

Harlem Avenue between 63rd and 65th

CAG Meeting #3 Summary | December 1, 2017



The third Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting for IL 43 between 63rd Street and 65th Street was held on Friday, December 1, 2017 at the Bedford Park Public Library at 7816 W 65th Pl, Summit, IL 60501 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

To announce the third CAG meeting, an email invitation and postcards were sent to the members of the CAG and local, state, and federal representatives. Twenty-one CAG members attended the meeting.

The meeting included:



A binder

including exercise workbook and comment sheet.



A PowerPoint presentation

recapping public involvement to date, highlighting the Purpose and Need statement, and evaluating alternatives.



A discussion and exercise

to review and evaluate alternatives.

Facilitated Discussion and Group Exercises

The second half of the meeting focused on presenting seventeen alternatives categorized into the following six groups:

- Minor Build
- 63rd St. Depressed
- Belt Railway Company of Chicago (BRC) Elevated / Depressed
- 65th St. Elevated
- 65th St. Depressed.
- 63rd St. Elevated

The CAG facilitator explained the proposed solutions and described the differences between the alternatives. Each CAG member was given time to comment and mark which alternative they would like to see carried forward, and provided additional criteria to evaluate and measure the alternatives.



Based on the comments received, the CAG feels:

The Minor Build should be dismissed as it does not improve traffic or other issues previously identified.

The BRC Elevated / Depressed seems to be the most effective at solving train blockage, but is too costly.

63rd St. Elevated and 63rd St. Depressed create free flow of traffic with changes to jughandle and proposed ramps.

The roundabout option for 65th St. Elevated could be beneficial for traffic flow, but seems confusing and can cause issues with trucks.

Other alternatives the CAG would like to see:

- 63rd St. Elevated with Ramps and 65th St. Elevated with Ramps or Roundabout
- 63rd St. Elevated Intersection and 65th St. Elevated Intersection
- 63rd St. and 65th St. under BRC
- 63rd St. Depressed Intersection and 65th St. Depressed Intersection

Overall, the CAG expressed concern with impacts to property access on all alternatives and noted drainage and utility issues for BRC Depressed, 63rd St. Depressed, and 65th St. Depressed.

Next steps

The Project Study Group (PSG) will review and consider the input from each CAG member when refining alternatives and developing combined alternatives, which will be presented at the fourth CAG meeting.

The fourth CAG meeting is anticipated to take place Spring 2018.