



Montgomery Road Project Stakeholder Focus Group Meeting # 1 January 29, 2014

Stakeholder Focus Group (SFG) Meeting #1:

The first SFG meeting for the Montgomery Road Study was held on January 29, 2014 at the Montgomery Village Hall, 200 N. River Street, in Montgomery, Illinois from 2:00-4:00 PM.

The meeting included a PowerPoint presentation, which was used to outline the project purpose and need, the Phase I Engineering study process and schedule, and workshop activities. The meeting was attended by 25 participants--17 members of the Stakeholder Focus Group in addition to the study team.

To announce the January 29, 2014 SFG Meeting #1, a direct mail invitation was sent to members on January 13, 2014 and an email reminder was sent on January 23, 2014.

Phase I Engineering Study:

The Montgomery Road Study focuses on a 3-mile section of the Montgomery Road corridor from IL 25 on the west to Hill Avenue on the east. The purpose of the study is to improve traffic operations and upgrade existing facilities. The project is needed to meet future capacity needs, provide safe travel conditions, and better accommodate bicycles and pedestrians.

The study process will incorporate the following steps--data collection, including an existing and future conditions assessment; alternatives analysis and environmental studies; selection of a preferred alternative; and design approval. An overview of existing conditions in the study area was provided. A project schedule was presented, identifying the public involvement and study process timeline.

Attendees participated in a workshop in which they worked individually, then collectively, to document the project's issues/concerns and goals/objectives. A number of common themes resulted from the workshop activities, including the following: traffic congestion and access; multi-modal accommodations and safety; development and landscaping opportunities, and drainage/flooding concerns.



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The workshop also incorporated an interactive session to obtain feedback on potential roadway alternatives for the west end of the corridor. This area is being referred to as the “s-curve along Montgomery Road.” This activity brought together stakeholders with different backgrounds, concerns, and requirements within the area in hopes of developing an extensive range of alternatives to be studied.

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Project Background
- Project Process
- Project Schedule
- Meeting Ground Rules
- Issues & Concerns
- Goals & Objectives
- Alternative Brainstorming
- Wrap Up

Next Steps:

Following the first SFG meeting, the project team will consider the stakeholder input that emerged from the workshop and, combined with the technical data and analyses, develop project alternatives. The next SFG meeting is anticipated in the spring 2014, at which time the SFG members will participate in a workshop to provide input on project alternatives.



**Montgomery Road Project
Stakeholder Focus Group Meeting # 1
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Workshop: Identify Project Issues and Concerns
(Transcribed Workshop Feedback)

Issues and Concerns

Table 1 (Yellow) - Issues and Concerns

Table Participants:

Charlene Coulombe-Fiore - Montgomery Economic Development Corporation
Brian Dolan – Douglas Commons Shopping Center/Douglas Commons Partners
Eric Galt – City of Aurora
Candice Jacobs - Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District
Rich Young – Village of Montgomery
David Dines – Pace
Jerad Chipman – Village of Montgomery
John Shoemaker – Aurora Township Highway Department
M. Frieders – Parkside Lanes

Environmental Impacts

- Wetland/sensitive area impacts
- Environmental impacts at soccer field

Drainage

- Address localized flooding at s-curve and along eastern Montgomery Road
- Drainage west of Hill Avenue, south of Montgomery Road

Safety

- Increase pedestrian access
- Public transit infrastructure (shelters, ADA access)
- Crossing safety for youth (near soccer field)
- Anticipated speed limit
- Investigate limiting access at s-curve
- Emergency response delays



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January 29, 2014**

Land Use Redevelopment

- Access control
- Development setbacks, any landscaping ordinances, and detention
- Landscaping to include area east of Hill Avenue
- Lack of right of way
- Loss of parking on the southeast corner of Hill Avenue and Montgomery Road

Mobility

- Left-hand turn lane needs to be provided east of Douglas Road
- Lack of turn lanes
- Widening of Montgomery Road between Douglas Road and Waterford Drive
- Heavy traffic and congestion on Montgomery Road at Hill Avenue
- Excessive peak hour delays at Montgomery Road and Hill Avenue

Table 2 (Green)-Issues and Concerns

Table Participants:

Ken Schroth – City of Aurora
Jeff Palmquist – Fox Valley Park District
Jeff Zoephel – Village of Montgomery
Tom Muth- Fox Metro Water Reclamation District
Dave Kunkel - Aurora Township Protection District
Norbert Weber – MFD
Rich Zahanns – MFD
Peter Wallers – Village of Montgomery

Parks

- ROW/easement encroachment into Austin Park
- Conflicts between Fox River Trail traffic and vehicular traffic at the Mill Street and IL 25 intersection



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Aesthetics

- Visual aspects; landscaping

ROW

- Right of way width

Access

- Access from connecting roads (ability to turn left)
- Access to Montgomery Road from south subdivisions
- Traffic control for Aurora Township Fire Department
- Access to and from existing roads and businesses
- Emergency services; backing in and out
- Safe turning

Utilities

- Replace main utilities

Bike & Pedestrian

- Need access/accommodations
- New facilities
- Crossing at Virgil Gilman Trail
- Safety
- Connectivity

Traffic Congestion and Capacity

- Time from 3 pm – 6 pm
- Traffic signal coordination
- Intersection capacity (Hill Avenue and Montgomery Road)
- Congestion east of Douglas Road

Alignment of S-curve

- Water runoff
- Alignment of the curves
- Safety



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January 29, 2014**

- Most issues are on the east half
- Prioritization of westerly half of Montgomery Road

Drainage

- Rain water runoff; water main under the road
- Drainage along the corridor
- Issues on east half

Goals and Objectives

Table 1 (Yellow)-Goals and Objectives

Environmental Impacts

- Consider existing conditions and/or, if possible, minimize

Drainage

- Reduce flooding
- Improve conveyance

Safety

- Provide safe multi-modal interaction through entire corridor

Land Use/Redevelopment

- Provide opportunity for development
- Limiting impact on future and existing development (access)

Table 2 (Green)-Goals and Objectives

Parks

- Maintain existing use of parks and improve pedestrian and vehicular access



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Stakeholder Focus Group Meeting # 1
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Aesthetics

- Establish consistent landscape theme along corridor

Access

- Provide safe and timely access to Montgomery Road
- Consider impact to ROW

Bike & Pedestrian

- Accommodate and connect pedestrian and bike trails along entire corridor

Alignment of curves

- Improve safety along s-curve with minimal impact on property owners

Drainage

- Establish controlled drainage system (reduce flooding)

Traffic Congestion and Capacity

- Reduce congestion and delays along Montgomery Road