I-90 and Algonquin Road
- Intersection Operations
- Congestion generated by local development
- Travel time along Randall Road
- Vehicular and Pedestrian Safety
- Safety at intersections
- Congestion
- Access to local businesses
- Pedestrian mobility across Randall
- Bicycle safety at crossings (especially in LITH near Ken Carpenter Park)
- Bicyclist mobility
- Access to adjacent trails
- Compatibility with future transit plans
- Communication to drivers of the local land use (schools, police, businesses, village halls, etc.)
- Signage (for businesses) during construction
- Avoid or minimize environmental impacts
- Aesthetics/Visual impacts

The second part of the brainstorming session involved discussion of the purpose and needs for the project. CAC membership divided into small groups and completed the Purpose and Need Worksheet by completed the blank purpose and need statement. Before dividing into small groups, the National Environmental Policy Act was briefly explained along with the importance of the Purpose and Need statement. It was explained that the Purpose and Need statement is intended not to be a solution statement, rather a statement of the problem that needs to be addressed. Examples of needs were also presented. At the conclusion of the ten minute brainstorming session, CAC membership reached consensus on the following Purpose and Need statement:

The purpose of the Randall Road Improvements Study is to recommend transportation system improvements that will enhance mobility and local access while addressing safety issues, community values, and environmental impacts within the study area. **Randall Road improvements are needed to:**

- Improve regional mobility
- Enhance local access/local system deficiencies
- Improve pedestrian/bicycle mobility
- Accommodate community values/land use planning goals
- Address safety concerns

A comment was received that the project study group should better define the needs with examples when introducing the Purpose and Need to the public.

VI. Introduction to the Evaluation Process

A three level evaluation process was presented. The three screening levels include a Functional Evaluation (Level 1), a Comparative Evaluation (Level 2), and a Detailed Evaluation (Level 3). The first level of analysis, Functional Evaluation, focuses on eliminating options that are not feasible or realistic. The second level, Comparative Evaluation, identifies feasible options that best address the purpose and need. Alternative Packages are then formed from combinations of the best options. The third and last level of analysis, Detailed Evaluation, identifies a Preferred Alternative Package that best addresses the purpose and need and minimizes environmental impacts. A handout was distributed displaying the process. Prior to the first level of analysis, options will be brainstormed and categorized as Arterial Options, Intersections Options, Pedestrian/Bicycle Options, or Congestion Management Systems Options. Public involvement is included throughout the process.

VII. Identifying Evaluation Criteria

At this point during the meeting there was a group discussion on a list of preliminary evaluation criteria included in the Evaluation Criteria Worksheet. The worksheet identified evaluation criteria for each screening level based on the needs for the project. The following comments were received on the preliminary list of evaluation criteria:

- Local Access/Deficiencies Need/Level 2: Comparative Evaluation – Add a criterion labeled, “Integrating with the local road system”. The measure for this criterion will be “Is there opportunity for access on existing local roads”. The discussion associated with this criterion was that options will be more desirable with more access points to

developments available from the local road system as opposed to directly off of Randall Road.

- Pedestrian/Bicycle Mobility Need/Level 2: Comparative Evaluation – Add a criterion labeled, “Spacing between pedestrian/bicycle crossings”. The discussion associated with this criterion was that options will be more desirable with less spacing between crossings (i.e. more access across Randall Road).
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Mobility Need/Level 2: Comparative Evaluation – Add a criterion labeled, “Distance (curb to curb) across roadway”. The discussion associated with this criterion was that options will be more desirable (i.e. safer) with shorter distances.
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Mobility Need/Level 2: Comparative Evaluation – Add a criterion labeled, “Connectivity with regional/local existing/planned facilities”.
- Community Values Need/Level 2: Comparative Evaluation/Level 3: Detailed Evaluation – Add a criterion labeled, “Aesthetics/Visual”.

The evaluation criteria discussion will continue and be finalized at CAC Meeting #4 on September 12, 2007.

VIII. Focus for CAC Meeting #4 on September 12, 2007

The focus for CAC Meeting #4 is to finalize the list of evaluation criteria and to initiate the identification of potential options/alternatives.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

Action Items:

An action item for the CAC membership is to review the Preliminary Evaluation Criteria Worksheet and identify 1) changes that should be made to listed criteria and 2) new criteria that should be included for each screening level. Another action item is for the CAC to brainstorm improvement options (arterial, intersections, pedestrian/bicycle, and congestion management systems) for the Randall Road Study.

The CAC membership is encouraged to promote awareness of the project and project’s website (www.RandallRoad.info) and identify if there is an opportunity to provide a link to the website on your organization’s/agency’s website.



Randall Road (FAU 0009) Improvements Study



Sign-in Sheet

Meeting Purpose: Community Advisory Council Meeting #3
Meeting Date: August 22, 2007
Meeting Time: 9:30 AM
Location: Lake in the Hills Village Hall, 600 Harvest Gate

List of Attendees

Name (print clearly)	Company/ Organization	Phone Number	E-mail Address (print clearly)
Wally Dittrich	McDOT	815-334-4980	wrdittrich@co.mchenry.il.us
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Victor RAMIREZ	City Crystal Lake	815-356-3611	vramirez@crystalake.org
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