



**WORKING SESSION MINUTES**

**MEETING SUBJECT:** Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project Local Advisory Committee #35 **RECORDER:** Tracy Morse

**MEETING DATE & TIME:** April 14, 2022 at 6:00 pm **PREPARATION DATE:** April 20, 2022

**MEETING LOCATION:** Bensenville Police Station Community Room

**ISSUE STATUS:**  Draft for Review  FINAL

| LAC COMMITTEE ATTENDEES | ORGANIZATION   |
|-------------------------|--|
| Manar Nashif            | Illinois Tollway   |
| Rocco Zucchero          | Illinois Tollway   |
| Jake Weaver             | Jacobs   |
| Pete Stukas             | V3   |
| Ellen Leahy             | Village of Itasca – Village Trustee                          |
| Kurtis Pozsgay          | Village of Bensenville – Senior Planner                      |
| Len Maniscalco          | Bensenville Business Owner                                   |
| Stephen Schmidt         | Elk Grove Village – Retired Police Chief                     |
| Karyn Robles            | Village of Schaumburg – Director of Transportation           |
| Paul Koch               | City of Elmhurst – Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce and Industry |
| Rodney Craig            | Village of Hanover Park - Mayor                              |
| Connor Harmon           | Village of Mount Prospect – Senior Development Planner       |
| Michael D. Hovde, Jr.   | Bloomington Township - Supervisor                            |
| Maggie Jablonski        | Elk Grove Village – Assistant Village Manager                |
| <b>PUBLIC ATTENDEES</b> |  |
| Rudolph Repa            | Franklin Park – Economic Development, Urban Planning         |
| Chuck Rizzo             | Village of Bensenville- Chamber of Commerce                  |
| Mark Keane              | Village of Bensenville- Owner, Keane Maintenance             |
| Scott Marquardt         | HR Green   |
| Paul DeMichele          | Bensenville Resident   |
| Mark Hamilton           | Hamilton Partners  |

The thirty-fifth meeting of the Elgin O'Hare–Western Access Project Local Advisory Committee (LAC) was held at Bensenville Police Station Community Room at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2022. Rocco Zucchero called the meeting to order and took roll call with those present being:

Manar Nashif  
Ellen Leahy  
Kurtis Pozsgay  
Len Maniscalco

Stephen Schmidt  
Karyn Robles  
Paul Koch  
Rodney Craig

Connor Harmon  
Michael D. Hovde, Jr.  
Maggie Jablonski

With the required number of members present, a quorum was not established and the minutes from the September 9, 2019, meeting were not approved. There was no old business to discuss.

Due to the lapse in time and low attendance at the meeting Rocco Zuccherro provided a summary of both the appointment of members and role of the Local Advisory Committee. The Local Advisory Committee (LAC) is a legislatively mandated body per the Toll Highway Act and membership on the LAC is aligned with the apportionment of the new roadway within each governmental jurisdiction. A renewal for the official appointment of members and their alternates will be sent to all official participating governmental entities to ensure that each member agency is represented by a designated representative. The desire is to have a cross-section of active participation and representation to speak to issues and serve as a conduit to members of the respective community served.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Feedback on Local Issues:**

Ellen Leahy mentioned there have been concerns from community members whose homes back up to Prospect Ave. They have issues with the increased traffic noise coming from Prospect.

**Project and Construction Status Update:**

Manar began the meeting by giving a presentation on the project and construction updates on the efforts that have occurred since the last LAC meeting and the work that is forecasted through the end of 2022.

**I-490 South Leg Projects**

Much has occurred since the last LAC meeting. Railroad agreements have been executed, Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) – May 2020 and Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) – March 2021. There are seven geographic areas along the corridor containing highway/rail grade separations. Continued work for required approvals include Illinois Commerce Commission, Railroad design, right of entry/flagging, utility crossing and construction and maintenance agreements.

City of Chicago coordination is on-going, with agreement approved in March 2022, including the revised I-490 south leg alignment, compatible with Western Landside development area and development of an implementation framework for EOWA and City Projects.

Special thanks to DuPage County, Cook County, Village of Franklin Park, Village of Bensenville, and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

**I-490 Project Status Portion**

Manar provided a I-490 project status of I-490 and the 3 major system interchanges.

- I-294 at I-490: Started last year and will continue through 2023. Very impressive activity.
- IL 390 at I-490: Access is a key benefit and sets the stage for development. The interchange is compatible with the Cities' development.
- I-90 at I-490: construction of the new interchange has progressed.

Beginning with the I-490/I-294, this interchange provides I-490 access to and from the south. Ramp S2 will carry northbound I-294 over UPRR, northbound and southbound I-294. The ramp will be 2,000 feet long with 10 spans.

Work is progressing on the future interchange of I-490/IL 390 (Western Access). This interchange will provide full directional access to IL 390 and I-490 and ingress/egress to O'Hare. Six flyover ramp bridges over York Road, UPRR, CPRR and I-490.

An overview of ongoing work of the Western Access interchange ramp construction west of York Road was provided, along with visuals. Steve Schmidt asked the Tollway if they think 2 mainline I-490 lanes in each direction will be enough? Manar said yes, based on future traffic models. Steve Schmidt followed up by asking if there be extra room to add lanes. Rocco Zucchero replied there would be if it's needed. Jake clarified that the presence of ramp auxiliary lanes as well as other mainline segments of I-490 are not displayed on the rendering and the majority of the corridor has 3 lanes or more in each direction. The rendering that was displayed was only a small section of I-490 with 2 mainline lanes in each direction.

The I-490/I-90 system interchange will provide full access to I-490 and I-90.

Chuck Rizzo asked, when is the I-490 and I-90 interchange going to be completed? Manar replied, 2025 is the target to be open for traffic. I-490 will be built and opened in segments.

A major component of this work is the multi span northbound and southbound bridges over the Touhy Avenue Reservoir, providing flood storage capacity (1200 ac-ft) for Higgins Creek Watershed and O'Hare Airport. Storage capacity is being maintained during and post construction.

### **Off-System & Local Improvements**

The grant funding partnership with Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOTH) was discussed.

Project highlights were presented for the Touhy Avenue, I-294 at North Avenue, Franklin Avenue/Green Street, and Franklin Avenue Improvements. Manar said that CCDOTH has stepped up in a leadership way and have been great partners.

Manar stated that Franklin Park has done an amazing job with the industrial park around Franklin Avenue/Green Street. From NB Tri-State to Franklin and Green streets, traffic coming from the South will be able to access Franklin and Green Street in all directions. He stated that the Tollway is also collaborating with Franklin Park regarding bike/pedestrian accommodations.

### **EOWA Upcoming Work in 2022**

Manar said of the Tollway is planning to spend over \$1B on the Tollway system this year alone. A significant portion of this is slated for the EOWA corridor and there will be more work this year. He mentioned if you drive through these areas, you'll see there is a lot going on. All of this is due to the commitments from the Tollway Board and the communities.

Manar reviewed the upcoming 2022 work which includes the Western Access Interchange – IL 390 and I-490 interchange construction west of York Road, I-490 northbound and southbound bridges over Franklin

Avenue and Bensenville Yard and the Union Pacific Railroad track realignment work.

Kurtis Pozsgay said he is glad the LAC is back together. He said there is a lot of work coming towards Bensenville and they will be seeing a lot of improvements. Kurtis asked if there is an estimated number of O'Hare work force that will park in the parking lot area. Manar said that CDA has thus far indicated an approximate number of 14,000 subject to the City's continued planning efforts.

Kurtis asked if the access road will be used for the general drivers will use. He continued by stating that our goal is to get traffic on the west to access to O'Hare. Manar said the City of Chicago is continuing to plan their proposed improvements on the western side of the airport, and the Tollway is coordinating with their engineering team to ensure our work is compatible with the future O'Hare projects.

Chuck Rizzo mentioned that it's important for the City of Chicago to come back to the table. He continued by saying it's important that the public access needs to be able to get into the airport on the west. Rizzo said he fear is that they won't put the effort into this. Rocco Zuccherro responded by saying that Chairman Dan Cronin attended an earlier meeting that morning and addressed the topic from a county perspective. He said Chairman Cronin continues coordinate with the City of Chicago and it's a top priority of his.

### **County Updates**

None

### **Meeting Wrap-up and Next Steps**

- Reach out to the City of Chicago
- Reconfirm LAC committee appointments/reappointments. The Tollway will send letters out by early May 2022 with responses due by June 1, 2022

### **Setting Future Agenda and Schedule**

- Mayor Craig said he would like the committee to meet again in the next 2 months. The goal is to hold next LAC meeting in the middle of June 2022. This timeframe is tentative and will be contingent upon receiving confirmation or appointment of LAC designees by each community. The meeting will focus on the re-establishment of the LAC roles and guidelines.
- Members determined Mondays from 6-7pm are still the to be the best days for meetings.
- The committee agreed to hold the next LAC meeting at the Bensenville Police Department

### **New Business**

None

### **Executive Session**

None

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11p CT.

Minutes taken by: Tracy Morse, Images, Inc. for the LAC.