



Major Capital Projects Quarterly Update February 2013

CENTRAL LAKE COUNTY CORRIDOR

Project Status: Project is in the planning stage. The Illinois Route 53/120 Blue Ribbon Advisory Council has worked recently to identify consensus around options for the Illinois Route 53 corridor in central Lake County and develop a framework of principles to guide future study of the corridor configuration, timing and financing. Two next steps are on the horizon for calendar year 2013- 1) a corridor land use plan to be managed by CMAP in coordination with the Tollway, Lake County, municipalities, and other stakeholders in the area; 2) A detailed design concept and continued work on project finance to be managed by the Tollway.

Project Website: <http://www.illinoistollway.com/construction-and-planning/community-outreach/illinois-route-53-120-blue-ribbon-advisory-council>

Overall Progress since Last Quarter:

None. Project has been approved in the latest round of LTA projects, but work has yet to begin.

CMAP's Contribution since Last Quarter (if applicable):

CMAP continues to work cooperatively with the Illinois Tollway and Lake County on next steps.

CIRCLE INTERCHANGE

Project Status: Phase I of the Circle Interchange Study was initiated in May 2012 and is anticipated to be completed within 12 months. Phase II studies may take an additional 12 months. Currently, Phase I and Phase II are the only phases of the project that are funded. The Phase III portion remains unfunded at this time.

Project Website: <http://www.circleinterchange.org/>

Overall Progress since Last Month: A draft [Purpose and Need](#) statement was posted to the project website in November. A third meeting of the Project Working Group was held in December, and focused on conceptual plans for local streets as well as project alternatives. IDOT has prepared information for CMAP to complete a project evaluation, which is necessary for considering it as a GO TO 2040 plan amendment.

CMAP's Contribution since Last Month: CMAP is readying an analysis of this project in line with GO TO 2040 major capital project evaluation criteria. Staff circulated a memo to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee about next steps (plan amendment will be considered in March) as well as CMAP's concerns about the process by which this project was identified. The project is

being used as a template to update MCP evaluations, including exclusive reliance on GO TO 2040 forecasts as the basis for demand.

Project is currently out for public comment regarding its inclusion in GO TO 2040. Public comment period will end February 18, 2013.

CTA RED AND PURPLE LINE MODERNIZATION

Project Status: CTA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have initiated the environmental review process for this project, and will be preparing an EIS. CTA is currently studying four possible alternatives for the RPM project, and will provide community updates on the progress of those studies in late 2012/2013.

Project Website: <http://www.transitchicago.com/rpmproject/>

Overall Progress since Last Quarter: Station improvements, and thus closures, have begun. CTA has also been studying the future development potential along the corridor.

CMAP's Contribution since Last Quarter: None

CTA RED LINE SOUTH

Project Status: CTA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have initiated the environmental review process for this project and will be preparing an EIS.

Project Website: <http://www.transitchicago.com/redeis/default.aspx>

Overall Progress since Last Quarter:
None.

CMAP's Contribution since Last Quarter:

A new webpage: www.cmap.illinois.gov/red-line features the LTA livability report, a brochure, summarizing the report, an engaging video, and a map gallery, all of which highlight the importance of the proposed extension and the qualitative and quantitative livability impacts of this major transportation investment. The livability report supplements the CTA's pursuit of federal New Starts funding and serves as an educational resource for the [Greater Roseland community](#), as well as local, state, and federal partners.

ELGIN O'HARE/WESTERN ACCESS

Project Status: USDOT has approved the final agreement that will allow the Illinois Tollway to construct this project. This is the last step in the federal review and approval process. However, there still remains a roughly \$300 million funding gap on the project.

Project Website: <http://www.illinoistollway.com/construction-and-planning/projects-by-roadway/elgin-o-hare-western-access>

Overall Progress since Last Quarter:

- DuPage County continues to explore ways to fill the funding gap.

- DuPage County is leading the effort to submit a comprehensive application for CMAQ funding. Several meetings have taken place with representatives of the DuPage County, the Tollway and its consultants, CMAP and FHWA regarding eligibility of potential projects.
- Project now officially known as Elgin-O'Hare/Western Access.
- \$95.6 million in the Tollway's FY13 budget request for this project.
- On December 12, the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Aviation Administration issued a Record of Decision (ROD) approving the plan for the Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project. This approval completes the last step in the federal review of the project's environmental impact, allowing the Tollway to move toward implementation.

CMAP's Contribution Last Quarter:

None.

ILLIANA EXPRESSWAY

Project Status: In January, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Tier 1 Draft EIS. The recommendation is to carry forward into Tier 2 both a no action and the B3 alternatives. IDOT is accepting comments on the selection of B3 as the preferred alternative.

Project Website: <http://www.illianacorridor.org/>

Overall Progress since Last Quarter:

The B3 route was selected as the preferred alternative. A no-action alternative will also be carried forward into Tier 2. The Preferred Corridor Report is here:

http://www.illianacorridor.org/pdfs/illiana_pref_correport_101212pdf.pdf

[Record of Decision entered by FHWA http://www.illianacorridor.org/pdfs/feis/rod.pdf](http://www.illianacorridor.org/pdfs/feis/rod.pdf)

CMAP's Contribution since Last Quarter:

CMAP submitted comments on the Preferred Alternative and has met with IDOT representatives regarding CMAP's concerns with the analysis of the project, which is not part of the GO TO 2040 plan.

I-290 MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR

Project Status: The I-290 Preliminary Engineering and Environmental (Phase I) Study started from a clean slate in Fall of 2009. The process will result in an EIS for the reconstruction of I-290 from west of Mannheim Road to east of Cicero Avenue. The preferred alternative selection and EIS should be completed in fall of 2013.

Project Website: <http://www.eisenhowerexpressway.com/>

Overall Progress since Last Quarter: IDOT published a memo indicating reluctance to use GO TO 2040 Forecasts as the basis for estimating forecast demand.

CMAP's Contribution since Last Quarter: None.

I-294/57 INTERCHANGE

Project Status: Under construction.

Project Website: <http://www.illinoistollway.com/construction-and-planning/projects-by-roadway/tri-state-tollway-i-94/i294/i-80/294-57interchange>
& <http://www.dot.il.gov/I57-294/default.html>

Overall Progress Last Quarter:

Construction of a new bridge carrying southbound I-294 traffic over 147th Street is complete, and all I-294 traffic is now traveling on the new bridge. Work is underway to rebuild the bridge carrying northbound traffic. Realignment of Dixie Creek completed. \$66.7 million included in the FY13 budget request for this project.

CMAP's Contribution Last Quarter: CMAP is providing consulting assistance and limited staff assistance via the LTA program for an SSMMA interchange land use planning project. This project involves planning for future land use and economic development along major corridors and at key sites within five communities near the new I-294/I-57 interchange (Dixmoor, Harvey, Markham, Midlothian, and Posen). The project's steering committee is comprised of local representatives as well as regional partners like SSMMA, Cook County, RTA, Pace, IDOT, and the Tollway. The steering committee held its kick-off meeting in October 2012, and the consultant team is conducting stakeholder interviews and existing conditions research in February 2013.

I-55 MANAGED LANE

Project Status: Phase I EIS is underway and will be completed by spring 2014. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has initiated the I-55 Managed Lane Project and the establishment of a Corridor Planning Group. This group consists of Mayors/Presidents from each of the communities in the study area, the Chair/President from the Counties, CMAP, other governmental bodies, agencies or interest groups. The CPG will discuss many issues such as transportation system needs, a range of managed lane alternatives and an evaluation of those alternatives. The scope of work for this project is anticipated to include the addition of one lane in each direction within the existing median of I-55 to accommodate implementation of managed lanes. Managed lanes could include High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV), High Occupancy Toll (HOT), Congestion Pricing, and other managed lane configurations as determined to be appropriate for projected 2040 travel demand.

Project Website: <http://www.i55managedlaneproject.org/>

Overall Progress since Last Quarter: The I-55 Managed Lane Project study team conducted a survey to gather information about travel experiences on the I-55 corridor between I-355 and I-90/I-94. It provided an opportunity for respondents to voice their concerns regarding the existing corridor and to receive their feedback on the use of managed lanes.

CMAP's Contribution since Last Quarter:
None.

I-90

Project Status: Project is in design. Preliminary construction including bridge work, shoulder widening and utility relocation has begun on the western section of the corridor.

Project Website: <http://www.illinoistollway.com/construction-and-planning/projects-by-roadway/jane-addams-memorial-tollway-i-90>

Overall Progress Last Quarter:

- Preliminary construction on west end
- \$415 million included for this project in the FY13 budget request.
- IDOT is developing a project to implement auxiliary lanes in either direction between the tollway and IL 43 with Design Approval expected at the end of 2013. Phase I and II Engineering is funded, but not construction.

CMAP's Contribution Last Quarter:

- CMAP hosted an FHWA Integrated Corridor Management with Analysis, Modeling, and Simulation workshop focused on the Jane Addams Tollway.
- CMAP is developing traffic projections for I-90 between I-190 and IL43 which includes an auxiliary lane in each direction.

WEST LOOP TRANSPORTATION CENTER

Project Status: Phase I of the Union Station Master Plan concluded in May. The second stage of the Study started in December, 2012. This work will include three key components: 1) A train operations simulation model of existing and possible future conditions at Chicago Union Station (CUS); 2) A pedestrian flow model of existing and possible future conditions within CUS's passenger areas; 3) A street traffic simulation model of existing and possible future conditions on 40 blocks surrounding CUS. The goal of this stage of the Study will be to establish a robust technical case for implementing the Stage 1 Study's "medium term" recommendations as soon as possible, and it will determine just how much capacity (i.e., how many years of growth) these improvements are likely to accommodate. It is anticipated that this stage of the Study will be completed in mid 2014. Work products will be posted to the website as they are approved.

Projects to create a surface bus transfer center and East-West BRT are funded and underway. The projects begin to address improving connections between Union Station and other transportation services.

Project Website: <http://www.unionstationmp.org/>

Overall Progress since Last Month: None

CMAP's Contribution since Last Month: None

OTHER PROJECTS

City of Chicago BRT - The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), with the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), Department of Housing and Economic Development (DHED), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), is performing an Alternatives Analysis planning study for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on both Western and Ashland Avenues, which will result in the selection of

a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). CTA intends to apply for additional federal funding to advance into Preliminary Engineering and project construction.

CREATE- Project G17, Belmont Road/ BNSF Grade separation project is complete. As of November 12th, 16 projects are completed, 33 are underway, and 21 have not been initiated.