



Illinois Department of Transportation

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PRAIRIE PARKWAY

Item A: Project-Level Hot-Spot Conformity Analysis for Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

Item B: Corridor Protection

Item C: Road Closure

The Illinois Department of Transportation, the Department, will hold two public hearings on July 11 and 12, 2007 regarding the Prairie Parkway Study. The Hearings are being held to present the Project-Level Hot-Spot Conformity Analysis for Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}), Road Closures, and Corridor Protection. For each, the purpose of the Hearings is to present information, obtain feedback, request comments, and record testimony. These studies, and the information presented for the Public Hearings will reflect the preferred alternative of constructing the Prairie Parkway B5 freeway Alternative (I-80 to I-88), and widening Illinois Route 47 from Caton Farm Road south to I-80. The B5 build alternative is being advanced as the Department's Preferred Alternative. These hearings and associated testimony will be included as part of the Prairie Parkway Final Environmental Impact Statement, including additional on-going evaluations/studies based on previous public involvement activities.

The Prairie Parkway hearings will present/address the following issues:

Item A: Project-Level Hot-Spot Conformity Analysis for Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

The Department will hold an Air Quality hearing for the qualitative Project-Level Hot-Spot Conformity Analysis for Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) for the proposed Prairie Parkway project. On March 10, 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency issued new regulations on Particulate Matter (2.5 Microns) PM_{2.5} and Particulate Matter (10 Microns) PM₁₀ Hot-Spot Analyses in Project-Level Transportation Conformity Determinations. A Hot-Spot analysis is defined in 40 CFR 93.101 as an estimation of likely future localized PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ concentrations and a comparison of those concentrations to the relevant air quality standards.

The proposed project is partially located within a PM_{2.5} nonattainment area and has been identified as a project meeting the definition of a 'project of air quality concern' requiring a Hot-Spot analysis. The IDOT has completed a Project-Level Hot-Spot Conformity Analysis for the proposed improvement which is available for public comment.

Item B: Hearing for Revisions to the Protected Corridor

The Department will hold a Corridor Protection hearing for the proposed Prairie Parkway access controlled freeway. Corridor Protection is allowed under Section 4-510 of the Illinois Highway Code (605 ILCS 5/4-510). This provides a means of protecting from development the right of way needed for the future freeway.

The Corridor Protection Hearing is being held to present revisions to the existing protected freeway corridor based on detailed environmental and engineering studies to identify a Preferred Alternative. A revised corridor protection map will be on display at the hearing. This map will show the approximate right-of-way limits that are anticipated to be needed for a Preferred Alternative. Limits of the existing protected corridor that are no longer required will also be on display.

Any interested person or their representative may give testimony at the hearing for evaluation by the Department. Approval of the revisions to the protected corridor with any changes resulting from the hearing shall be indicated in the record of the hearing and a notice of the approval and copy of the map shall be filed in the office of the recorder in Grundy, Kendall and Kane Counties.

Public notice of the approval and filing shall be given in newspapers in each county and all owners of record of the land needed, and owners of previously protected land which is no longer needed, will be served by certified mail within 60 days thereafter. Property owners planning to make improvements within the revised protected corridor shall contact the Illinois Department of Transportation no less than sixty (60) days prior to starting such construction. The Department will have forty-five (45) days to decide whether or not to acquire the right-of-way based on the Corridor Protection Map.

Item C: Road Closure Hearing

The Department will hold road closure hearings for the proposed Prairie Parkway B5 Build Alternate. The Department may close any street, alley or public way by authority as granted under the Illinois Highway Code (ILCS 605 5/8-106). A road closure map and associated analysis/evaluations will be presented or available at the hearings. The hearing will consider the needs of local traffic and the effects of closures. No crossings shall be eliminated which shall unduly discommode or interfere with local traffic, or will destroy reasonable access to schools, churches, markets, trade or community centers. Only after this hearing, and after reasonable notice has been given shall final construction plans be prepared.

All interested persons are invited to attend and participate in the public hearings and provide comments. The public hearings will be held at:

Date:	Wednesday, July 11, 2007	Thursday, July 12, 2007
Time:	5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.*	5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.*
Location:	Yorkville High School 797 Game Farm Rd. Yorkville, Illinois	Kaneland John Shields Elementary School 85 South Main Street Sugar Grove, Illinois

* Presentation and question and answer session at 6:30 p.m.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend at any time during the public hearings. The public will be able to review exhibits, discuss the studies with representatives from IDOT, provide oral or written testimony that will be included as part of the public record, and make comments. A presentation by Department representatives, followed by a question and answer session, will start at 6:30 p.m. Land acquisition specialists also will be available to answer questions about right-of-way acquisition and residence or business relocation that may be required as part of the project.

Specific project-related information that will be available for public review at the hearing includes the Project-Level Hot-Spot Conformity Analysis for Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}), the revised Proposed Corridor Protection Map, and the Proposed Road Closure

Map. This information is available for inspection in advance of the public hearings beginning on June 26th, 2007, as well as after the hearings, at the following locations: at the IDOT District 3 Office, 700 East Norris Drive, Ottawa, IL; at the IDOT District 1 Office, 201 West Center Court, Schaumburg, IL; and at the office of Smith Engineering, 759 John Street, Yorkville, IL. Other information about the Prairie Parkway Study also can be viewed on-line by visiting www.prairie-parkway.com.

The public is invited to submit written comments about the project before the hearing, at the hearing, or after the hearing. Written comments related to the project will become part of the official hearing record and will be accepted until the close of the comment period ending August 13, 2007. Submit your written comments to:

George Ryan, P.E.
Deputy Director of Highways
Regional Engineer
Illinois Department of Transportation
District 3
700 East Norris Drive
Ottawa, IL 61350

The meeting site is accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons planning to attend the meeting needing a sign language interpreter, bilingual interpreter, or other special accommodations should notify the District 3 office three days prior to the meeting by telephone at 815-434-8423, or by TDD at 815-434-8510.

For more information, contact Rick Powell at the Illinois Department of Transportation, District 3, 700 East Norris Drive, Ottawa, Illinois 61350, telephone 815-434-8423.