



US 30 - East of Dauberman Road to IL 47 Study
Virtual Public Outreach Event
February/March 2021

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) hosted a Virtual Public Outreach Event for the Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study (Phase I) for the improvement of US Route 30 from East of Dauberman Road to IL Route 47 in the Villages of Big Rock and Sugar Grove. Due to COVID-19 uncertainties and the safety of the stakeholders, instead of hosting a regular Public Meeting, The Department shared details on the project and encouraged public participation from February 22, 2021 to March 12, 2021 through a new interactive website.

The interactive website featured a four (4) step interactive process. The first step allowed attendees to virtually sign in and provide the project team with their contact information. The second step sent attendees to a page containing a project presentation video which included information on project process and history as well as existing conditions and proposed improvements. The third step sent attendees to exhibits and a newsletter to review information regarding existing conditions and proposed improvements along the project corridor. The fourth and final step provided attendees an opportunity to make comments. The new interactive website also included contact information for the project team and a link to the Department project website.

A display ad was published in the February 22nd, 2021 and March 1, 2021 editions of the Beacon News, and the February 25, 2021 and March 4, 2021 editions of the Kane County Chronicle newspapers. Letter notifications were sent to elected officials and resource agencies. Post card invitations were sent to 302 people including property owners and businesses along the corridor, representatives of local jurisdictions and elected officials.

On the virtual public outreach event website, 58 people provided their contact information and there were 828 site visits. Of those visits, the project website metrics indicate that there were 651 unique visitors from February 22, 2021 through March 12, 2020. Attendees had multiple ways to provide their comments: Fill out an on-line comment form on the interactive website; Fill out an on-line comment form on the Department Project Website; Email the US 30 Project email; and send formal letters directly to the Department. One (1) person issued comments via email, three (3) people contacted the Department via telephone to provide their comments and 27 people utilized the project's website to issue their comment electronically. Two letters were mailed to the Department. During the public outreach event, 41 total comments were received.

The following public agencies and/or representatives provided their contact information and were represented in the virtual public outreach event:

Sean Michaels – President - Village of Sugar Grove
Brent Eichelberger – Village Administrator - Village of Sugar Grove
Anthony Speciale – Director of Public Works - Village of Sugar Grove
Tom Rowe – Supervisor - Sugar Grove Township
Ken Rojek – Supervisor - Big Rock Township
Candance Thomas – Senior Project Manager - Kane County Division of Transportation
Wayne Parson – Fire Marshal – Sugar Grove Fire Department

The following agencies and interest groups provided their contact information and were represented in the virtual public outreach event:

David Simmons – Ride Illinois
Cort Carlson - Aurora Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
Thomas Konen - Kane-DuPage Soil & Water
Daniel Peltier – BNSF Railroad
Stephan Halm – HOA President Prairie Glen

Based on the comments received, there were both support and opposition to the project. The following items were those most commented upon: pedestrian & bicycle accommodations, noise, access management, and intersection improvements. There were 12 comments received in support of providing pedestrian and bicycle accommodations along the corridor. There were numerous comments regarding highway noise and comments in support of possible noise wall installation. Several participants were concerned with the proposed improvements that included: increase in traffic, drainage impacts and ROW impacts. Several business owners along US 30 had questions on how access would work with their businesses following the proposed improvements. One comment received was in regard to impacts to the Aurora Municipal Airport.