



WORKING SESSION MINUTES

MEETING SUBJECT: Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project Local Advisory Committee #36 **RECORDER:** Kristina Kuehling

MEETING DATE & TIME: September 18, 2023 at 6:00 pm **PREPARATION DATE:** Sept 22, 2023

MEETING LOCATION: Elk Grove Village Hall

ISSUE STATUS: FINAL

ATTENDEE NAME	ORGANIZATION
Manar Nashif	Illinois Tollway
Karyn Robles	Illinois Tollway
Kelsey Passi	Illinois Tollway
Jake Weaver	Jacobs
Ryan Adriatico	Village of Franklin Park – Senior Village Planner
Noel Basquin	Cook County – Bureau Chief of Design
James Caporusso	Leyden Township - Administrator
Timothy Cepek	City of Wood Dale – Mariott General Manager
Ann Choi	Village of Mount Prospect – Development Planner
Tom Dailly	Village of Schaumburg – Village President
Malika Hainer	City of Chicago – Coordinating Planner, Dept. of Aviation
Maggie Jablonski	Elk Grove Village – Deputy Village Manager
Paul Koch	City of Elmhurst – Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Diana Kosmach	Addison Township - Trustee
John Loper	DuPage County Chief Transportation Planner
Kurtis Pozsgay	Village of Bensenville – Director of Community & Economic Development
Nunzio Pulice	City of Wood Dale - Mayor
Rudy Repa	Village of Franklin Park – Village Planner
Eric Shutes	Village of Roselle - Delegate
Jerry Smiley	Village of Roselle – Delegate
Donna Tovello	Addison Township - Trustee
Jim Wilbrandt	Elk Grove Village – Vice President of Operations
PUBLIC ATTENDEES	None

The thirty-sixth meeting of the Elgin O’Hare–Western Access Project Local Advisory Committee (LAC) was held at Elk Grove Village Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 18, 2023. Mayor Nunzio Pulice called the meeting to order and took roll call with those present being:

Diana Kosmach
Malika Hainer
Paul Koch

Tim Cepek
Maggie Jablonski
Jim Wilbrandt

James Caporusso
Kurtis Pozsgay
Ryan Adriatico

With the required number of members present, a quorum was established and the minutes from the June 12, 2023, meeting were approved. There was no old business to discuss.

Public Comment:

None

Feedback on Local Issues:

None

Project Updates:

Manar Nashif introduced Karyn Robles. Jake Weaver began the meeting by discussing project updates and local stakeholder coordination efforts that have occurred since the last LAC meeting. Jake provided an overview of the project improvements and benefits, and highlighted the work that is forecasted through the end of 2023.

Active Construction – North Segment

Jake stated that I-294 to Franklin Avenue will be completed first within the south segment of the I-490 project. One of the Tollway's goals is to show the number of improvements and asked the membership to help communicate this work and efforts in their communities.

I-490/I-90 Interchange: Bridge Piers Over Touhy Avenue Reservoir

Jake discussed accomplishments and ongoing work including bridge construction, earthwork, retaining walls and drainage improvements. Jake said the bridge over Touhy Avenue reservoir is a very complex bridge to construct. There has been a lot of progress since the last meeting.

I-490/IL 390 Western Access Interchange

Jake gave an overview of the continuing work on flyover ramps and work west of York Road.

Tri-State Tollway (I-294): North Avenue to I-490

Jake gave an overview of the I-294 section at Illinois Route 64 (North Avenue). On I-294 at North Avenue, traffic has been shifted to the west and this section is in the final stages of construction. Jake discussed I-294 at I-490 in the Northlake and Franklin Park area and the ongoing ramp construction that requires traffic shifts to provide adequate workspace.

I-294 at County Line Road and North Avenue/Lake Street

Jake discussed current work led by Cook County including the reconfiguration of the North Avenue and U.S. Route 20 (Lake Street) to improve traffic flow and provide new direct access to eastbound Illinois Route 64, and reconstruction of County Line Road from North Avenue to Grand Avenue. The Tollway is constructing a new ramp from southbound I-294 to County Line Road to reduce congestion at the I-290 interchange and on local roads.

UPRR Relocation and I-490 Tollway Over Franklin Avenue and Bensenville Yard

Contractor is constructing an embankment to facilitate foundation and pier construction this year. Jake stated this is a temporary measure to excavate without impacting the existing railroad.

Runway Lighting Protection/Modification and Utility Relocation

Jake stated the runway lighting relocation and installation was a massive effort. The first installation was Runway 10L, which was completed at the end of 2022. This year, the Tollway has since moved to Runway 9L and is making good progress on installing lighting systems and electronics. Next up in 2024 is Runway 10C.

I-490 Tollway Major Utility Relocation

Jake provided an overview of efforts to coordinate with utilities and stated there has been a lot of progress this year in the Bensenville Yard area. There have been utility relocations along Grand Avenue and the utility work here is now complete. There is continued major utility work in Franklin Park. In the northern section, there is Nicor gas work along Touhy Avenue and future pipeline relocations. Jake provided timeframes for the active and upcoming Franklin Avenue/Green Street civil and electrical work.

Local Road Improvements Along I-490 Tollway

Jake discussed reconstruction of roadways adjacent to I-490.

York Road Improvements

This work is in partnership with DuPage County. The York Road contract has been split into two in order to expedite construction and get York Road underway in parallel with the Tollway's interchange work. The second contract may include a shared-use path in coordination with the municipalities. The Tollway continued to work with the county on design for the two contracts.

Touhy Avenue Improvements

Jake stated these improvements are led by Cook County and will provide major benefits. Touhy Avenue will be grade separated up and over UPRR and I-490. Advertisement for work is anticipated later this year with construction anticipated to begin in Spring 2024.

Franklin Avenue/Green Street Widening and Reconstruction

This work is led by Cook County. Advertisement for work is anticipated in late 2023.

EOWA Upcoming Work

Jake stated local road construction in 2024 will include York Road, Touhy Avenue, and Franklin Avenue/Green Street. Tollway work anticipated to start in 2024 includes the I-490/IL 390 western access interchange flyover ramps. This involved bridge construction over the UP railroad. In addition, I-490 mainline construction in Franklin Park is anticipated to begin in 2024 and involves work from I-294 to Franklin Avenue.

Outreach

Jake provided an overview of outreach efforts. The Tollway will be hosting local high school for a tour of the project in late September. There will be an outreach event in Franklin Park with industrial park stakeholders in early October. Jake also stated there are plans to meet with York Road property owners to talk with them about York Road improvements. There will also be additional outreach with state and local elected officials.

Comments

Mayor Pulice asked if the bids have still been competitive and under budget. Manar said it has been competitive and the Tollway has continued to receive multiple bids, however, the challenge has been that there have been increases during construction as well as the cost of steel. Manar stated the cost of steel has seemed to stabilize.

Jerry Smiley asked about the timeframe for the north leg of I-490 to open (I-490 to I-90). Jake stated this section is anticipated to open in 2027. Contractors are working to get the pipelines relocated and completing the interchange. Jerry asked if the original timeline was 2025 and Jake confirmed. Pulice stated there were coordination issues with the railroad. Manar said the coordination was delayed but now it is back on track.

Paul Koch asked when the work at County Line Road to North Avenue will be completed. Jake said paving is anticipated to be in place by the end of this year and two-way traffic re-established on County Line Road will be in place. The overall construction is anticipated to be completed in 2025.

Kurtis Posgay asked if there would be any further improvements at the County Line Road intersection. Jake said lighting improvements but no additional improvements.

County Updates

Cook County: No one representing

DuPage County: None

Meeting Wrap-up and Next Steps

Next meeting was scheduled for February 5, 2023.

Kelsey Passi asked the membership to ensure they have provided the Tollway with two representatives from each organization and encouraged everyone to attend so we have a quorum. Kelsey also reminded membership to save the Tollway's email address to their "safe" list so they receive invitations.

Jerry Smiley asked how many organizations are represented and how many votes they receive. Kelsey stated there are 20 organizations and certain organizations have two votes due to the level of impact on those communities and other organizations have one vote. Kelsey stated the Tollway would send more clarification on this to the membership.

Setting Future Agenda and Schedule

- Monday, February 5, 2024 at 6 PM. Location to be determined.
- No further remarks

New Business

None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm CT.

Minutes taken by: Kristina Kuehling, Images, Inc. for the LAC.