

September 2010

News from the Eisenhower Expressway Project



Project Information:

The Illinois Department of Transportation is currently conducting a Preliminary Engineering and Environmental (Phase I) Study for I-290 (Eisenhower Expressway) which is being developed based upon taking a fresh look at the transportation needs.



The study area is located in Cook County and extends approximately seven miles from Mannheim Road (US Route 12/20/45) to Cicero Avenue (IL Route 50). This section of I-290 passes through eight communities: Chicago, Bellwood, Broadview, Forest Park, Hillside, Maywood, Oak Park, and Westchester and is one of the oldest segments of the region's highway infrastructure.

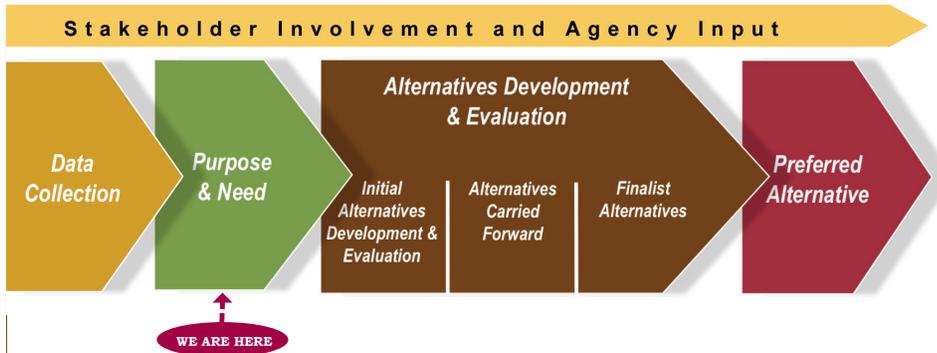
Project Schedule and Funding:

There are three phases to highway projects which each vary in the amount of years they take to complete. Phase I typically takes about three years, Phase II (Design and Land Acquisition) takes approximately two years and Phase III (Construction) varies.

Currently, funding for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies (Phase I) is available. However, no funding is currently programmed for final design and land acquisition (Phase II), or construction (Phase III).

Project Status:

As shown in the timeline below, we are beginning to develop the project Purpose and Need, which identifies the transportation problems to be addressed by the I-290 study. Later this fall and early 2011, we will work with stakeholders to develop and evaluate a range of alternatives (solutions) that address these transportation problems.



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

A Corridor Advisory Group (comprised of elected officials from the eight communities in the study area as well as Cook and DuPage County) and Task Force Groups (designated technical staff from the municipalities and other governmental bodies, transportation agencies, or interest groups) have been formed. These groups were developed to help facilitate stakeholder input throughout the study process and meet on a regular basis.

A variety of public outreach efforts and activities have been taken place since the Phase I study was re-initiated in summer of 2009. Over 30 one-on-one meetings with municipalities, transportation agencies, Cook and DuPage Counties, the State Police, environmental agencies, and the Federal Highway Administration have been held; Public Meeting #1 was held in November 2009; and the next Public Meeting will take place in early 2011.

For more information visit the website at:
www.eisenhowerexpressway.com

