



**Illiana Corridor Tier Two
Corridor Planning Group (CPG) / Technical Task Force (TTF) Meeting #4 Summary
September 9, 2013
Will County Fair Atrium – Peotone, IL**

CPG/TTF Meeting #4:

The fourth CPG/TTF meeting for Tier Two was held on September 9, 2013 at Will County Fair Atrium in Peotone, Illinois.

The meeting included a PowerPoint presentation, which provided a summary of the CPG/TTF #3 Meeting, Public Meeting #2, and the Section 106 Meetings. The main focus of the meeting was to provide information on the Alternatives to be Carried Forward Technical Memorandum (ACFTM), Stakeholder Coordination, and Next Steps. To announce the September 9, 2013 CPG/TTF Meeting #4, an email Save the Date was sent out August 13, 2013, and a formal email invitation was first sent on August 26, 2013 and again on September 5, 2013.

The meeting was attended by 66 participants, 61 of which are members of the Corridor Planning Group, or Technical Task Force, as well as the study team and 5 observers.

Tier Two:

Tier Two focuses on performing more detailed studies for the 2,000-ft B3 Corridor, which was the selected corridor documented in the Tier One FEIS/ROD. Tier Two involves the continuation of the NEPA process, identifying Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS), performing field studies, GIS-based impact assessment, and financial studies, with the goal of identifying a preferred alternative, environmental footprint, and financing plan. A Tier Two schedule was presented, identifying the public involvement/NEPA process timeline.

The Illiana Corridor was presented as IDOT’s first P3 project that will be constructed using a “Design-Build” delivery method. It is anticipated that the project will be financed using a “Design-Build Operate-Maintain” contract structure. INDOT has previous experience on P3 projects including the recent Ohio River Bridges project. All options (including the No-Build) are being analyzed. IDOT and INDOT presented that with P3, it is a good time to take advantage of TIFIA loans for private investors.

Agenda:

- Recap CPG/TTF #3 Meeting
- Recap Tier Two Public Meeting #2
- Recap Section 106 Meetings
- Alternatives Carried Forward - Tier Two Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
- Next Steps



Questions and Comments

During the CPG/TTF meeting held on September 9, 2013, representatives from local communities and agencies provided comments and/or questions on the development of the Illiana Corridor.

Among the topics covered were the following:

- Q. On Slide #30, in Section 4, it looks like the Illiana Corridor is touching Midewin. Is it?
A. No, it comes close in some locations but it does not encroach on Midewin property.

- Q. We placed a counter at Route 53 and Walter Strawn to count trucks and counted 8,000. Where are you getting your numbers? They should be much higher.
A. If you want us to go over our traffic numbers, we can provide you with this information. In addition, if you have updated numbers you could share with us please supply that information.

- Q. Can you go back to the Local Road Connectivity Slide and show us which roads are closed and which roads are open?
A. Rick Powell identified which roads are open/closed for the audience.

- Q. Regarding the EIS, there is still concern about storm water BMP's and mitigation since you don't have to abide by the local regulations.
A. A conceptual plan for storm water BMP's and sustainable opportunity areas will be included in the EIS.

- Q. [Florence Township]: Will we have another One-on-One Meeting?
A. Yes, if you call, we will get this set up.

- Q. CMAP will take a vote for the 2040 Plan. If they say no, what will happen?
A. We cannot get a Record of Decision and it will delay the project.

- Q. Is there an update on the business side?
A. We are working very closely with businesses.

- Q. Are there additional roads to be opened—how much will that cost? What does the project cost now?
A. Additional overpasses and underpasses have been provided, but the project team has identified other cost-saving opportunities to keep the project cost very close to the Tier One estimate.

- Q. What is the status of the Lorenzo Road at I-55 bridges?
A. Currently those projects are not within the fiscally constrained plan.

- Q. Will the bridges around I-80 be widened?
A. Yes.



- Q. Is the financial information regarding tolling going to be available before the public hearing?
A. In the next couple of weeks, more information is coming out.
- Q. IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider said that if the toll fails, the taxpayers have to make up the difference.
A. The P3 contract structure has not yet been determined. There are several options for how to toll the expressway and who will receive the toll revenue.
- Q. The cost estimate you put out was questioned publicly. I heard that FHWA performed an audit and verified that the cost estimate was accurate?
A. Yes, the Federal Highway Administration performed an independent cost estimate and they came within 2% of our cost estimate.

Representatives from the study team were able to provide responses to each question/concern voiced and differentiated between policies within Illinois and Indiana, where applicable. When the presentation and Q&A concluded, attendees were able to view the Alternatives to be Carried Forward maps at a separate station and ask specific questions from PB and IDOT/INDOT representatives.

Next Steps:

Public Comment – ACFTM comments due September 26, 2013

Land surveys continue

Geotechnical surveys begin

One-on-one Meetings

MPO and Resource Agency Coordination

DEIS release and Public Hearings – Late 2013