

# IL 120 PEL STUDY COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #1

**Date:** May 9, 2024

**Time:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM **Location:** Microsoft Teams

#### CONTENT

Attendees	. 1
Topics & Discussions	. 2

#### **APPENDICES**

Appendix A. Powerpoint Presentation

Appendix B. Breakout Whiteboards



#### **ATTENDEES**

NAME	ORGANIZATION	
Corey Smith	IDOT	
Kyle Bochte	IDOT	
Brenda Alicea	IDOT	
Steve Schilke	IDOT	
Jelena Crudele	Resident	
Elmer Fallos	Warren Township	
Gail Hagen	Resident	
Sarah Surroz	Openlands	
Brian Frank	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission	
Brandy Schroff	Village of Round Lake	
Diane Stark	Resident	
Tom Rasmussen	Resident	
Don Mobley	Bicycle Club of Lake County	
Douglas Ower	Resident	
Ron Lanz	Lake County Partners	
Pat Carey	Resident	
Tom Baba	Illinois Driver Education Teacher Endorsement Program	
Lawrence Todryk	Resident	
Bill Morris	Resident	
David Carlson	Resident	
Brian Brubaker	Village of Round Lake	
Rachael Rezek	Resident	
Matthew Zakula	Resident	
Lori Bell	Resident	
arbara Klipp Midwest Sustainability Group		
Matthew Emde	Lake County Division of Transportation	
Susan Zingle	Resident	
Mark Petersen	Resident	



NAME	ORGANIZATION
Craig Wrobel	Resident
Scott Firnbach	Village of Round Lake Park
Chris Wildman	Community Consolidated School District 46
John Wasik	Lake County Board
Karen Gill	Resident
Jason Dhaliwal	Business Owner
Rick Strauss	Wauconda School District 118
Peter Manhard	Resident
Scott Manning	HDR
Jeff Young	HDR
Eric Neubauer	HDR
Ryan Pater	HDR
Kelly Sims	HDR

#### **TOPICS & DISCUSSIONS**

ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSION		
1	A copy of the meeting's PowerPoint presentation is attached to this meeting summary.		
2	A copy of breakout session whiteboard comments is attached to this meeting summary.		
3	Scott Manning (HDR) discussed the purpose of the Community Advisory Group Meeting and welcomed the group. The Community Advisory Group serves as a sounding board for study information and decisions, facilitates collaborative problem solving, discusses specific issues, and provides input throughout the PEL study process. The group includes diverse, inclusive, engaged voices from government, community organizations, education, business, residents, and corridor users. The Group will meet at least six times during the study.		
4	Scott (HDR) discussed the role of CAG members.		
5	Jeff Young (HDR) provided an overview of the IL 120 Study, noting that it is an Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) led Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study examining transportation safety and mobility on Illinois 120 from Illinois 60 to Almond Road in Lake County. Jeff presented preliminary data and the goals and objectives of the study.		
6	Scott (HDR) introduced the format and guidelines for Breakout Session #1		



ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSION	
7	<ul> <li>Four groups participated in a 30-minute Breakout Session #1. Moderators sought feedback from the CAG members on the following questions.</li> <li>What key factors impact transportation mobility and safety along IL 120?</li> <li>What infrastructure improvements could enhance transportation mobility and safety for IL 120 users?</li> <li>How does transportation infrastructure impact community development and economic activity along IL 120?</li> <li>What are the primary environmental considerations associated with transportation along IL 120?</li> <li>How can they be addressed?</li> <li>How can equitable mobility be ensured for all IL 120 users, including those in underserved communities?</li> <li>How should biking, walking, and public transit be considered in the study?</li> </ul>	
8	<ul> <li>The following feedback was heard in the breakout rooms.</li> <li>Traffic safety and mobility concerns exist throughout the study area</li> <li>Congestion at main intersections and existing at-grade rail crossings are particular concerns</li> <li>Lack of sufficient bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure</li> <li>Traffic diverting from IL 120 adversely impacts neighborhoods and local roads</li> <li>Drainage concerns in some areas of the study area</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to environmental concerns, quality of life and transit access</li> <li>The white boards for all rooms can be found in the attachments.</li> </ul>	
9	Kelly Sims (HDR) presented on the Working Purpose and Need Statement noting that it is the "why" for the project. Kelly explained the working purpose as identifying projects that improve safety and mobility, provide bike/ped connectivity and consider future local transportation improvements. Kelly shared the need is to address crashes, existing and future mobility, gaps in the bike/ped network, support local plans for mobility in Lake County. Kelly noted that the working purpose and need will be refined based on feedback gathered at this CAG meeting.	
10	Scott (HDR) introduced the format and guidelines for Breakout Session #2.	



ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSION
11	<ul> <li>Four groups participated in a 30-minute Breakout Session #2. Moderators sought feedback from the CAG members on the following questions.</li> <li>What safety concerns do you think need to be addressed on the IL 120 corridor?</li> <li>In what ways do you believe the current operations of the IL 120 corridor could be improved?</li> <li>How would enhancing non-motorized transportation options in the IL 120 corridor benefit the community?</li> <li>What specific improvements would you like to see implemented?</li> <li>What other considerations or features should be included in the study to maximize benefits to the community?</li> <li>Are there additional environmental considerations association with transportation along IL 120?</li> <li>How can they be addressed?</li> <li>What challenges or obstacles do you forsee in achieving the goals of this study and how might they be overcome?</li> <li>Are there any potential trade-off or conflicts between different goals of the project and how should they be addressed?</li> </ul>
12	<ul> <li>The following feedback was heard in the breakout rooms.</li> <li>Desire to improve traffic flow with expanding roadway footprint and impact adjacent properties</li> <li>Consider design options that slow traffic speeds</li> <li>Need to address drainage and design with resiliency in mind for current and future heavy rainfall</li> <li>Consider bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and transit</li> <li>Avoid impacts to the environment, wetlands, and forest preserves</li> <li>Accessing businesses on the corridor can be challenging</li> <li>Need to develop actionable solutions</li> <li>Focus on quality of life versus shortening commutes</li> <li>The white boards for all rooms can be found in the attachments.</li> </ul>



ITEM	TOPIC/DISCUSSION
13	The format of future CAG meetings was discussed. A poll was offered to determine members' preference for virtual, in-person, or hybrid meetings. Hybrid meetings received the most support between poll votes and comments in the meeting chat.
14	Scott (HDR) previewed the next CAG meeting anticipated for Summer 2024 and noted that the refined purpose and need will be presented, and alternatives development will also be discussed. Scott noted the next public information meeting is anticipated in Fall 2024.
15	Scott (HDR) noted that Public Information Meeting #1 materials are available on the project website at <a href="www.il120study.com">www.il120study.com</a> and that CAG meeting materials will be added to the website soon. Scott noted the project email address is <a href="connect@il120study.com">connect@il120study.com</a> . Scott thanked the CAG members for their time and participation and noted the study team looks forward to continued engagement with the CAG moving forward.



## APPENDIX A.

**Powerpoint Presentation** 





Community Advisory Group Meeting #1 May 9, 2024

### **Agenda**



- Welcome and Study Team Introductions
- Public Information Meeting #1 Recap
- Role of the Community Advisory Group
- Study Overview
- Goals and Objectives (Breakout Session #1) 40 mins
- Develop Purpose and Need (Breakout Discussion #2) 40 mins
- Next Steps



## Study Team Introductions

#### **CAG Members**



- Diverse group of engaged voices
- Members include representatives of:
  - Government
    - Lake County Board
    - Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
    - Lake County Forest Preserve District
    - Village of Grayslake
    - Avon Township
  - Community organizations
    - Lake County Partners
    - Bicycle Club of Lake County
    - Open Lands
    - Sierra Club
    - Midwest Sustainability Group
  - Education
    - Community Consolidated School District 46
  - Corridor users
    - Residents



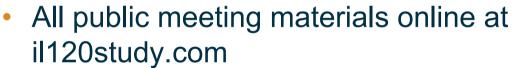
## **Public Information Meeting #1** Recap



Public Information Meeting #1 held Tuesday, April 23 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Lake County Fairgrounds



Open house style with presentation, exhibits, and study team Q&A





- More than 165 attendees
- 50 + comments received
  - Congestion and safety concerns
  - Support bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
  - Environmental considerations







# Role of the Community Advisory Group



- Commit to meeting up to six times at project milestones
- Provide input throughout the PEL study process
- Serves as a sounding board for study information and decisions
- Facilitates collaborative problem solving, discussions of specific issues



#### **Benefits of the CAG**



- Consistent communication
- Better understanding of stakeholder issues
- Detailed discussion of key issues
- Opportunity to hear differing views
- Collaborative problem-solving
- Build understanding and support throughout the project



## **Anticipated CAG Meeting Points**



- Purpose and Need (Spring 2024)
- Range of alternatives (Summer 2024)
- Detailed alternative screening (Fall 2024)
- Alternatives to be carried forward (Winter 2025)
- Recommendations, priorities, and strategies (Spring 2025)
- PEL study conclusions (Summer 2025)





## Study Overview

#### WHAT IS A PEL STUDY?



A Planning and Environmental Linkages or PEL Study is a planning study that provides for:

- A collaborative approach to decision-making
- Early consideration of:
  - Environmental issues
  - Community context
  - Economic or development goals



#### WHY USE A PEL STUDY?



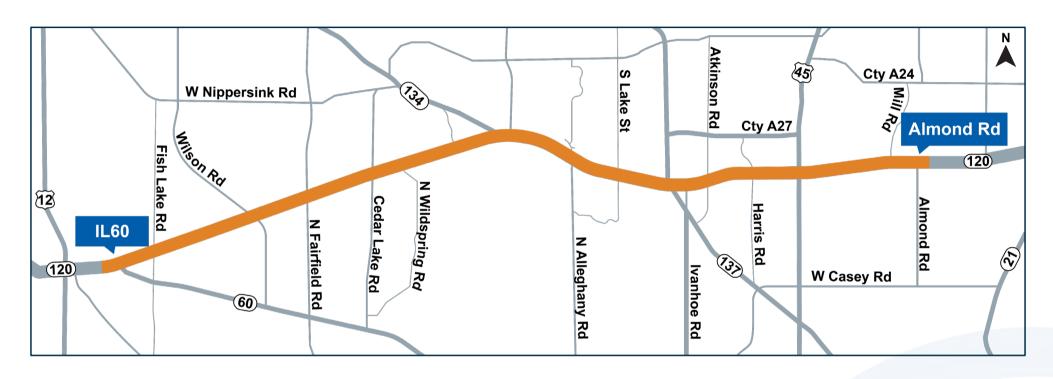
A PEL enables the following planning products to be adopted into later environmental review processes:

- Approved purpose and need
- Screening of alternatives
- Decision on methodologies for analysis

PEL Study work serves as the foundation of future studies, saving time and money.

#### **LOCATION MAP & STUDY AREA**

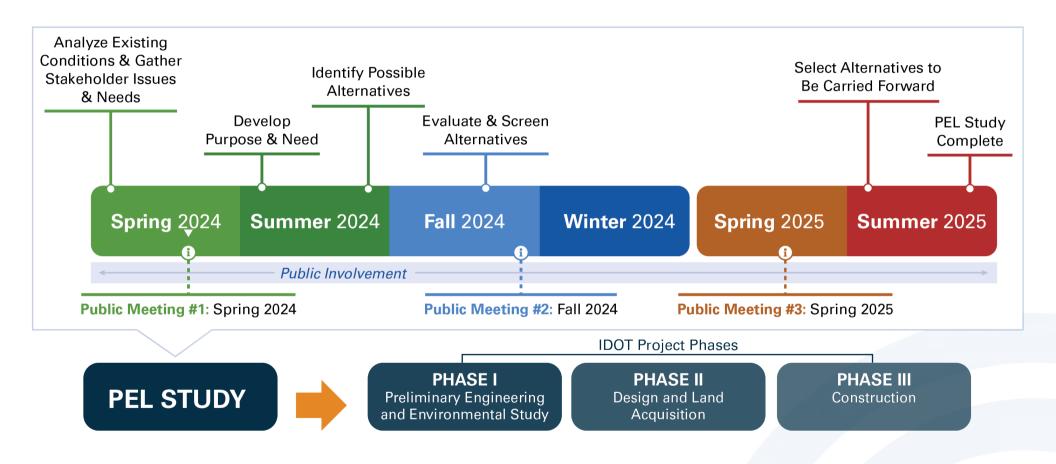




Study limits are from west of Illinois Route 60 to east of Almond Road, approximately 9 miles.

### **Study Schedule**

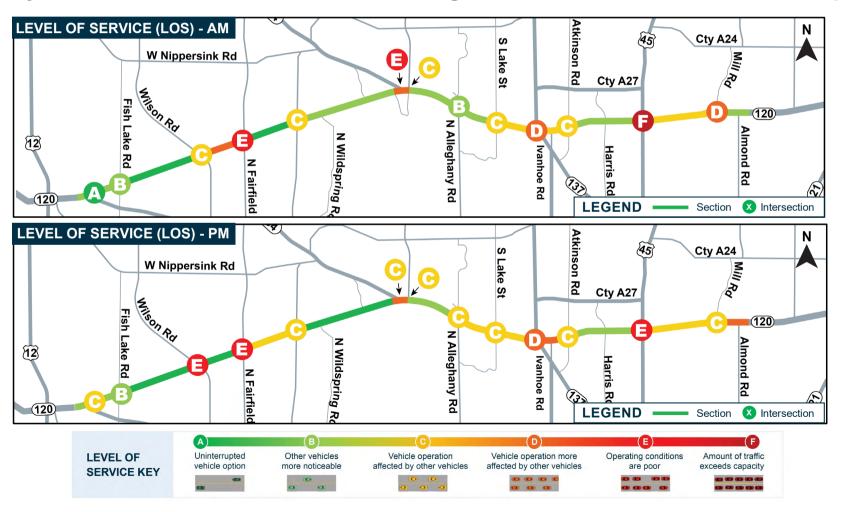




#### TRAFFIC DATA

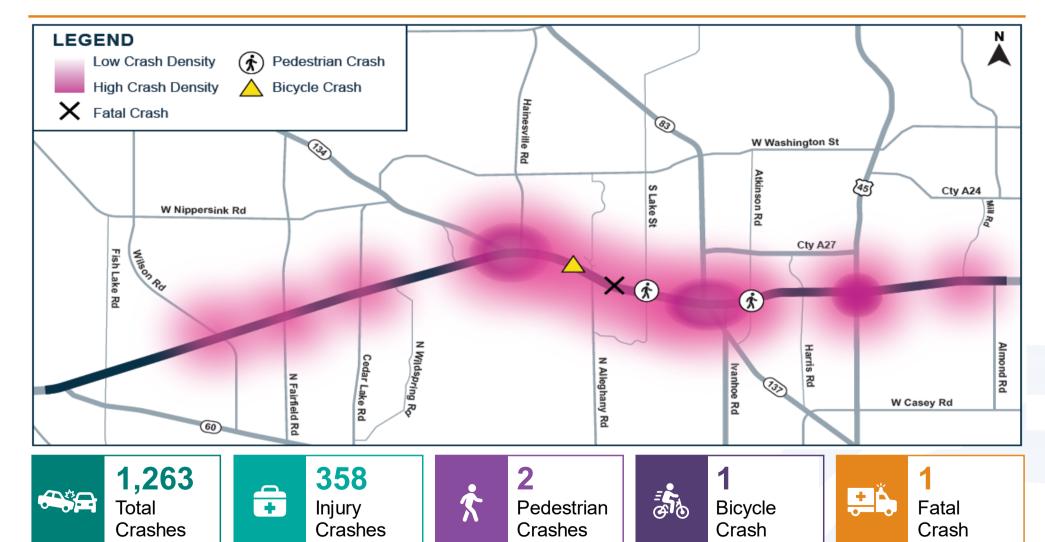


Current Traffic Volumes on IL 120 Range from 17,000 to 28,000 vehicles per day. 2050 Projected Traffic Volumes on IL 120 Range from 19,000 to 32,000 vehicles per day.



## **ALL CRASHES (2017-2021)**





#### **NON-MOTORIZED USERS**



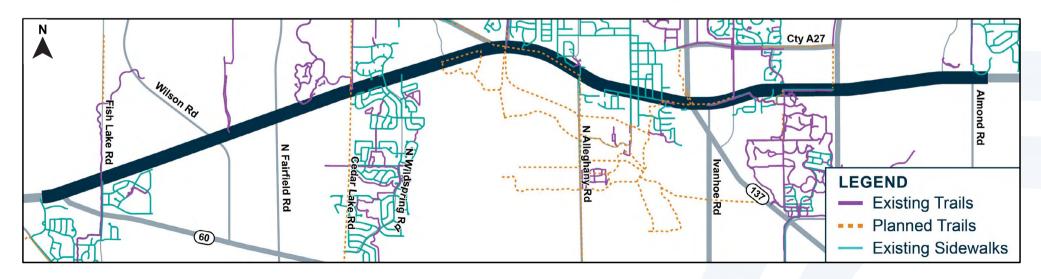


A **shared-use path** can be provided for a safe route for pedestrians, cyclists, and other non-motorized users.



A **sidewalk** can provide dedicated space for pedestrians that is safe, comfortable, and accessible.

Source: Small Town and Rural Design Guide Facilities for Walking and Biking



#### **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES**



#### What topics will be studied?

- Air quality
- Community and social resources
- Ecology and natural resources
- Economic
- Energy
- Farmland

- Floodplains
- Historical and archaeological resources
- Land use
- Noise
- Parks and recreation
- Soils and geology

- Special waste
- Tribal and cultural resources
- Vegetation
- Visual resources
- Water quality
- Wetlands





## **Study Goals & Objectives**



Through stakeholder, agency, and public input, the Study Team seeks to establish a shared corridor vision and identify a range of alternatives that will:



Increase safety for all roadway users



Reduce congestion and delays as population grows



Provide pedestrian and bicycle connectivity



Accommodate future regional transportation improvements



Minimize impacts to environmental resources



## **Breakout Session #1**

#### **Breakout Session #1**



- Participants automatically assigned
- Moderator assigned to each breakout room
- 30-minute time limit for discussion
- 10-minute report-out session to follow
- Ground rules
  - Participate in the discussion
  - Allow all group members a chance to speak
  - Listen when others are speaking (mute yourself when not speaking)
  - Use the chat to share links or resources
  - Stay on task and avoid sidebar conversations



#### **Breakout Session #1 Questions**



- What key factors impact transportation mobility and safety along IL 120?
- What infrastructure improvements could enhance transportation mobility and safety for IL 120 users?
- How does transportation infrastructure impact community development and economic activity along IL 120?
- What are the primary environmental considerations associated with transportation along IL 120, and how can they be addressed?
- How can equitable access to transportation options be ensured for all IL 120 users, including those in underserved communities?
- How should alternative transportation modes, such as biking, walking, and public transit be considered in the study?



# Report-Out Breakout Session #1

#### **Purpose and Need**



- The Purpose and Need is the "why" for the study.
  - Tells why the project is being conducted
  - Provides the general vision of the project
  - States the intended or desired outcomes
  - Expresses the transportation issues and challenges
  - Foundation of the decision-making process and alternative screening

## **Working Purpose and Need**



- The purpose of this PEL study is to identify potential projects that would:
  - Improve safety for all roadway users
  - Improve mobility and reduce delays as the population continues to grow
  - Provide pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, where warranted
  - Consider future local transportation improvements

- The need is to address the following issues:
  - Crashes on IL 120
  - Existing and projected travel delays
  - Gaps in the pedestrian and bicycle network
  - Support local plans for mobility in Lake County

Working Purpose and Need will be refined based on feedback gathered at this CAG meeting



## **Breakout Session #2**

#### **Breakout Session #2**



- Same breakout room as Session #1
- Moderator assigned to each breakout room
- 30-minute time limit for discussion
- 10-minute report-out session to follow
- Ground rules
  - Participate in the discussion
  - Allow all group members a chance to speak
  - Listen when others are speaking (mute yourself when not speaking)
  - Use the chat to share links or resources
  - Stay on task and avoid sidebar conversations



#### **Breakout Session #2 Questions**



- What specific safety concerns do you think need to be addressed in the IL 120 corridor, and how might this study mitigate those concerns?
- In what ways do you believe the current operations of the IL 120 corridor could be improved, and how might this study contribute to those improvements?
- What planned or anticipated changes to the regional transportation network do you think should be considered in this study, and why are they important?
- How do you think enhancing non-motorized transportation options in the IL 120 corridor could benefit the community, and what specific improvements would you like to see implemented?
- What challenges or obstacles do you foresee in achieving the goals of this study, and how might they be overcome?
- Are there any potential trade-offs or conflicts between different goals of the project (e.g., traffic flow vs. environmental impacts), and how should they be addressed?
- What additional considerations or features do you believe should be included in the study to maximize its benefits for all stakeholders?



# Report-Out Breakout Session #2

#### **CAG Logistics**



- Feedback on meeting format
  - Virtual/In-Person/Hybrid
  - Use the polling feature to provide your preference

#### **Next Steps**



- Next CAG Meeting
  - Anticipated Summer 2024
    - Refined Purpose and Need based on CAG feedback
    - Develop alternatives
- Next Public Information Meeting
  - Anticipated Fall 2024

#### Resources



- www.il120study.com
  - Central source for information
  - Study updates
  - Meeting schedule
  - Opportunities to submit comments or questions
- connect@il120study.com

- CAG Point of Contact
  - scott.manning@hdrinc.com



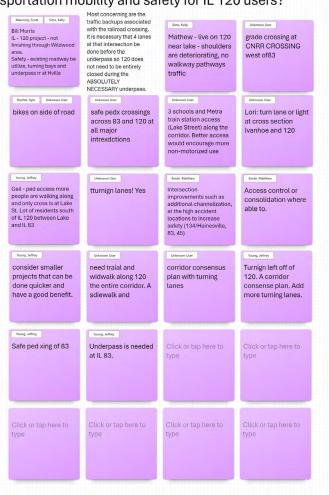
## **APPENDIX B.**

**Breakout Whiteboards** 



What key factors impact transportation mobility and safety along IL 120?

What infrastructure improvements could enhance transportation mobility and safety for IL 120 users?







#### **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

How does transportation infrastructure impact community development and economic activity along IL 120?



problem with widening truck traffic - residential

areas, school buses, transit, increasing traff and danger with

creased traffic.

near graylake, salt

drains into lake

#### **CONSIDERATIONS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL** 

What are the primary environmental considerations associated with transportation along IL 120?

How can they be addressed?

and rookery in wildwood area. grayslake itself protection. hainesville -

Undocent ther  Lori Belt: Almond Marsh - no impact Nijoperslik: no impact 120 between 134 and porter Dr. around Hainesville has wettands and many old oak trees to preserve.	Stop and go traffic has cars idiling. Increased traffic flow would reduce impact on the enviornment	Click or tap here to type	Click or tap here to type
Condomination  Toads through  Almond narsh or any wetlands. Definitely no bypass!	Click or tap here to type	Click or tap here to type	Click or tap here to type
Click or tap here to type	Click or tap here to type	Click or tap here to type	Click or tap here to type
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#### **RESIDENT AND BUSINESS IMPACT**

How can equitable mobility be ensured for all IL 120 users, including those in underserved communities?

How should biking, walking, and public transit be considered in the study?



working class communities, need better bus service, dep to car. toll road would be expensive - impact communities.

Sims. Kelly would like of walk to work unsafe, forced to drive.

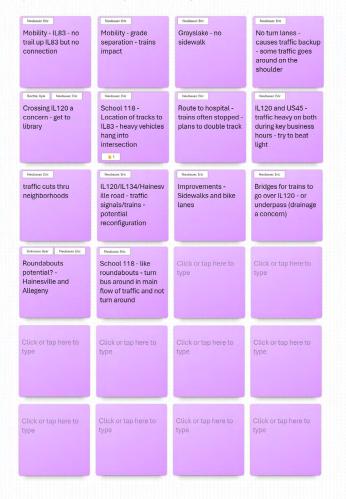
wide asphalt path

families

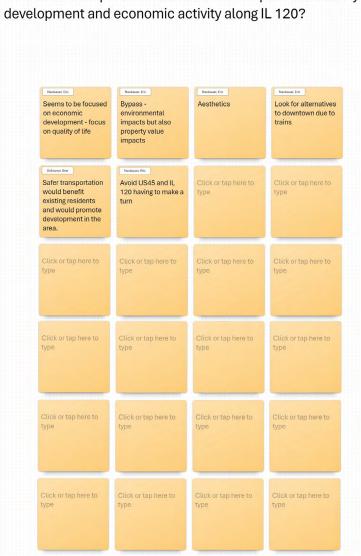


What key factors impact transportation mobility and safety along IL 120?

What infrastructure improvements could enhance transportation mobility and safety for IL 120 users?



# COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT How does transportation infrastructure impact community development and economic activity along IL 120?



## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

What are the primary environmental considerations associated with transportation along IL 120?

How can they be addressed?



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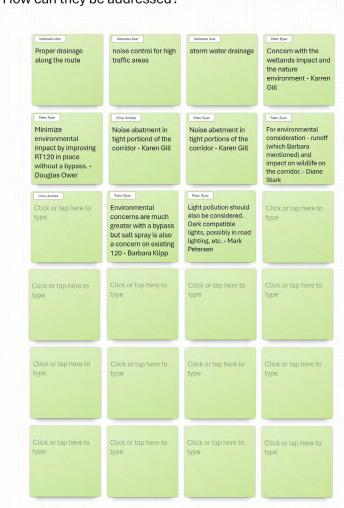
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What safety concerns do you think need to be addressed in the IL 120 corridor?

In what ways do you believe the current operations of the IL 120 corridor could be improved?

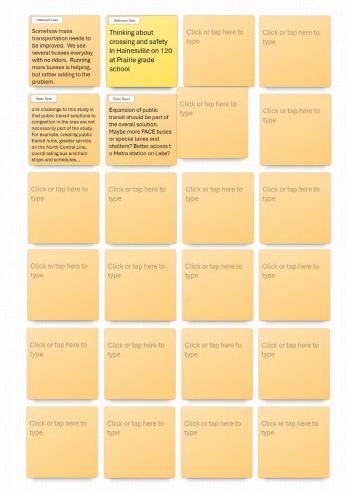


## COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

How would enhancing non-motorized transportation options in the IL 120 corridor benefit the community?

What specific improvements would you like to see implemented?

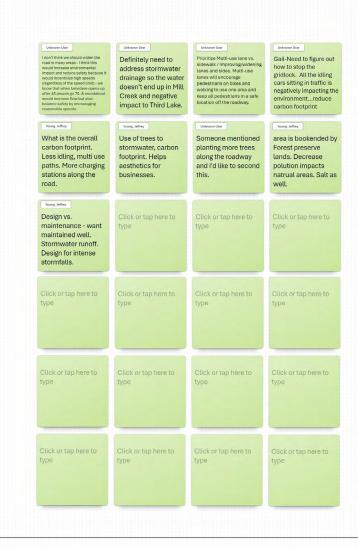
What other considerations or features should be included in the study to maximize its benefits for the community?



## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Are there additional environmental considerations associated with transportation along IL 120?

How can they be addressed?



#### **RESIDENT AND BUSINESS IMPACT**

What challenges or obstacles do you foresee in achieving the goals of this study and how might they be overcome?

Are there any potential trade-offs or conflicts between different goals of the project (e.g., traffic flow vs. environmental impacts), and how should they be addressed?





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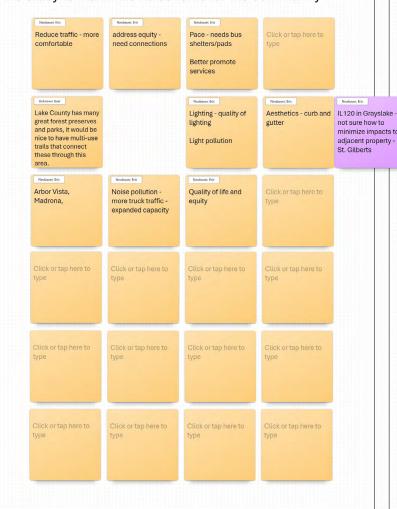


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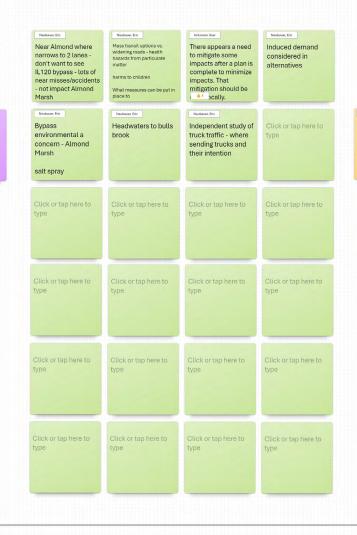
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## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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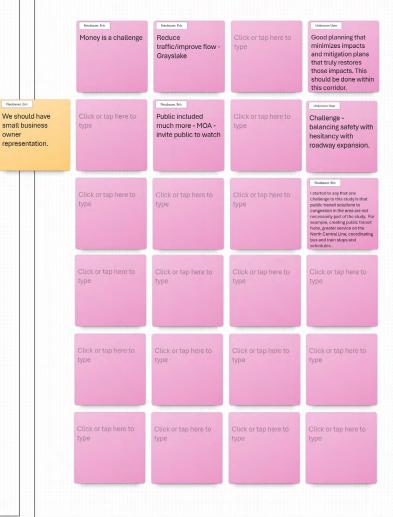
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What challenges or obstacles do you foresee in achieving the goals of this study and how might they be overcome?

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## COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Are there additional environmental considerations associated with transportation along IL 120?

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#### **RESIDENT AND BUSINESS IMPACT**

What challenges or obstacles do you foresee in achieving the goals of this study and how might they be overcome?

Are there any potential trade-offs or conflicts between different goals of the project (e.g., traffic flow vs. environmental impacts), and how should they be addressed?





#### **MOBILITY AND SAFETY** What safety concerns do you think need to be addressed in the IL 120 corridor? In what ways do you believe the current operations of the IL 120 Carridar aculd be improved ? KARL area of concern? no place to take multi ise trail, even along one side of the middle to get around stall, fender bender cross at more Bike and Ped Access example of hainsville multi use patch locations safety. difficult now road at washington grade sep with ped wide lane - multi use crossings in all directions overpas access to metra crash study map reflect problem





