

US 20 at Shales Parkway Phase I Engineering Study

P-91-027-20

Public Information Meeting #2 November 16, 2022

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) hosted its second Public Information Meeting for the Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study (Phase I) for the improvement of US Route 20 at Shales Parkway. In addition to the in-person meeting, the Department shared details on the study through [the project website](#). Public comments received by December 14, 2022, were included as part of the official public information meeting record.

Public Information Meeting #2 was held on November 16, 2022, at the Centre of Elgin. Eighteen participants attended the meeting in-person, and the project team received five public comments during the event. At the meeting, attendees were invited to watch a pre-recorded presentation, ask project team members questions, and view exhibits and maps that presented the project location and study area, the study process, the project's purpose and need, crash history, existing and future traffic, draft interchange alternatives, US 20 safety improvements between Lambert Lane and Illinois Route 59, and the next steps. In addition, participants received an informational brochure that provided an overview of the study area, the project's purpose and need, draft interchange alternatives, and the US 20 safety improvements between Lambert Lane and Illinois Route 59. Comment forms were made widely available at the Public Information Meeting #2 and were included in each brochure provided to attendees at the meeting. Participants were invited to submit comments using forms available at the meeting, via mail, or through the online comment form found on the website. Representatives from the following public agencies were either in attendance during the meeting or submitted a public comment: City of Elgin, Village of Bartlett Public Works Department, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the Kane County Division of Transportation. (Public participant sign-ins are documented in Attachment 1, Participant List and Engagement. Public comments are documented by topic in Attachment 2, Public Comments Summary.)

All Public Information Meeting #2 materials were posted on the study's website beginning October 19, 2022. The study website is an all-inclusive resource for public education by providing study information, existing conditions and data through various landing pages and a dedicated Public Meetings page, which features Public Information Meeting #2 materials. Materials posted on the website for Public Information Meeting #2 included a presentation in both audio-visual and PDF formats and was presented in both English and Spanish. Public Information Meeting #2 was promoted on the study

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



18

meeting attendees



12

public comments
submitted



1,620

study website visits

636

unique study
website visitors



4

paid advertisements
published

website's Home page and listed in the What's Happening section. Home page promotion elements were hyperlinked and if clicked on, brought participants to the Public Information Meeting #2 materials located on the Public Meetings page. Between October 19 and December 14, 2022, the project website had 1,620 views and 636 unique visits, which correspond to 545% and 614% increases respectively from the prior 58 days. (Study website metrics are documented in Attachment 3, Website Summary.)

Members of the public had multiple public comment submittal options. First, meeting attendees received public comment forms at the Public Information Meeting #2 and could submit forms in-person or by submitting them to the Department by mail. Second, comment forms could be digitally submitted through the project website via an embedded comment form and non-digitally using a downloadable comment form for mailing. Last, comments could be submitted via email to the study team.

Public Information Meeting #2 advertisements were published in the October 26 and October 28, 2022, editions of the Daily Herald and Elgin Courier-News newspapers, and a second time in the November 9, 2022, editions of both publications. Letter notifications were sent to 62 elected officials, resource agencies and representatives of local jurisdictions. Postcard invitations were sent to 3,099 public members, including property owners, residents, and businesses along the corridor. (Public invite materials are documented in Attachment 5, Invitations.)

[City of Elgin, Illinois - Government Facebook page](#), which has 25,000 followers, published a post promoting the meeting on November 11, 2022. In addition, the Department shared meeting information through its IDOT in Motion eNewsletter on November 15, 2022. (Social media and media articles are documented in Attachment 6, Social Media and Unpaid Media.)



SOCIAL MEDIA

3

social media posts (City of Elgin, The Housing Authority of Elgin, and IDOT) published promoting the meeting, resulting in a total of :

26 reactions

11 shares

4 comments



MAILED INVITATIONS

62

letters sent to elected officials, resource agencies and local jurisdictions representatives

3,099

postcards sent to public members, including residents, property owners, and businesses along the corridor