



**290/88**  
**INTERCHANGE**  
**PROJECT AT 294**

# PUBLIC MEETING

JUNE 11, 2019 • 5-7 P.M. • BERKELEY VILLAGE HALL

## June 11<sup>th</sup> 4(f) Public Open House Summary

A public open house was held to inform the public about Section 4(f) impacts at Victoria Park in Berkeley, Wild Meadows Park in Elmhurst and the temporary impacts to the Illinois Prairie Path as it pertains to proposed operational improvements at the I-290/I-88 Interchange on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294). This document is an internal-facing document to provide staff a summary of the open house. It is not intended for external distribution due to the inclusion of potentially impacted property owner information and specific comment information.



Staff sharing information with the public regarding Section 4(f) during the open house

### **Open House Location:**

June 11, 2019 | Berkeley Village Hall

This meeting allowed an opportunity for the public to provide comments on the work being done at the applicable publicly owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges or public and historical sites that make up Section 4(f).

During this meeting, a looped PowerPoint presentation (which included a scripted voiceover) was shown depicting the various aspects of the 4(f) impacts. Exhibit boards showing the I-290/I-88 Interchange, 4(f) impact locations, land impacts in Wild Meadows Park and Illinois Prairie Path and land acquisition needs for Victoria Park were stationed around the room for attendees to observe and ask Tollway and consultant staff any questions. Comment cards were available for the public to leave feedback and ask follow-up questions. All comments gathered from the meeting are captured below.

### **Invitation Totals**

Identified project stakeholders, elected officials (including local and federal representatives), municipal and agency contacts received notice of the open house. Per IDOT standard guidelines, the following notices were distributed:

- List A and C stakeholders received a formal letter two weeks prior to the open house
- Public notice ad placed in the Chicago Tribune on May 28 and June 4 targeting areas near the 4(f) impacts
- Subscriber mail invitation distributed electronically
- Press release
- Public notice posted at Elmhurst City Hall and Berkeley Village Hall



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## Participation Totals

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Below is an attendance breakdown including: attendee total, media, elected officials, municipal staff, residents and comments.

Total Meeting Attendees: 35  
 Media: 1  
 Elected Officials: 4  
 Municipal/Agency Staff: 9  
 Residents: 21  
 Comments: 7

## Media Attendance

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	First	Last	Company	Title
1	Marni	Pyke	Daily Herald	Reporter

An [article](#) was posted by WBBM providing a brief recap of the meeting (print and audio provided).

## Elected Officials in Attendance

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	First	Last	Municipality	Title
1	Larry	Hammar	Village of Berkeley	Trustee
2	Jerry	Perez	Village of Berkeley	Trustee
3	Marvin	Watson	Village of Hillside	Trustee
4	John	Morrissey	York Township	Trustee

## Municipal/Agency Staff in Attendance

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	First	Last	Municipality	Title
1	Rudy	Espiritu	Village of Berkeley	Village Administrator
2	Dale	White	Berkeley School District	Director of Facilities and Transportation
3	Peter	Graham	Berkeley Park District	Park Director
4	Ryan	Cox	Berkeley Public Library	Director
5	Michael	Goldsmith	Cook County Police	Lieutenant
6	Dick	Dufort	City of Elmhurst	Plan Reviewer



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7	Tristan	Leger	City of Elmhurst	Civil Engineer
8	Dan	Payne	Elmhurst Park District	Division Manager of Parks
9	Jim	Rogers	Elmhurst Park District	Executive Director

## Public Discussion with Staff

While the purpose of this meeting was to afford the public the opportunity to discuss 4(f) impacts, residents attending this open house were primarily concerned with height, design and locations of the proposed noisewalls. Staff was on-hand to answer inquiries. Below is a list of additional questions asked by attendees:

- General Noisewall – duration of noisewall being down, height and design, locations
- Overall 4(f) impact clarification, including impacts to the Prairie Path, Wild Meadows Park and Victoria Park

## Public Comments

A total of seven comment cards were collected from the open house. Public feedback collected focused mainly on noisewalls. Similar to the public discussion during the corridor-wide open houses in May, major concerns regarding noisewalls focused on height, length and timeline of the implemented noisewall through this area. All comments received are listed below for review:

	First	Last	Comment	Issue
1	Laureen and Rich	Barns	Extension of Noisewall along SB 290	Noise
2	Laureen	Barns	We live in Elmhurst & back up to the highways, a few blocks south of St. Charles & 290/north of the prairie path. We attended the meeting in Berkeley last week, had a great discussion with some tollway representatives, & just wanted to email some of our comments. Our main concern is the noise pollution; we have lived here over 20 years & it has gone from a slight annoyance to a loud daily cacophony; extended rush hours with constant truck honking & braking, & frequent sirens/accidents, on top of the ever-increasing traffic noise from 290 & 294. The 294 tollway should be required to install effective noise abatement walls on BOTH the EAST & WEST sides of its tollway lanes, for the entire length of any portion going thru residential areas, which is minimally the	General concerns



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		<p>entirety of Elmhurst &amp; Berkeley. 290 should in addition be required to install new, effective noise abatement walls on BOTH sides of its lanes for the entire residential portions. At no time during construction should we be subjected to living here with no noise abatement wall. The noise is constantly negatively effecting hundreds of people &amp; surrounding property values &amp; should be one of your most urgent issues. We have concerns about the current wetlands/ponds in between 290 &amp; 294, &amp; of course drainage in general. Will they be left natural &amp; enlarged to account for additional needed drainage? We have concerns about noise, lighting, added billboards &amp; especially higher ramps/elevated flyovers encircling the area, which may be looming in our back yards, destroying any property value we currently have. What will the heights of fly overs be? The Elmhurst "park" area near the prairie path (as well as the land of most yards backing up to 290) is wooded, with wildlife habitats. It is not a typical open grassy park. This area should not have additional disruptive lighting &amp; should be left natural. Proper &amp; clear road signage is crucial; please over-think the signage! The current mile long backups on 290 eastbound behind our house/ramp exiting to 294 south/88 west, could be lessened with physical barriers &amp; CORRECT signage. A lot of unnecessary crisscrossing of traffic in this vicinity is caused by signage which makes drivers believe they must get all the way over to the right rather than just staying in the 2nd to right lane for 88 west. This is clearly a specialized project with complicated interchanges, but it will be ineffective if not done in conjunction with 290 IDOT redoing its pavement/signage/noise walls in the</p>	
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			adjoining areas. Thanks for your time & good luck on the project.	
3	Kifi	Haque	Please extend sound wall. My house and others are severely affected by the mainline 294 over Roosevelt Road. My house backs to this nightmare ramp going to 294 South.	Noise
4	Daniel	Maziarz	Excellent open house. Staff was friendly, informative and the exhibited information, tables, and data were exceptionally well formatted and laid out. Thanks!	Support
5	Kathie	Watts	Noise wall @ Roosevelt SB ramp to 294 gap Noise wall mainline 294 over Roosevelt	Noise
6	Deborah	Wright	Wish List: We need (flyers/email) for upcoming tollway expansion progress. Not enough communication is sent out to date to the citizens of Berkeley.	Communication
7	Deborah and Jim	Wright	Wall Questions:  1) There are (2) walls behind my house a) Is ComEd "adding" a taller wall section to the "inner" wall? Or will they replace it w/1 wall? b) Trees: there are trees planted in the vacant lot, w/ red tags. Q: will these trees be "trimmed" or just removed altogether? Currently: w/red ribbons tied around them.	Noise and landscaping