

Public Meeting Summary

Project Name:	Streets for Cycling – Project No. IV-1A
Project Number:	D-4-119, Section Number 14-D3212-00-BT
Current Date:	November 15, 2017
Date of Meeting:	November 14, 2017
Time of Meeting:	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Meeting Location:	Hawthorne Elementary Scholastic Academy

Regarding: 44th Ward Greenways on School Street and Roscoe Street

Attendance: See attached sign in sheet

Alderman Tunney opened the meeting with a welcome and background on the initiative to bring an east-west neighborhood greenway to the 44th Ward. He introduced Cook County Commissioner Gainer who worked with him to contribute County funds for resurfacing in addition to Local and Federal funding being used for the project.

Mike Amsden then presented an overview of the CDOT Complete Streets and Streets for Cycling program, project history, and detailed description of the project design elements. The project will provide marked bicycle lanes along School Street and Roscoe Street from Lincoln Ave to Inner Lake Shore Drive, and will include construction of curb extensions, speed humps, raised crosswalks, and a contraflow bicycle lane to enhance the corridor for use by people walking and biking.

The attendees asked questions during and after the presentation. A summary of questions and comments is provided below:

- A mid-block raised crosswalk at Donahue was discussed. One resident was in favor and asked if it could be added if the park group provided funding. Another resident indicated opposition to the idea stating it would negatively impact parking. CDOT explained that the proposed curb extensions at each corner and speed hump at mid-block will calm traffic, and was determined to be a better use of limited funds than a mid-block crossing. If a mid-block crossing is still desired, it can be discussed further with the Alderman and neighborhood residents.
- Question: Will the project add bike parking at Broadway & Roscoe?
 - Response: Not in this project but CDOT installs bike racks upon request free of charge.
- It was noted that bicyclists going north on Broadway, from westbound Roscoe may be confused by the proposed intersection striping which leads to the raised contraflow lane. CDOT will look at signage to clarify that the contraflow lane is for connection to Roscoe only.

- The design of detached curb extensions was questioned, and it was asked if they can be incorporated into the sidewalk.
 - Response: The detached style is necessary for drainage, and still achieves the curb extension intent, which is to prohibit parking close to the intersection, improve pedestrian visibility, and shorten distance that a pedestrian is exposed to traffic.

- The improvements at Broadway and Aldine were discussed in detail including the proposed new stop sign, bus stop consolidation, and parking impacts. The proposed configuration does not allow parking on the east side of Broadway, north of Aldine, but installs a striped bike lane. The east side curb extension is intended to prohibit illegal parking and provide a safer crossing for kids going to Nettelhorst School. It was requested that CDOT consider adding intersection striping at Aldine similar to that proposed at Roscoe, which would lead bicyclists to the new bike lane.

- Alderman Tunney noted that in general he does not want to encourage Broadway as a bike route. These improvements are focused on the east-west connection. He also noted a new signal will be installed at Roscoe and Inner Lake Shore Drive, which is currently one of the oldest signals in the City.

- It was questioned if a signal or stop sign would be installed at Aldine and Inner LSD. Several residents commented that this is a very difficult pedestrian crossing location due to the traffic flow on Inner Lake Shore Drive. A new curb extension along the east side of Inner LSD will shorten the crossing and improve bus operations along the block. It was requested that CDOT look at warrants for stop sign or signal at Aldine to improve pedestrian crossing safety.

- Question: Will resurfacing be included in the project?
 - Response: No, but resurfacing at several locations along these corridors has been completed in anticipation of this work.

- The Hawthorne Academy Principal indicated the previous principal had requested a traffic study to determine how the school drop-off and pick-up procedures around the perimeter of the school would be impacted by the project. CDOT was not aware of a formal study report, however the design of the improvements was developed to organize the different types of traffic (pedestrian, bicycle, vehicle) and not restrict drop-off/pick-up procedures. CDOT is available to attend a LSC meeting to address any specific parent questions or concerns.

- Question: Is this the only way to get curb extensions installed?
 - Response: No, they are also installed through resurfacing projects and the Aldermanic menu program.

Action Items:

- 1) CDOT/Benesch to look at signage to clarify that the contraflow lane on Broadway is for westbound connection to Roscoe only.
- 2) CDOT/Benesch to consider adding intersection striping at Aldine similar to that proposed at Roscoe, which would lead bicyclists to the new bike lane.
- 3) CDOT to look at warrants for stop sign or signal at Aldine to improve pedestrian crossing safety.

The meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m.

The above constitutes our understanding of the issues discussed and the conclusions reached. If there are any misunderstandings or omissions, please forward comments/corrections within five business days to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Hayes, P.E.
Project Manager

cc: Mike Amsden, CDOT
Benesch Team Members