


PERSPECTIVES



STUDY Begins Stakeholder Involvement Encouraged



The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has recently initiated the Illinois Route 47 Preliminary Engineering and Environmental (Phase I) Study. The Illinois Route 47 study area is located in the City of Woodstock and McHenry County, extending approximately 5 miles from US Route 14 on the south to Charles Road on the north. The Phase I study will take a detailed look

at the current and future transportation needs of the corridor and includes an extensive public involvement process. The project will include an analysis of the existing roadway, drainage and intersection deficiencies and an examination of the impacts that any proposed improvements will have on the community and the environment. It is anticipated that the Phase I study will take approximately 36 months to complete, and will strive to develop a long-term improvement that will benefit motorists, residents, businesses and economic development in the region. 



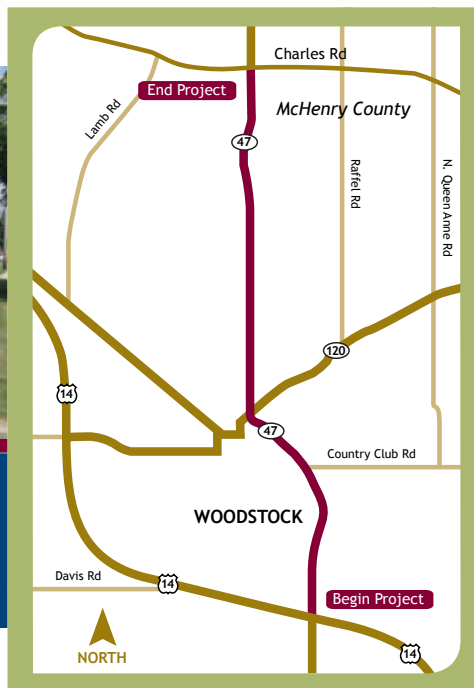
ILLINOIS ROUTE 47



Illinois Department of Transportation



The Phase I study includes an extensive public involvement process.



Message from IDOT

I am pleased to announce that the Illinois Department of Transportation has initiated the Illinois Route 47 Phase I Study. The study team will examine current and future transportation needs of the corridor, and transportation deficiencies. A crucial component of our study is an extensive public involvement program that provides opportunities for meaningful participation for all interested stakeholders and the public at large. We look forward to working with the local community, agencies, and interested parties to develop a comprehensive transportation system that fits into its surroundings, and benefits project stakeholders and the region.

Sincerely,

Diane M. O'Keefe, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways
Region One Engineer

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CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP FORMED

PROJECT STUDY GROUP
IDOT • FHWA • Consultant

CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP

*COMMUNITY LEADERS
(Mayor / Manager and County Chairman
or designees) with authority to speak
on behalf of their organization*

*STAKEHOLDERS with expertise
or technical interest in areas
of transportation, land use,
environment and economic
development in the study area*

DOT realizes that the success of a project is contingent upon the participation and feedback from affected stakeholders, to ensure that recommended proposals are consistent with stakeholder goals and objectives.

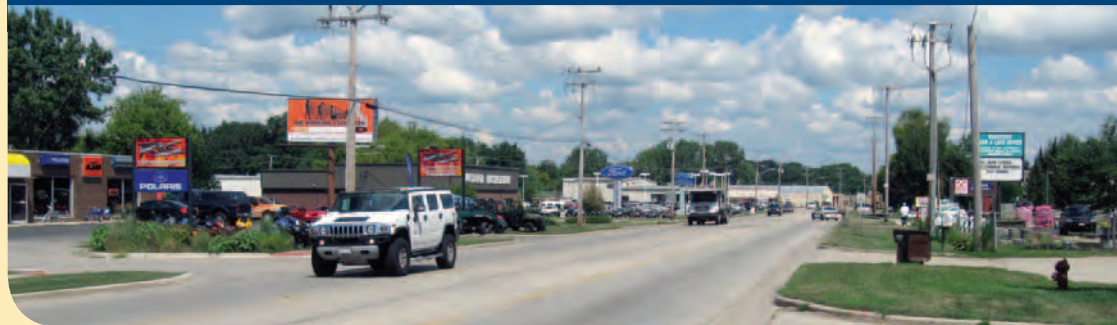
To facilitate this input, IDOT has formed a Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) for the Illinois Route 47 Phase I Study.

The CAG consists of community leaders (Mayor and/or Manager in the study area and the Chairman of the McHenry County Board or their designees) and stakeholders with expertise or technical interest in the areas of environmental, land use, transportation, and economic development that are affected by the study. The purpose of the CAG is to provide input on the development of the Purpose and Need statement, the alternatives to be carried forward for evaluation, and on the selection of the preferred alternative. The group will meet regularly with the study team throughout the duration of the project, providing input into the study process, and striving for consensus at key project milestones.



One-on-One Meetings Held

THE STUDY TEAM WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE STUDY PROCESS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT ALL VIEWPOINTS ARE CONSIDERED.



In an effort to solicit more detailed and specific input from key agency, community and local officials, the study team has made itself available for one-on-one meetings to openly discuss project issues and concerns. The study team has held initial meetings with municipal, township and County officials, local and

regional economic development representatives, and the school district and transit agencies serving the region. The study team will continue to be available to attend these meetings throughout the study process in order to ensure that all viewpoints are considered.





ILLINOIS ROUTE 47

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION— *Your Opinion Counts!*



Stay Informed & Get Involved!

We appreciate your continued interest in the Illinois Route 47 Phase I Study. We hope you stay involved as the study team proceeds with the identification of corridor issues and goals and objectives. You can always find current project information by visiting our website at www.IL47woodstockstudy.com or contact us at the Illinois Department of Transportation Division of Highways—District One, Attn: Mir Mustafa, Project Manager, 201 W.Center Court, Schaumburg, IL 60196. Telephone: (847) 705-4477.

WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU?

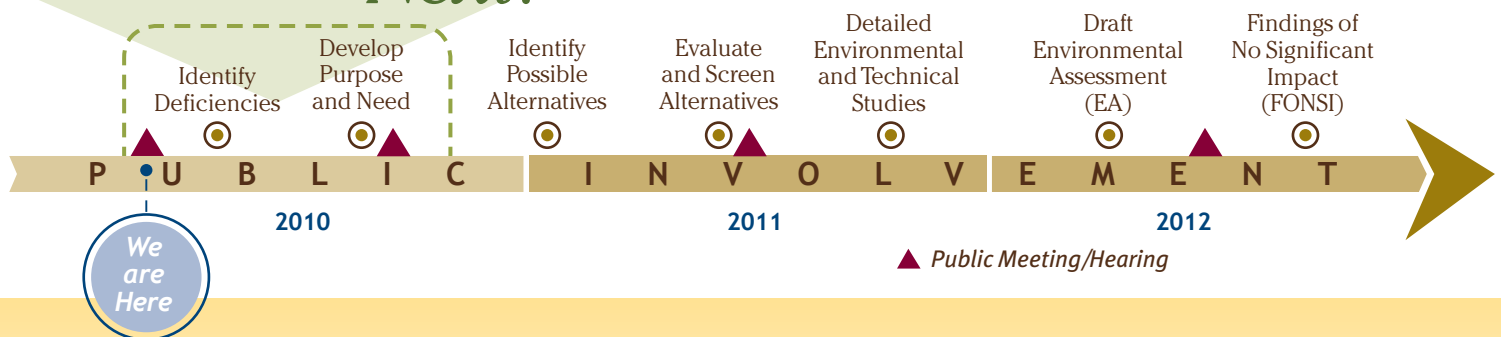
It is important to become involved in a process if one wishes to contribute to its outcome. IDOT is committed to an extensive public outreach program throughout the Illinois Route 47 Phase I Study, in order to create the collaborative environment necessary to build a consensus solution with community-based support. The public's involvement in this process is critical to its success.

TO THAT END, IDOT IS PROVIDING SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO INFORM AND INVITE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION THAT INCLUDE:

- Newsletters—up-to-date Information
- Website: www.IL47woodstockstudy.com—submit your comments!
- Small group meetings—what's your issue?
- One-on-one meetings—what do we need to know about the corridor?
- Citizen Advisory Group
- Public Meetings



WHAT HAPPENS *Next?*



Over the upcoming months, the study team will continue to meet with the Citizen Advisory Group, community representatives, agencies, and interested parties to obtain input. Concurrently, work will continue with the existing conditions analysis, identification of corridor deficiencies, and the collection of technical and environmental data. Through the

identification of current and future project deficiencies and needs, a Problem Statement will be crafted to help guide the development of the Purpose and Need. The Purpose and Need will then be the basis for the development and evaluation of alternatives.

A GUIDE FOR *Stakeholder Involvement*

A STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT PLAN (SIP) HAS BEEN CREATED FOR THIS PROJECT AND WILL BE USED AS A GUIDE FOR ENCOURAGING STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION DURING THE ILLINOIS ROUTE 47 STUDY. The SIP is the blueprint for defining methods for engaging the public during the study process, and ensures that stakeholders are provided a number of opportunities to be informed and participate as the project progresses. The SIP provides the framework for communicating the decision-making process between the public, local agencies and governmental officials to identify transportation solutions.

The SIP will be available for review and comment at the February 3, 2010 Public Meeting. As the project proceeds, the SIP will be updated on a regular basis to reflect changes or additions. Future SIP updates will be posted on the project's website at www.IL47woodstockstudy.com.

WHAT IS CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS?

IDOT has designated the Illinois Route 47 Phase I Study as a Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) project. CSS is a collaborative approach that involves all stakeholders to develop a facility that fits into its surroundings and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources while maintaining safety and mobility. Per IDOT's CSS procedures, a stakeholder is anyone who could be affected by the project and has a stake in its outcome.

Public involvement is a key element of the CSS process, and there will be many opportunities for stakeholders to provide input regarding needs and potential solutions within the corridor. These opportunities include a Citizen Advisory Group, public meetings, small group and one-on-one meetings, and a website. Through these and other means, IDOT will proactively seek stakeholder input and partnerships early and often to develop consensus toward on a preferred alternative.



Learn About the Project on a New Web Site

WWW.IL47WOODSTOCKSTUDY.COM



THE ILLINOIS ROUTE 47 STUDY BEGINS WITH A FOCUS ON THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM.

An important element of the public involvement strategy is the development of the project website. In an effort to keep the public well informed, the website will regularly communicate information about the project as it becomes available. It also offers the public an opportunity to comment on the project throughout the study process through a comment page.

The website will also include frequently asked questions with answers, meeting information, project publications and reports, mailing list sign-up and comment forms.

THE WEBSITE WILL CONTINUALLY COMMUNICATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT—IT OFFERS THE PUBLIC AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE PROJECT THROUGHOUT THE STUDY PROCESS.

You're Invited!

IDOT Schedules First Public Meeting

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is seeking public input on the current and future transportation issues and needs for the Illinois Route 47 study area. The study will take a detailed look at transportation needs of the corridor and includes an extensive public involvement process. The project will include an analysis of the existing roadway, drainage and intersection deficiencies and an examination of the impacts that any proposed improvements will have on the community and the environment.

This public meeting will be presented in an open house format. Interested persons may visit anytime between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. IDOT will provide information regarding the study schedule, the federal review process, and public involvement activities. Attendees will have the opportunity to watch a PowerPoint presentation, review project exhibits, comment on the current and future needs and conditions along the corridor, and meet with IDOT and study team representatives on a one-on-one basis.

For more information, contact: Mr. Mir Mustafa, Project Manager, Illinois Department of Transportation, 201 W. Center Court, Schaumburg, Illinois 60196, call (847) 705-4477, or visit the project website at www.IL47woodstockstudy.com.

PLEASE JOIN US

THE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD:

Wednesday, February 3, 2010
4:00 – 7:00 pm

LOCATION:

Challenger Learning Center
222 Church Street
Woodstock, Illinois 60098



ILLINOIS ROUTE 47

**This meeting will be accessible to handicapped individuals. Anyone needing specific assistance should contact Mary Rose Donahue of Images, Inc. at (630) 510-3944. Persons planning to attend who will need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify the TTY/TTD number (800) 526-0844/or 711; TTY users (Spanish) (800) 501-0864/or 711; and for Telebraille dial (877) 526-6670 at least five days prior to the meeting.*



(see back for details)

YOU'RE INVITED TO A
PUBLIC MEETING!
WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 3, 2010

PLEASE JOIN US

ILLINOIS ROUTE 47
US Route 14 to Charles Road



Illinois Route 47 Project
Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Highways—District One
201 W. Center Court
Schaumburg, IL 60196