

September 13, 2010

Donald W. Walsh, President
Indian Woods Community Association
5245 W. Ardmore Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60646-6520

Dear Mr. Walsh:

Thank you for attending the public meeting for the North Branch Bicycle Trail Extension from Devon Avenue to Foster Avenue. We appreciate you taking the time to comment and share your knowledge about the project area with us. Your input has been recorded as part of the record of the public meeting and any preferences you provided will be considered during the ongoing planning process for the project.

As you are aware, we are currently in the preliminary engineering and environmental studies phase, which generally consists of obtaining topographic survey, developing preliminary geometry and evaluating any potential environmental issues not limited to biological, cultural, special waste and archaeological resources. Drainage studies will include floodplain and floodway studies during this phase of engineering.

Your comments and questions are addressed below in chronological order:

1. Can you present the project to our Community Association Sept. 21, 2010 (Tuesday) 7 pm @ 6100 N. Central Ave (VRC)? It's our quarterly meeting.
FPDCC: Yes, we can present the project at your upcoming quarterly meeting on September 21, 2010.
2. Can we get 220 copies of your bike trail extension open house information sheet so we can send out with our Sept. Community news letter.
FPDCC: We can send an electronic copy for reproduction. See e-mail attachment.
3. Can we get copies of large maps exhibits 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5; as presented today?
FPDCC: Copies of the large exhibits are exclusively for our presentations and not for distribution. However, we can use them at your upcoming meeting.
4. Can FPD police cars drive on the new trail and over the new bridges?
FPDCC: Bike trails are typically designed for non-motorized vehicles. However, occasional use by emergency vehicles will be acceptable. Pedestrian/bicycle bridges are designed for an occasional single maintenance vehicle load. Therefore, the proposed bridges will have a clear deck width of 10-ft for a design vehicle of 20,000 lbs (H-10 Truck).

5. Will trail be snow plowed in winter months?
FPDCC: Maintenance of bike trails does not include snow plowing in winter months.
6. Will emergency call boxes be placed on trail?
FPDCC: Yes, the District is considering the installation of call boxes at strategic locations along the trail.
7. Will there be street lights on the trail?
FPDCC: Street lights are typically not included on bike trails as they are closed at dusk.
8. How can we as an association can help the project?
FPDCC: The association can help the project by showing support with all facets of the planning and design.
9. Will construction use any of the Indian Woods Community Streets (Indian Road, Luna, Ardmore, Linder, Rosedale, and Central between Indian Road & Ardmore Ave.)
FPDCC: None of these streets will be used during construction.
10. Can you keep us updated on all the planning and changes?
FPDCC: As part of the planning process for this project, we will continue to inform all interested parties project details as they are developed and become known.
11. Can we get copies of the bridge designs?
FPDCC: The bridge design is conceptual and subject to revisions. However, copies can be made available at your upcoming meeting.
12. How will the project address the trees and plant that are in place?
FPDCC: As part of our commitment to the community, consideration will be given to preserve scenic, aesthetic, historic and environmental resources while maintaining and enhancing safety and mobility. A tree assessment survey will be conducted to ensure that mature and high quality trees will be avoided, where feasible.

Should you have any questions, or desire additional information, please contact me at (708) 771-1355, or David Landeweer of URS at (312) 577-6479.

Very truly yours,

Pam Sielski
Project Manager