

Citizen Advisory Committee

A meeting of the **Citizen Advisory Committee** of the Cook DuPage Corridor Study was held on **September 25, 2006** at 3:30 p.m. at the Downers Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This document includes a summary of the discussion for each agenda item and a roster of those who attended.

I. Call to Order

Fred Brandstrader, chair of the Citizen Advisory Committee, called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m. and thanked Barb Wyzocki for hosting the meeting. Mr. Brandstrader requested introductions, circulated the attendance sheet, and noted there was not a quorum. The agenda was reviewed and items requiring action were identified.

Ms. Wyzocki reported that this would be her last meeting, as she is leaving her post as Executive Director of the Downers Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Ms. Wyzocki introduced Ms. Michael Bogart who would be serving on the committee on behalf of the Downers Grove Chamber at future meetings. Mr. Brandstrader thanked Ms. Wyzocki for her contributions to the committee and wished her well in her future endeavors.

II. May 11, 2006 Meeting Summary

Mr. Brandstrader recapped the accomplishments of the previous Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting. At the May meeting the committee discussed the meeting dates for June public meetings; various public outreach and awareness strategies; and assigning a liaison to attend meetings of the Policy Committee and Technical Committee. Mr. Brandstrader reported that he planned to attend Policy Committees meetings on behalf of the Citizen Advisory Committee, and requested that Mr. Benedict continue to attend meetings of the Technical Committee and serve as the official liaison on behalf of the Citizen Advisory Committee. Mr. Benedict affirmed his willingness to do so.

Mr. Brandstrader asked if there were any changes to the meeting summary as presented in Attachment 1. There were none. Mr. Brandstrader noted that due to the lack of a quorum, the committee is unable to take action on the meeting summary and that action would be postponed to a future meeting.

III. Progress Report

Ms. Ryan reported that several Citizen Advisory Committee members attended an optional meeting in early June to walk-through the draft technical documents subject to public review and comment, and to preview the draft PowerPoint presentation and a sample poster board that would be available at the public meetings. Ms. Ryan thanked committee members for their very constructive critique of the public meeting materials and noted that the suggestions were incorporated into the materials before the public meetings took place.

Ms. Ryan reported that the public comment period ended July 6. RTA staff compiled the public comments and has worked with the Technical Committee to incorporate input into the respective technical documents. The Technical Committee also discussed input on the conceptual options as potential direction for the development of detailed options.

Mr. Ryan reported further that the RTA held four working sessions in August to focus on each of the following topics: 1) the western terminus of the DuPage J Route proposal for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT); 2) local distribution systems to employment centers (transit, pedestrian and bicycle); 3) the I-290 Corridor and how various projects might fit together as overall system improvements; and 4) Traffic Management and Operations (TM&O) strategies.

Mr. Brandstrader asked if minutes from the working groups were available review. Ms. Ryan responded that staff developed discussion summaries for each of the working sessions and could make them available on the website.

Mr. Brandstrader asked if there was any specific news about the Policy Committee. Ms. Ryan responded that the September 30th Policy Committee meeting was cancelled and that the next Policy Committee is schedule for November when significant progress on the options is expected to be made.

Mr. Larry Christmas inquired as to when the final options will be available for review and the status of the overall schedule. Ms. Ryan distributed an updated schedule and reviewed the major events impacting each committee. Mr. Christmas asked if all interested parties would have an opportunity to review the options before or after the testing. Ms. Ryan responded that the options would be evaluated in December, and there were opportunities both before and after the evaluation for interested parties to review the options. Ms. Ryan noted that the next opportunity fro stakeholders to review the options is at the Technical Committee meeting scheduled for October 26 at 1:30

	<p>p.m. in the Sears Tower and she encouraged Citizens' Advisory Committee members to attend.</p> <p>Mr. Brandstrader suggested the next meeting of the committee occur on November 2 and those who can not attend in person could teleconference. Ms. Flicker-Terrill offered the Ray Graham Association conference room for the next committee meeting. She also confirmed that the facility was transit accessible and had PowerPoint and conference call capabilities. Ms. Ryan agreed to poll committee members on their availability for the next Citizen Advisory Committee meeting. [Note: The Nov. 2 meeting was later cancelled due to schedule conflicts].</p> <p>Ms. Ryan stated that the first time Policy Committee members see the technical options will be in November. Mr. Christmas asked if the information on the options would be free of jargon such as "premium service" for UP West line. He suggested that definitions be provided. Ms. Ryan noted that identifying these kinds of communication issues is helpful input from committee members.</p> <p>Next, Ms. Ryan reported that a special workshop for community planners (called the Get SET workshop) is being hosted by the Cook DuPage Corridor Planning Standards Working Group on Thursday, September 27. The purpose of the Get SET Workshop is to develop Corridor Planning Standards against which the options will also be evaluated.</p> <p>Mr. Christmas expressed concern about testing and asked how many systems would be tested. He noted his presumption that numerous systems could be tested in weeks, versus months. Ms. Ryan explained that numerous options would be evaluated to determine how well they achieve the official corridor goals and objectives for mobility improvements. She clarified that no modeling would be undertaken in this phase of study. However, during the subsequent Alternatives Analysis phase, the regional transportation model will be used. Options that do not perform well against the Goals and Objectives in the current study phase will not be modeled in the Alternatives Analysis phase.</p> <p>Ms. Ryan explained that all options and variations within the options will be considered equally in the evaluation process. Mr. Benedict confirmed that the Technical Committee has not removed any options from consideration.</p> <p>Ms. Ryan agreed to put the Citizen Advisory Committee on Technical Committee interested parties mailing list for informational purposes.</p>	

IV. June Public Meetings and Outcomes

A. Attendance and Effectiveness

Mr. Brandstrader reported that a total of 60 people participated in the public meetings, considerably less than had been hoped. Mr. Brandstrader noted committee members who had stopped by at one or more of the meetings, including Rick Hud, Albert Benedict, Larry Christmas and Rick Kuner, and asked if they had any thoughts or observations they wished to share.

Mr. Benedict noted that at the Cicero public meeting, which was the best attended, participants were very engaged and the interactive exercises and presentation were well received. Ms. Ryan added that several members from Eyes on Austin attended that meeting. Eyes on Austin is an organization established by Senator Harmon on the west side of Chicago in the Austin neighborhood.

With respect to lessons learned, Ms. Ryan noted that few people of Hispanic or Latino background attended the Cicero meeting, despite the RTA's effort to facilitate their participation. She noted that a new organization called Latinos United has recently been formed and is developing a policy platform throughout the course of a year. It appears at this point that their primary interests are in early childhood education and other issues. Engaging the Latino community in the Cook DuPage Corridor effort may be difficult, if transportation is not among their highest priorities.

B. Public Meeting Results and Outcomes

Ms. Ryan reviewed the public meeting and input summaries, as presented in Agenda Attachments 2 and 3. Mr. Brandstrader asked if everyone who submitted a comment received a response. Ms. Ryan replied that acknowledgement of each comment was provided and that all of the comments are posted on the project website.

With respect to public comments on the Goals and Objectives, Ms. Ficker-Terrill and Mr. Christmas requested clarification on the meaning of "add cultural/educational impacts." Ms. Ryan responded that it is unclear what the commenter intended. However, the topics suggested by the commenter can be more fully explored in the development of Corridor Planning Standards.

In reviewing public input on the Conceptual Options, Ms. Ryan noted that the hub and spoke concepts received the most favorable comments from the public, and that public participants viewed the Point-to-Point as the least desirable option. Mr. Christmas indicated his preference that hubs be placed where there is developable land and not be placed where development is not desired. Ms. Ryan noted that

Lombard submitted a resolution that supported the concept depicting Yorktown as a hub.

Mr. Benedict asked if it was appropriate for the study to encourage Transit Oriented Development and to develop greater densities around its station. Mr. Christmas commented that it is important for local land use authorities to sign on to the idea and that the federal government is increasingly recognizing the land use and transportation connection.

V. Consideration of Revisions to the Public Involvement Plan

Mr. Brandstrader called the committee's attention to Attachment 4, the Public Involvement Plan for the Cook DuPage Corridor Study with a few proposed minor updates. Mr. Brandstrader noted, and staff confirmed, that no public input was received on the public involvement plan in June. Rather, the proposed revisions reflect additional media outlets as identified by members of the Citizen Advisory Committee, as well as suggestions made by the Policy Committee in May.

Mr. Brandstrader inquired if there was any discussion or questions about the proposed changes. There were none.

Mr. Brandstrader noted that the committee would not be able to take official action on this item due to lack of quorum.

VI. Strategies and Timing to Meaningfully Engage Stakeholders

The item was postponed until the next meeting in order to allow sufficient time for discussion.

VII. Selection of Vice Chair

Mr. Brandstrader reported that Ms. Ficker-Terrill is willing to serve as vice chair. He asked if anyone else was interested in the vice chair position. Committee members expressed their support for Ms. Terrill; however, due to the lack of a quorum no action could be taken on this item. Mr. Brandstrader suggested perhaps committee members could vote on the selection of Ms. Ficker-Terrill via email.

VIII. Next Meeting

In preparation for the next meeting, Mr. Brandstrader requested that Ms. Ryan and Ms. Allen take a first cut at what public involvement strategies apply to each of target group: the business community, workforce boards, tourism community, civic/environmental groups, field related professional community, and under represented ethnic/cultural communities.

The Committee identified three potential dates for the next meeting of the Citizen Advisory Committee for Monday (October 30), Wednesday (November 1), or Thursday (November 2). Ms. Ryan indicated that

she would follow up by e-mail to confirm a date. (NOTE: all three dates presented a schedule conflict;no meeting was held.)

IX. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attendance Rosters

Citizens Advisory Committee					
Present	Absent	Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization
✓		Benedict	Albert	Sr. Planner and GIS Analyst	Center for Neighborhood Technology
✓		Brandstrader, AIA	Fred	Vice President of Gov't Affairs-Public Outreach	American Institute of Architects
	✓	Brookstein	Pamela	Near West Suburban Coordinator	Chicagoland Bicycle Federation
✓		Christmas	Larry	Director	Oak Park Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
	✓	Christoforakis	Nicholas	President/CEO	Glendale Heights Chamber of Commerce
	✓	D'Arcy	Mary Alice		Easter Seals DuPage Fox Valley
✓		Ficker-Terrill	Cathy	President	Ray Graham Association
	✓	Hodge	Kit	Associate	Metropolitan Planning Council
	✓	Hud	Rick		Lisle Convention and Visitors Bureau
	✓	Kuner	Rick	Co-Chair	Citizens for Appropriate Transportation
	✓	Lighthall	Donnell	Community Development Project Manager	Westside Health Authority
	✓	McSherry	Cynthia	District Council Coordinator	Urban Land Institute, Chicago District Council
	✓	Msall	Laurence	President	The Civic Federation
	✓	Palansky, PE	Tom	President	IL Society of Professional Engineers, Chicago Chapter
	✓	Scalzetti	Mary	Director	Village of Downers Grove, Tourism and Events
	✓	Sisul	Tom		Downers Grove Chamber of Commerce
	✓	Strittmatter	Skip	Executive Director	DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau
	✓	Winkelman	Sally		DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau
✓		Wysocki	Barbara	President	Downers Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry

RTA Staff and Consultants

Present	Last Name	First Name	Organization
✓	Ryan	Michelle	Regional Transportation Authority
✓	Allen	Mignon	Dovetail Consulting

