



## WORKING SESSION MINUTES

MEETING SUBJECT: Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project Local Advisory Committee #28 RECORDER: Carla Mykytiuk

MEETING DATE & TIME: July 10, 2017 at 6:30 pm PREPARATION DATE: August 2, 2017

MEETING LOCATION: Hamilton Lakes, One Pierce Place, Itasca

ISSUE STATUS:  Draft for Review  Final

ATTENDEE NAME	ORGANIZATION
Cindy Klima	Illinois Tollway
Kevin Donohue	Illinois Tollway
Lidia Pilecky	CH2M HILL
Carla Mykytiuk	CH2M HILL
Pete Stukas	V3
Rodney Craig	Hanover Park (LAC Chair)
Nunzio Pulice	Wood Dale
Ron Lunt	Hamilton Partners
Paul DeMichele	Addison Township
Paul Koch	Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce
Karyn Robles	Schaumburg
Malika Hainer	Mount Prospect
John Loper	DuPage County
John Yonan	Cook County
Anuj Patel for Andrea Biber	Des Plaines Chamber of Commerce
Scott Viger	Bensenville
Jeff Sangillo	CDM Smith
Steve Goodreau	CDM Smith
Scott Marquardt	HR Green
Erik Llewellyn	Pace
Colin Fleming	MetroStrategies

The twenty-eighth meeting of the Elgin O'Hare–Western Access Project Local Advisory Committee (LAC) was held at Hamilton Lakes Business Park in Itasca at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, July 10, 2017. Mayor Rodney Craig called the meeting to order and took roll call with those present being:

Rodney Craig	Len Maniscalco
Nunzio Pulice	Paul DeMichele
Anuj Patel	Malika Hainer
Ron Lunt	Karyn Robles
Paul Koch	John Loper
John Yonan	

Without the required number of members present, a quorum was not established and the minutes from the May 2017 meeting were not approved but will be revisited at the September 2017 meeting. There was no old business to discuss. No public comment was received.

### Feedback on Local Issues

LAC Member Ron Lunt said that Pete Stukas, the project construction manager and the Tollway's construction management team is doing a good job.

### **Design and Construction Status**

Lidia Pilecky/CH2M provided a summary of ongoing design and construction activities. The construction of the second major usable segment, from IL Route 53 to Illinois Route 83 is well underway, with the I-290 Interchange substantially in place. This segment will be completed in early fall with November 1st opening date. Construction Manager Pete Stukas said that the construction of this second segment is on schedule and includes the Illinois Route 83 ramps to and from the west which will be complete in 2017.

Lidia pointed out that all ramps are open and operational at the I-90 and Elmhurst Road Diverging Diamond Interchange.

LAC Member Ron Lunt asked about the schedule for Arlington Heights Road. Pete Stukas said it would be completed in about three weeks and is on schedule.

Ron asked if the loop in or out of the airport is still in the EOWA Project plans. Lidia said the plan is to provide access to the west side of O'Hare Airport. Ingress and egress will be provided between York Road and the west side of O'Hare Airport. She said that these ramps require property acquisition and agreement with the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

### **Upcoming Construction**

Regarding upcoming construction, Mayor Pulice asked if construction bids are still coming in competitively priced. Lidia said that they are.

Ron Lunt asked when the completion of the north segment is anticipated. Lidia said that designers have been selected for the north leg of I-490 and that construction is scheduled for completion before 2025, potentially as early as 2022 or 2023.

Mayor Craig mentioned he had seen an editorial discussing the issues regarding the railroads. Lidia said that there had been a favorable development regarding the Surface Transportation Board's opinion that mediation between the tollway and CP is warranted. She said that CP and the Tollway have conferred and are agreeable to accept mediation. Cindy Klima of the Tollway said that the hope is that there will be conversations before mediation.

John Yonan and Cook County are making good progress with Touhy and North Avenue. John Yonan of Cook County said that construction would start sometime in 2018. The County has a good relationship with UPRR and does not anticipate a problem.

### **Elmhurst Road Interchange Update**

As of June 20, the Elmhurst Road Interchange at I-90 is open. The diverging diamond configuration reduces left turning vehicle conflicts with the new ramps. The new ramps carrying traffic to and from the west have cashless tolling. Cars with I-Pass pay 55 cents; cash rate is \$1.10 for cars. Mayor Craig said that he had not heard any complaints about the tolls at the interchange. To prevent additional local taxes, Mayor Craig said that during the planning process, the mayors accepted higher toll rates on the EOWA. He said it was a good decision making process.

Remaining local road improvements include completion of work at the Oakton intersection this summer and reconstruction of Elmhurst Road pavement south of the interchange which is scheduled to be complete in late fall. Cindy Klima said that the Tollway recognizes that it is difficult for businesses during construction.

With tolling on the second segment of IL 390 scheduled to start in November, Lidia reminded the LAC that drivers are encouraged to put an I-PASS in every car. Potentially, by the end of the year, drivers will not realize a discount if they don't have a transponder in the car; since there will be no discount for VTolls.

LAC members had not received any concerns or issues related to the Elmhurst Road interchange. Mayor Craig said that he had seen some confused bicyclists using the interchange.

### **Business and Community Outreach**

Lidia Pilecky/CH2M said that project staff is continuing to meet with individual communities. She asked LAC members to share outreach opportunities like the recently attended Des Plaines Chamber of Commerce & Industry Mid-Year Business Summit Breakfast.

Cindy Klima told the group that the Illinois Route 390 Tollway Grand Opening Event would take place on October 28, 2017 and that they should expect to see a "save the date" in the next couple of weeks. Lidia said that this segment represents one piece of a bigger regional solution. Regarding the event, Mayor

Craig said the fun ride will be a unique community event. Cindy said that there would be an opening ceremony in addition to the planned activities.

John Loper of DuPage County asked what the expectation is that the frontage roads will be open at the time of the event. Cindy Klima said that everything will be done. Pete Stukas said that the majority of the frontage roads are open. John Loper asked if the frontage road east of IL 83 will be open November 1. Pete Stukas said it is open now and there will be no change. He pointed out that currently some sections are two-way, like at Top Golf. Those locations will revert to one-way per the design plans. The same outreach process used for the opening of the first mainline segment will be used to share the upcoming changes to access.

### **Illinois Route 390 Year in Review**

Cindy Klima gave an overview of how the first segment of Illinois Route 390 has performed since opening in July 2016. She said that the majority of transactions on the route occur during weekdays, with Friday being the busiest day for travel. The weekday hourly profile is typical of roadways used heavily by commuters, both tolled and non-tolled. Illinois Route 390 Tollway is a commuter route, used mostly by commuters going to or from work. Commercial vehicles and passenger cars are both showing growth consistent with, but not above, the rest of the Tollway system. Cindy said that more shorter trips are anticipated as the second segment of IL 390 is opened to traffic.

Cindy said that there has not been a spike in traffic that new roadways typically experience. Instead, Illinois Route 390 has the characteristics of an established route. Commercial vehicles displayed a seasonal decline (between November 2016 and January 2017) with a steady recovery starting February 2017, which is typical for both Illinois Route 390 and the Tollway system in general. Cindy said the Tollway expects both passenger and commercial vehicle traffic to grow upon the opening of the eastern portion of Illinois Route 390. Approximately 30 percent of traffic that used IL 390 after major construction was completed, but before tolling started, left the route when tolling began. A significant portion (approximately 57%) of traffic that diverted from IL 390 likely rerouted to minor roads or those outside the immediate vicinity (i.e. I-90, Golf Road). Generally, this is not increasing travel times on alternate routes.

Drivers are saving almost 2 minutes when traveling through the IL 390/I-290 Interchange in the PM peak period, as compared to when the interchange was signalized. The average travel time through the IL 390/I-290 interchange for all movements was halved with the elimination of the traffic signals.

John Loper asked how traffic volumes have been affected. Cindy said that volumes rose after day one, but are back to the original volumes. When the route is complete from US 20 to the west side of O'Hare, the Tollway expects the benefits of the faster through trip to attract additional traffic from the arterials.

Cindy asked that if the LAC members hear something specific regarding traffic diverting to alternate routes, that they let the Tollway know so that it can be addressed.

### **City of Wood Dale's Economic Development Efforts**

Scott Marquardt, of HR Green, and consultant to the City of Wood Dale shared a brief presentation on Wood Dale's economic development efforts as they relate to the Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project. Scott shared the city's 2009 Thorndale Corridor Master Plan; which includes what Wood Dale envisions for long term redevelopment in the corridor between Wood Dale Road and Illinois Route 83. Scott noted that the EOWA, O'Hare Airport Western Access, and mass transit service along the EOWA are key complementary investments to the plan.

Wood Dale's 2009 plan includes a walkable mixed use thoroughfare that includes office towers, restaurant and retail space, industrial space, hotel rooms, multi-family housing, recreation center and direct transit to Chicago. Wood Dale has created a 600-acre TIF district to promote development along the corridor. Additional infrastructure studies currently ongoing include regional storm water management plan, wetlands delineation and City water system model update

Illinois Route 390 improvements that specifically benefit Wood Dale's TIF District include: traffic improvements at Wood Dale Road and the Wood Dale Road Bridge; utility improvements including city water system and sanitary sewer system relocation and wired utilities relocation (miles and miles of utilities relocated to correct side of Tollway; aesthetic improvements, and bike path improvements.

Lidia Pilecky said that Wood Dale is one location along the corridor that presented a prime opportunity for Tollway to coordinate design and construction efforts with local development plans. Mayor Pulice said that old warehouses are being knocked down and replaced with new. Things are happening fast. He asked Eric Llewellyn of Pace, when there would be a station for rapid transit. Mayor Pulice said that the full-build out

of the TIF district is expected within 10 years.

### **Cook and DuPage County Updates**

John Yonan of Cook County said that with the new administration there have been some federal bill changes and updates to federal programs like TIGER. He said there is a call for major freight projects due by the end of the year.

John Loper of DuPage County said that the County's bicycle and pedestrian plan is basically complete and will be released in early fall with area communities. He said that a local technical assistance grant is being filed for the Illinois Route 83 corridor (from IL 390 to St. Charles Road). A zoning amendment is under development regarding some incorporated and unincorporated properties.

### **Pace Illinois Route 390 Tollway Corridor Service Study – Status Update**

Eric Llewellyn/Pace provided an update on the study that included a review of corridors of interest service plan, information about integration with Pulse Network, potential transit opportunities: hubs and park-n-ride along the corridor that was being considered and strategies for corridor and ridership growth.

### **Next Steps/Next Meeting**

Next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2017. John Loper suggested that topics include an update on DuPage County's bicycle and pedestrian plan, and how transfer of jurisdiction will be handled. Malika Hainer of Mount Prospect offered to host the next LAC meeting; Ron Lunt offered Hamilton Lakes as a backup.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8 p.m. with no public comment or executive session.  
Minutes taken by: Carla Mykytiuk, CH2M for the LAC.