



# WORKING SESSION MINUTES

MEETING SUBJECT: Elgin O'Hare Western Access Local Advisory Committee #18 RECORDER: Carla Mykytiuk

MEETING DATE & TIME: May 11, 2015 at 6:30 pm PREPARATION DATE: June 2, 2015

MEETING LOCATION: Courtyard Wood Dale/Itasca

ISSUE STATUS:  Draft for Review  Final

ATTENDEE NAME	ORGANIZATION
Manar Nashif	Illinois Tollway
Rocco Zucchero	Illinois Tollway
Kevin Donahue	Illinois Tollway
Bryan Wagner	Illinois Tollway
Pete Stukas	V3, Corridor Construction Manager
Carla Mykytiuk	CH2M HILL
Rodney Craig	Hanover Park (LAC Chair)
Ron Lunt	Hamilton Partners
Derek Peebles	Des Plaines
Brian Smith	Roselle Planning Commission
James Petri	Elk Grove Village
John Yonan	Cook County
John Loper	DuPage County
Sharon Eckart	Wood Dale Courtyard by Marriott
Paul Koch	Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce
Michael Zonsius	City of Chicago
Paul DeMichele	Bensenville Chamber of Commerce
Joti Baruni	Village of Schaumburg
Len Maniscalco	Village of Bensenville
Eric Richard	Village of Franklin Park
Scott Viger	Village of Bensenville
Maggie Jablonski	Elk Grove Village
Mike Albin	DMMC
Ron Krall	HR Green

The eighteenth meeting of the Elgin O'Hare–Western Access Project Local Advisory Committee (LAC) was held at the Courtyard Wood Dale/Itasca at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2015. Rocco Zucchero of the Illinois Tollway, called the meeting to order for Rodney Craig. Roll call was taken with those present being:

Rodney Craig  
 Joti Baruni for Karyn Robles  
 Michael Zonsius  
 Brian Smith  
 Ron Lunt  
 John Yonan  
 Derek Peebles

John Loper  
 James Petri  
 Sharon Eckart  
 Paul Koch  
 Paul DeMichele  
 Len Maniscalco

Without the required number of members present, initially no quorum was established. Later in the meeting,

the arrival of other LAC members established a quorum, and the minutes from the March meeting were unanimously approved at 7:54 with no discussion. There was no old business to discuss.

LAC members were asked to provide feedback on local issues and provided insight into what they were hearing from members of their communities. Rodney Craig said that traffic keeps moving even with all the construction.

Rocco Zucchero gave a brief update on the early June installation of tolling gantries to allow for the Tollway to test the new all-electronic system. He reminded the group that toll collection would begin on Illinois Route 390 from Lake Street to I-290 in the summer of 2016.

An LAC member asked if gantries would be installed at night. Pete Stukas the Construction Manager for the project said that the gantries would be installed overnight to accommodate the required short-term roadway closure.

Rocco reminded the LAC that they serve as a conduit of project information to and from the public and asked that LAC members share information about the gantry installation with their communities.

An LAC member asked if there had been complaints received about the tolling equipment testing taking place on I-294. Rocco said that the Tollway had received calls asking about the testing on the I-294/Touhy ramp, which is a test toll site where different cameras and toll reading technology is being tested.

An LAC member asked if the Tollway was working on ways to use smartphones to pay tolls for rental cars. Rocco Zucchero said that yes, the Tollway is investigating that option as well as temporary I-PASS stickers or tags that would cover one day or more. Rocco pointed out that the Tollway is also working on ways to make the online payment system more user-friendly.

Rocco then reviewed the project information available on the Tollway's website.

Kevin Donohue of the Tollway said that the cameras used for toll collection on the EOWA project will eventually be used system wide.

After it was determined there were no additional issues to report or questions to be addressed, Rocco Zucchero began the project status update:

#### **Design and Construction Update:**

- Thirty-one contracts totaling \$241.8 million currently awarded to provide design and construction management services.
- Twenty-four construction contracts totaling \$409.5 million have been awarded as of May with 5 construction contracts complete or substantially complete. An additional ten construction contracts are anticipated to start in 2015.
- *Design Status.* Design phase of development for the EOWA is ongoing. Design phase work includes preparation of final design plans and specifications, land acquisition, and preparation of required permits and agreements. Design is substantially complete from the west end of the Illinois Route 390 corridor to Meacham/Medinah Road, with the exception of the ongoing design of a wrap-up landscaping contract. Design for the easterly extension of Illinois Route 390 through Busse Road and all elements of I-90 and Elmhurst Road will be complete this summer. Design is underway for the next usable segment from Busse Road to Irving Park Road, off-system improvements at Franklin Avenue and the Taft Avenue connector, as well as enhanced access at the I-294 and North Avenue interchange.  
An LAC member asked if Elmhurst Road would still be complete by end of 2016. Rocco said that yes, it is still on target.  
An LAC member asked if the Touhy Avenue overpass would be tolled. Rocco Zucchero said that Cook County is working on the design of Touhy Avenue and that the roadway will remain under IDOT's jurisdiction.
- *Tolling* – Tolling of the first segment (from Lake Street to Rohlwing Road) will not begin immediately upon completion of the construction of proposed improvements.
- *Construction Status.* Much of the Illinois Route 390 corridor will be under construction in 2015. Rocco Zucchero said that the westbound I-290 to westbound IL 390 project was progressing well. Pete Stukas said that half of the bridge deck had been poured and that it would open in mid-summer; the same week the movement to the east would open and the existing traffic signal will be removed.
- Manar Nashif indicated that there is ongoing utility relocation work along Wood Dale Road that is being performed in preparation for Wood Dale Road roadway and bridge construction that will start this Summer. *Construction Implementation Timeline.* Implementation of the EOWA project remains on schedule. The overall implementation strategy is to deliver usable portions of the project in a phased

manner. All of the improvements from Lake Street to Meacham/Medinah Road and the Rohlwing Road Bridge are anticipated to be complete in 2015. Pete Stukas said that two mainline contracts east of I-290 would be bid and have construction start this year and a third will start next year. By the end of the year all mainline construction to Illinois Route 83 will be bid and awarded.

At the conclusion of the design and construction update, LAC members asked several questions:

- Ron Lunt asked if the dirt pile west of Park Boulevard was being used for a retaining wall. Pete Stukas said that the embankment was for construction of ramps to I-290.
- Mayor Craig asked if the bridge that would be opening this summer was the southbound to eastbound. Pete Stukas responded that construction of the southbound to eastbound bridge is scheduled to start in early summer. Rocco Zucchero pointed out that bridge construction is included in the contract that will be administered by IDOT and is the same work that is receiving federal funding through the CMAQ program; construction of this flyover movement will continue through 2017.
- Ron Lunt asked how awarded contracts have compared to engineering estimates. Rocco indicated that to date, bids have been competitive and generally within engineering estimates. The next LAC meeting will include construction contract cost update.
- Ron Lunt asked why portions of the Western Bypass will not be constructed until 2022. Rocco Zucchero said that there is a lot of right-of-way that needs to be acquired. The south leg will be a challenge given that it includes O'Hare Airport property and railroad crossings; the north leg has a number of complex industrial relocations.
- Based on a question from Paul DeMichele about whether a determination had been made regarding the location of the maintenance facility and if one site is required or if several smaller sites would work, a discussion about the maintenance facility ensued. Rocco Zucchero noted that the Tollway requires a new maintenance facility in order to effectively maintain and operate the new toll road facilities. The Tollway is aware of the limited right-of-way availability, and community concerns regarding siting of a new maintenance facility. The Tollway continues to work on a maintenance plan including a plan of a new Tollway maintenance yard to prepare for assuming jurisdiction of the first segment of Illinois Route 390 in Summer 2016. In response to a further question from an LAC member, Manar indicated that approximately 8 to 10 acres would be required, along with good direct access to the tollway to enable efficient incident response. Ron Lunt suggested that O'Hare Airport be considered as a potential maintenance yard site. An LAC member asked if a facility could be shared with IDOT. Rocco said that the idea had been investigated but that a more centrally located facility is needed.

**Business and Residential Outreach:** Since the last LAC meeting, the project team has continued coordination meetings with community staff, participating in six local coordination meetings as well as in a EOWA Quarterly Mayors Meeting, a construction update for the Hamilton Lakes Business Park, and a project open house where 2015 construction information, the latest concept design, land acquisition, and tolling information was shared. Rocco Zucchero asked LAC members to share any thoughts or ideas on how and where to focus public outreach efforts.

Rocco gave a brief recap of the issues and questions that members of the public asked during the open house, which included: tolling, noisewall locations, access changes, aesthetics, signage, and right-of-way needs. In addition, strong advocacy for bike lanes was demonstrated at the meeting. Rocco pointed out that the overall DuPage bikeway plan would address this. Where and when access to O'Hare Airport would be provided was also of interest. Rocco said that western access is part of the project. What it connects to will be determined through coordination with the City of Chicago.

**Cook and DuPage County Update:** John Yonan of Cook County provided an update regarding the status of grant applications. He mentioned that notification of selection for the CMAQ application requesting \$70 million in funding for two portions of the EOWA project - the I-294 at North Avenue interchange and the I-294 to Franklin Avenue/Green Street Connector is anticipated for end of summer or early fall.

John Yonan noted that Cook and DuPage Counties continue to track funding opportunities for potential project enhancements.

John Yonan also provided a preview of a Notice of Funding Availability for TIGER grants. The counties have worked with CMAP to look at priority projects for the area, with Touhy Avenue identified as the highest ranked project in the Chicago region. The County is encouraging support from municipalities to help secure additional funding for these priority improvements and may be looking for letters of support from municipalities/agencies for the TIGER grant.

Next, Bryan Wagner of the Illinois Tollway provided an overview of Tollway **Sustainability and Environmental Initiatives** for the EOWA Project, which included a description of FHWA's Infrastructure Voluntary Evaluation Sustainability Tool (INVEST). INVEST provides a way to measure and monitor how

well the Tollway is preserving, protecting, and enhancing the environment through three modules that include system planning, project development, and operations and maintenance. Bryan said that key initiatives for the EOWA Project are the maintenance site and overall sustainability. He said that the maintenance facility would be a LEED Silver facility.

Storm water management is a major sustainability issue. Bryan Wagner described the storm water best management practices (BMPs) being used on the EOWA Project. He said the goal is not to increase release rates and that substantial amount of water will be held and treated.

Manar clarified that detention addresses water quality; treating the storm water runoff created by the greater impervious area. Compensatory storage is flood storage and will be replaced with ponds.

Bryan explained the ongoing mitigation activities at Spring Brook Creek and Pine Dunes. The Tollway is leading the design and construction of the Pine Dunes mitigation site in the Forest Preserve District of Lake County as part of an 85 acre wetland mitigation credit. The Pine Dunes includes about 100 acres of wetland restoration, about 200 acres of prairie restoration and about 3 miles of shared-use path. Construction took just over a year and will be complete this summer. Once vegetation is established, the mitigation standards will be met.

Bryan Wagner next described the chloride reduction program being implemented as part of the project. The Tollway has a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup. The Tollway will reduce salt use by 20 percent and will collaborate with neighboring municipalities to reduce 1,853 tons of salt. Tollway will assist with funding for the communities to use prewetting, brining solutions. Bryan Wagner said that Tollway Maintenance has taken ownership and will be making the brine solutions.

Mayor Craig said that he was glad to see a continued focus on sustainability and storm water management.

Ron Lunt requested that the Tollway share available information regarding a prototype of a Tollway LEED maintenance facility.

Prior to concluding the meeting, the **next steps for the LAC** were discussed briefly. The next meeting will be held on July 13, 2015 at the conference room in Hamilton Lakes Business Park.

Suggested topics for the July 13 meeting include:

- Maintenance facility/prototype
- Project/contract financial update
- Off-system improvements (Touhy Avenue and Taft Avenue walk through)

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m. with no public comment or executive session.  
Minutes taken by: Carla Mykytiuk, CH2M for the LAC

**Action Items:** The next meeting will take place on July 13, 2015