

Northbrook

Willow Road Public Meeting #1

Comment Form

Questions, Comments and Opinions

We invite you to submit comments about the project at the public meeting or by mail to the address on back. You may also submit input through the project website at: www.willowroadfuture.org

Comments are welcome at any time, but to be included in the Public Meeting #1 record, comments must be received by March 19, 2010.

General Comment/Input:

I feel Willow needs to be enlarged to a 4 lane road. This would help Northfield's economic development & improve access to the Eden by neighboring communities. With the number of major businesses, this is vital to the area. Additionally, this may help attract more jobs to the area.

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name: Carol Blustein

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: Brook 60062

Phone:

E-mail:

(over please)

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General Comment/Input:

THE PROPOSAL TO WIDEN WILLOW ROAD IS LONG OVER DUE!! THE PRESENT TWO LANE ROAD IN NORTHFIELD IS A MAJOR TRAFFIC CONGESTION AREA WHICH CAN ONLY BE SOLVED BY MAKING WILLOW A 4 LANE THRU NORTHFIELD, TO PROPERLY LINK WITH WILLOW ROAD EAST & WEST. A 4 LANE ROAD WILL GREATLY IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW AND SUPPORT ON GOING GROWTH IN THE TOTAL AREA WITHOUT MAJOR ADVERSE IMPACT!

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name: ED ARUS

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: NORTH BROOK IL - 60062

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

(over please)

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General Comment/Input:

Willow Road desperately needs to be widened to at least 4 lanes through Northfield. The time and fuel wasted by this bottleneck are enormous. Children in Glenview are able to cross a 4 lane road, so I think the Northfield children will be able to adapt. The obstructionist Northfield Nimbys have delayed this project far far too long!

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name: KAREN BORUS

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: NORTHBROOK, IL. 60062

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

(over please)

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Cynthia M. Bretthauer

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address:

Comment: Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to comment. I live in Northbrook and must travel Willow Road every day to and from work. The congestion can be annoying at times, but it is of a relatively short duration. Perhaps it is an extra minute or two during the most congested times. Yet there are several schools and preschools along this road, and children must cross Willow Road to attend them. Is it worth the life and/or safety of even one child to save two minutes? I support the 3-lane plan, and hope you will seriously consider that as the only viable alternative. Cynthia M. Bretthauer

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Richard Carrigan

EMAIL:

Subject: Website

Address: Northbrook

Comment: I am in favor of widening Willow Road.

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Dave Combs

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address:

Comment: My wife and I are retired and take classes at Oakton's Skokie campus. Since we live at the far southeast corner of Northbrook, it would be much easier for us to go home via the Willow Road West exit, instead of the Dundee Road exit we use now. We worked downtown and used to take the Edens home but never got off at Willow because we knew we would be caught in a bottleneck for half an hour or more. Willow road is a major east/west thorofare in the Northern suburbs and a conduit between the Tri-State and the Edens. We simply cannot keep the status quo with these horrendous traffic jams. I don't see how the residents of Willow Road in Northfield can even get out of their driveways during these jams. I am sensitive to the residents complaints about their children crossing the road to the schools, but I believe this can be solved by using overhead pedestrian walkways such as the one in Wheeling on Dundee Road by the Lincoln school.

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: ALYSA FIELDS

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address:

Comment: It is a shame with ll. in the hole for billions of dollars, that IDOT continues to spend money doing study, after study about Willow Rd. A three lane option was aproved several years ago, and I thought it was done. I am very against a 4 lane Jr. highway, and I live in Northbrook, not NOrthhfield. I know thst it upsets Glenview that some drivers use Lake st. but it was Glenview who chose to put the Glen shopping center and other restaurant and stores, on Willow RD. Glenview should absorb some of the traffic. Two children have been hit by cars and died due to high speed of auto travel. How many more lives need to be sacrificed to "hurry up and go nowhere" during rush hour. As we all know. " build it and they will come", and we will be back to square one. Thank you ll. voter Alysa Fields

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Geoffrey Graham

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address: Northbrook

Comment: Road improvements should include bicycle lanes or wider shoulders. This is a BIG problem around here. It's almost impossible to get to Deerfield, Wheeling and Glencoe from Northbrook without using major thoroughfares - and most of them are too narrow. Also, in the "Identification of Transportation Needs," I saw several comments suggesting bicycle traffic should be diverted to sidewalks. You need to do a better job educating the public: asking bicyclists to use sidewalks, where visibility is typically much reduced, especially for turning cars, and where you can expect pedestrians (sometimes with dogs, baby strollers or "walkers"!) is NOT a good idea!

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Chris Henning

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address: Northbrook

Comment: Willow needs to be 2 lanes in each direction to properly handle the traffic flow to the Edens. Please consider 10' wide travel lanes instead of 12' to help keep vehicle speeds down. Also there are currently no bicycle lanes- these are important as Willow provides the only east-west connector in the area such as to get to the Northbranch Trail. A 3' wide paved shoulder could be used to accomodate bicyclists. Finally suggest a 8' or 10' wide multi-use path instead of standard width sidewalk alongside Willow. This would allow various users (walkers, cyclists, joggers) especially children on their bikes to safely co-exist on the path and hopefully encourage people to bicycle to various destinations close to the Edens instead of driving their vehicles.

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Bob Hielscher

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address: Northbrook

Comment: Willow Road is ten years OVERDUE for widening to at least 4 lanes. Today, the two lane stretch between Sunset Ridge Road and Happ Road is an 18 hour a day bottleneck that often stretches over 1/4 mile in either direction. How can this be debateable? The need is clear, the timing almost ridiculously overdue. Lets get on with it!

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: John B. Higgins

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address: Northbrook, IL 60062-8600

Comment: I would encourage all parties to develop a configuration of at least 4 lanes. The current configuration is congestive, not fully safe for cars or pedestrians, and forces traffic onto congested alternates.

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General Comment/Input:

I favor widening Willow Rd as soon as possible and as wide as possible. It's a major thoroughfare between 2 freeways and should be widened ASAP.

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name: Judy A Johns

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: Northbrook IL 60062

Phone:

E-mail:

(over please)

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: R L Johns

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address: Northbrook 60062

Comment: I favor widening Willow Road as wide as possible as soon as possible. It's not right for a small group of homeowners to delay a project whose benefits would extend to 10s of thousands, maybe 100s of thousand other citizens daily. Concerns about school crossings are matters to be dealt with by the village just as they are dealt with by the myriad of other villages with wide street crossings. The answer is crossing guards and light controlled intersection. The answer is not infringing on the safety and convenience of others. I watch crossing guards at Waukegan and Walters in Northbrook. Much wider than what should be 5 lanes through Northfield. It's not a problem for school children to cross. Widen Willow ASAP. Thanks.

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General Comment/Input:

I'm so pleased this project is moving ahead. Widening Willow Road through Northfield is long overdue. It's a shame 2000 or 3000 people are allowed to stall a project that negatively impacts tens of thousands daily. And Northfield allows itself to be burdened with smog, traffic and exhaust via hundreds of stopped cars which will move smoothly & quickly through Northfield once the road is widened.

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name:

R L Johns

Address:

[Redacted]

City/State/Zip:

Northbrook IL 60062

Phone:

E-mail:

[Redacted]

(over please)

Comment/Input Regarding the Identified Transportation Needs:

Pls widen Willow Road to the maximum possible as soon as possible.

Place
Stamp
Here

John Baczek, P.E., Section Chief
Project and Environmental Studies
Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Programming
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096



www.willowroadfuture.org



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General Comment/Input:

Could adding a stoplight at Bristol St help children cross between Clarkson Park and Willow Park?

BUREAU OF PROGRAMMING
RECEIVED
MAR 15 2010
DISTRICT #1

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

NO -

I'm an alternate of the group.

Name: Kate Katz

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: Northbrook IL 60062

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

(over please)

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General Comment/Input:

- ENJOY THE IDEA AND PROCESS OF AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT PROCESS TO DETERMINE THE BEST ALTERNATIVE.

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name: PAUL KENZIOR

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: NORTHBROOK, IL 60062

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

(over please)

SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Sharon Kohn

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address:

Comment: I am in favor of widening Willow Rd. through Northfield -- I live in Northbrook and work in Northfield and believe it is unacceptable that this logjam in Northfield has been allowed to continue for so many years. My kids schools are north and south of Willow Road -- if my area can have a wider Willow Road that supposedly has not compromised the safety of my kids, it should be the same in Northfield.

1 that are more pressing than our -- than the one
2 that confronts us. I think we find it
3 unconscionable that the public wants to spend that
4 \$20 million for this purpose, and ultimately, to
5 get people through a segment somewhere between 30
6 and 60 seconds faster.

7 And I think those are the two main bases
8 for our objection to a four-lane highway, and that
9 is why we support the three-lane. There are no
10 school signs on Willow Road at all, and we think
11 that that is an oversight that is also very
12 objectionable.

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General Comment/Input:

We live off Sunset Ridge Rd by Voltz & will understand the congestion etc. Safety of children going to the 2 Northfield schools are my priorities. Decrease in property values of homes along Willow when 4 or 6 lane const. takes place. Increased cost to whom? To "bus" kids across the street to school! Who will pay for that?

When 294 tollroad was built, did those people involved in that construction consult w/ communities along Willow to Edens. They know that eventually Willow would become a major artery between Hwy 2 (Edens + 294), near Northfield is "the bad guy" for not allowing construction.

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name:

Gail Preston

Address:

[REDACTED]

City/State/Zip:

Northbrook IL 60062

Phone:

[REDACTED]

E-mail:

(over please)

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General Comment/Input:

Very disappointed that a solution for a turn lane was not acted on in 2005! We can't afford more studies and not proceed, particularly given the budget crises in the state.

We need to get our fiscal house in order, now. An additional lane doesn't attract additional capacity on Willow Road and further create additional problems on the streets in the vicinity.

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name:

Bob Proston

Address:

[Redacted]

City/State/Zip:

NORTHAMPTON OR 60062

Phone:

[Redacted]

E-mail:

(over please)

Comment/Input Regarding the Identified Transportation Needs:

Edens is already backed up southbound
at about 4:15 PM most days, M-F.

Flow on Willow would be improved
without adding (attracting additional
capacity further south) on/off both ways
from Edens Hwy.

Place
Stamp
Here

John Baczek, P.E., Section Chief
Project and Environmental Studies
Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Programming
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096



Illinois Department
of Transportation

www.willowroadfuture.org



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ROB PRESTON



Northbrook, Illinois 60062

I was surprised in 2005 as a lifelong resident of this area and certainly the state of Illinois that we could not proceed with what I thought was a well thought through solution for the issue of flow east and westbound on Willow Road. Willow Road is a significant corridor for not only the residents, but businesses and surrounding communities, yet with the character of the Village of Northfield with adjacent schools and churches, as well as the residents and the demographic profile of the community, it requires serious consideration for the other communities' ability to traverse that particular artery known as Willow Road.

I believe that the turn lane solution would not attract additional capacity which would require a significant issue for the Edens southbound and rush hour which is already backing up that artery, major artery in this region, and I further feel that it would require a modification there, and also west of the community all the way

1 back to the Tri-State tollway. I think if we
2 maintain a left turn lane as a solution or a turn
3 lane, a center turn lane, we will enable the flow
4 of traffic for the adjacent communities as well as
5 others to be efficient and not create further
6 problems for the stakeholders as well as the
7 arteries and streets adjacent to Willow Road.

8 I strongly recommend we discontinue any
9 more studies and proceed with the 2005 initiative
10 considering the extraordinary budget deficit that
11 the state has. We definitely need action, we need
12 government on this, we don't need more discussion
13 and debate and politicizing the issue. Let's put
14 in a three-lane Willow Road with a turn lane in the
15 center, accomplish that, given the cost, given the
16 character of the village, given the diversity of
17 the stakeholders, and given the need to be able to
18 flow all of us more efficiently across the Willow
19 Road corridor is what I strongly recommend we do.
20 Thank you.

21
22
23
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SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Linda Sloan

EMAIL: I

Subject: Question About Project

Address: Northbrook, IL

Comment: I would like to know the history of traffic volumes on Dundee, Willow, Lake (E&W) from I-94 to I-294 and on I-94, I-294, Waukegan, Phingsten, and Sanders Rd (N-S) from Lake Ave to Lake-Cook Rds. over a 25 year period. I'm wondering how much volumes have changed over this time period, if functional class has changed for these roads over this time, and how the level of service has changed for these roads over the same time. Thank you.

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General Comment/Input:

I am totally in favor of widening Willow Rd to three lanes.

would increase the flooding ~~to~~ possibilities to the residents of the area. An underpass for pedestrians would certainly ~~be~~ good.

Comment/Input Regarding the Community Context Audit (CCA):

Willow Road has three schools and three churches on the portion that is being considered along with 2 large parks. Both adults and children cross this road throughout the day. Widening the road to 4 or more lanes would be a safety hazard to the community. Also, Willow Road is in a flood plain. The enlarged non-paved surface

Please provide your name if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Name: JenniW Trimble

Address:

City/State/Zip: Northbrook, IL 60062

Phone:

E-mail:

(over please)

Comment/Input Regarding the Identified Transportation Needs:

I use Willow Rd daily - at various times, and it never takes that long to get from Sunset Ridge Rd to the tiny bridge where it becomes 4 lanes and a turning lane.

Place
Stamp
Here

John Baczek, P.E., Section Chief
Project and Environmental Studies
Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Programming
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096



www.willowroadfuture.org



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SUBMITTED INFORMATION

Name: Todd Vieregg

EMAIL:

Subject: Comment About Project

Address: Northbrook, Illinois 60062

Comment: I first moved into Northbrook in 1960 and lived here for 19 years. I moved back into Northbrook in 2000 and expect to live here forever. Willow Road has for at least 50 years been the least efficient road I travel in Cook County. The only practical and reasonable solution is a four lane, or even a four lane plus a center turning lane, Willow Road between Waukegan Road and Edens. And it has been an issue for many more than the 21st Century studies. Anyone whom moved into Northfield since Edens was opened must surely and reasonably have known at that time that widening Willow Road is reasonable, practical and should be inevitable. Safe crossings for children can certainly be arranged - the stop lights do the job. And two of my Grandchildren currently attend Middlefork School and will attend Sunset Ridge School - I am confident that their safety will not at all be jeopardized by the widening of Willow Road to four + lanes. Please do widen Willow Road sooner rather than later. Thank you
Todd Vieregg