



## **Project Brochure**

### **Public Information Meeting**

For

**US Route 41 (Skokie Highway)**

at

**Illinois Route 176 (Rockland Road)**

**Interchange Reconstruction**

**Village of Lake Bluff**

**Shields Township**

**Lake County**



**Date: Tuesday, November 16, 2010**

**Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Place: Lake Bluff Elementary School  
350 West Washington Avenue  
Lake Bluff, IL 60044**



## Welcome to this Public Information Meeting

The Village of Lake Bluff and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) welcomes you to this Public Information Meeting concerning the proposed improvement of US Route 41 (Skokie Highway) at Illinois Route 176 (Rockland Road) in the Village of Lake Bluff, Shields Township, and Lake County, Illinois.

### *Purpose of this Public Information Meeting*

The purpose of this Public Information Meeting is to solicit input on the transportation needs for the study area and to establish a Project Advisory Group to assist the Village of Lake Bluff and IDOT in the project development process. This project will be developed in accordance with Federal Project Development procedures and Context Sensitive Solutions project development principles. The Project Advisory Group will be a key component of this process. This Public Information Meeting will be focused on the following key discussion areas:

1. Project Overview and the Phase I Engineering Project Development Process
2. The Project Public Involvement Plan and Project Advisory Group
3. Transportation Needs and Community Context Issues

### *Project Location and Purpose*

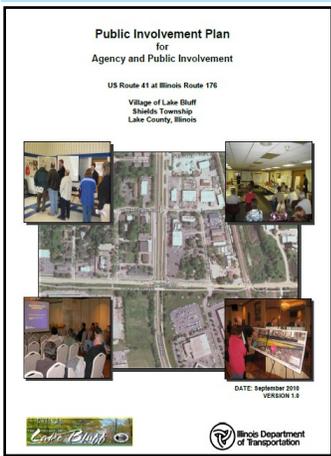
US Route 41 in this area serves as a vital north-south link from the Wisconsin border south to Chicago's northern suburbs, carrying approximately 46,000 vehicles per day with two travel lanes in each direction. Illinois Route 176 carries approximately 15,000 vehicles per day in the vicinity of the US Route 41 interchange, with higher volumes to the west near Illinois Route 43 and much lower volumes to the east. The US Route 41 interchange with Illinois Route 176 experiences considerable traffic congestion on a daily basis and notable safety concerns. On this basis, the Village of Lake Bluff, in coordination with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), has initiated Phase I Engineering and Environmental Studies (Phase I Study) to evaluate transportation issues and needs of the US Route 41 at Illinois Route 176 interchange.





## *Context Sensitive Solutions*

This project will be developed in accordance with Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) project development principles. CSS is a collaborative, interdisciplinary project development approach that involves project stakeholders throughout the project development process, and at key milestone decision points to ensure that the social, economic, and environmental concerns of the surrounding community are considered as part of the proposed transportation improvement project.



## *Public Involvement Plan*

A Public Involvement Plan (PIP) is the foundation to successful utilization of CSS principles, as it documents the variety of methods for project stakeholders to get involved in the project development process. The PIP is both comprehensive and flexible based on project needs, and thus subject to revision as project development warrants. Copies of the PIP are available at the Public Information Meeting or can be requested from the Village of Lake Bluff as noted on the back page of this brochure.

A project stakeholder is anyone potentially affected by, concerned with, or interested in the outcome of the proposed improvements being contemplated. Please refer to the PIP for more information.

A **Project Management Team (PMT)** has been formed for this project by the Village of Lake Bluff and IDOT. The PMT includes representatives from the Village of Lake Bluff, IDOT, Shields Township, Lake County, and the project engineering consultants. The PMT has primary responsibility for the project development process and ultimate decision making authority for this project. The PMT will serve as a project oversight team that is responsible for ensuring that all applicable Federal, State and Local requirements are being met, and to ensure full implementation of the Public Involvement Plan.

## *Stakeholder Involvement Methods*

The opportunity for communication with all project stakeholders is vital to the project's success. The PIP includes a variety of potential methods for stakeholder involvement including newsletters and brochures, agency/organization meetings, Public Meetings, Public Hearing, and meetings with individuals as appropriate.

A **Project Advisory Group (PAG)** is being formed as a key component of the PIP. The structure of the PAG is discussed in more detail in the PIP. PAG members must be able to attend all PAG meetings, and perform material reviews as requested, in order to ensure the project schedule is maintained. Only stakeholders that can make this commitment should request to be considered for membership on the PAG. As discussed in the PIP, the objective for the PAG is to include broad and equal representation from the study area, and be effective with respect to size and structure. Therefore, the PMT will determine final PAG membership.

The **PAG Membership Request Form** is available at this Public Information Meeting or can be requested from the Village of Lake Bluff as noted on the back page of this brochure. PAG Membership Request Forms must be returned to the Village of Lake Bluff by December 3, 2010.



## Project Schedule

A typical highway improvement project is developed in three (3) distinct phases as follows:

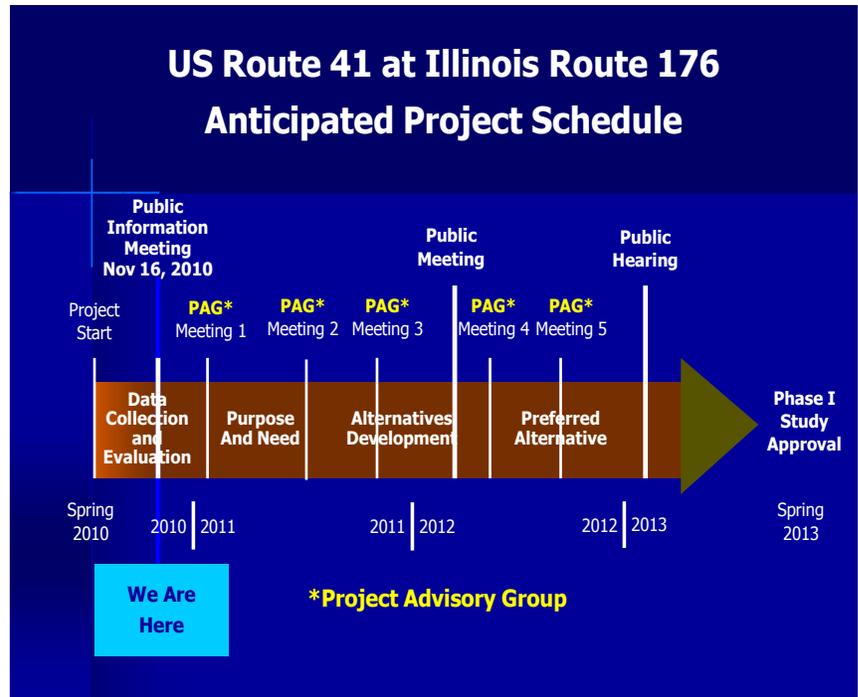
- Phase I - Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies
- Phase II - Plan Preparation and Land Acquisition
- Phase III - Construction

Phase I for this project began when the consultants were authorized to proceed in the Spring of 2010.

Five (5) Project Advisory Group meetings are anticipated to be held during the Phase I portion of this project. Completion of Phase I is anticipated to occur during the Spring of 2013.

Typically, Phase II requires approximately 24 months to complete after Phase I approval.

Currently, Phase II or Phase III are not included in IDOT's Fiscal Year 2011 to 2016 Proposed Highway Improvement Program, however, it will be considered for inclusion in future programs as funding becomes available.



## Project Questions and Comments

Written questions and comments, or requests for materials may be submitted during this Public Information Meeting or mailed to the Village of Lake Bluff at the address indicated below or sent to the project email address at:

[US41IL176study@cbbel.com](mailto:US41IL176study@cbbel.com)

**Mr. Ryan Waller**  
Assistant Village Administrator  
Village of Lake Bluff  
40 East Center Avenue