EVANSTON
ILLINOIS

Emerson/ Ridge/ Green Bay Improvement Project

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EMERSON/ RIDGE/ GREEN BAY PROJECT GOALS

• Enhance pedestrian safety and access
• Reduce Conflicts by simplifying travel patterns & lane usage
• Modernize and coordinate traffic signals to improve operation and level of service
• Improve viaduct aesthetics, enhance lighting/ streetscape and create gateway to downtown
• Green Bay corridor improvements considering economic development and pedestrian safety
• Improve transit access
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2, 2014</td>
<td>1st PUBLIC MEETING</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2, 2014</td>
<td>1ST ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 17, 2014</td>
<td>2nd ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 29, 2014</td>
<td>2nd PUBLIC MEETING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web Survey</td>
<td>ALTERNATE OPTIONS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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PROJECT WEB SITE – UPDATED REGULARLY

www.emersonridge.com
EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Out dated traffic signal equipment
- 130 vehicle/vehicle conflict points
- Difficult for pedestrian and transit access
- Unattractive viaduct aesthetics
- Inadequate lighting
- Minimal streetscape/green space
CUL-DE-SAC LEAST PREFFERED OPTION

Green Bay will be closed north side of Emerson and all Green Bay traffic will have to use Asbury/Emerson

Impacts

- Major changes to the travel pattern
- Green Bay traffic will use Asbury
- Left turn restriction from westbound Emerson to southbound Asbury
- Loss of parking along west side of Asbury and both sides of Emerson (Total loss -16)
- Improves overall level of service (D to B)
- Reduces conflict points (from 130 to 68)
- Increases streetscape area and parking along Green Bay
- Improves pedestrian crossings
- 18% of the survey respondents prefer this option
ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND OPTION

Green Bay north of Emerson to Asbury is closed to southbound traffic. Southbound traffic will use Asbury/Emerson

Impacts

- Changes to travel pattern
- Requires all southbound traffic to utilize Asbury/Emerson
- Loss of parking along west side of Asbury and both sides of Emerson (Total loss -8)
- Improves overall level of service (D to C)
- Reduces conflict points (from 130 to 74)
- Increases streetscape area and parking along Green Bay
- Improves pedestrian crossing
- 24% of the survey respondents prefer this option
One lane each in northbound and southbound direction and left turn lanes from Green Bay to Emerson in both directions

**Impacts**
- Maintains travel pattern
- Loss of parking on Emerson (Total loss -4)
- Improves overall level of service (D to B)
- Reduces conflict points (from 130 to 77)
- Increases streetscape area and parking along Green Bay
- Improves pedestrian crossings
- Adding left turn lane on Green Bay @ Emerson
- 62% of the survey respondents prefer this option
Green Bay Road Corridor Improvements
3-lane cross section

Green Bay is right sized to provide one thru lane in each direction and left turn lanes at intersections/driveways

Benefits
- Provides additional green space/streetscape area
- Provides bus pull-out areas (better visibility for pedestrians)
- Improves pedestrian crossings (shorter crossing and better visibility)
- Safer for vehicles due to better defined lane usage (typically less side-swipe and rear end crashes)
- Wider sidewalks on west side
- 64% of the survey respondents prefer this option
## SURVEY RESULTS

Rating on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the highest and 1 being the lowest preferred

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Percentage of Ratings 6-10</th>
<th>Percentage of Ratings 1-5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cul-de-Sac</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-way Northbound</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Bay/Emerson 3-lane Cross Section</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Bay 3-lane Cross Section</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

480 Total respondents to survey
VIADUCT IMPROVEMENTS

EXISTING CONDITIONS & ANALYSIS:
- Architecturally noteworthy Art Deco bridge design
- Bridge determined to be structurally sound
- Hanging fabric disguises rusting metal panels
- Support columns and steel structure are also rusting
- Murals on abutment walls are deteriorating
VIADUCT IMPROVEMENTS

OPTION #1: CELEBRATING ART DECO
- Showcase & highlight Art Deco bridge design
- Paint bridge a bold, unifying, solid color
- Bridge to be artistically illuminated with LED lights
- Abutment walls to be covered in reflective subway tile
- Bold paving pattern under bridge reinforces Art Deco motif
VIADUCT IMPROVEMENTS

OPTION #2: GOING GRAPHICALLY BOLD
- Bridge becomes canvas for public art
- Incorporate bold geometric pattern from mid-century era
- Light tubes under bridge echo graphic pattern at night
- Pattern wraps bridge and abutment walls
- Paving beneath bridge to receive same treatment
VIADUCT IMPROVEMENTS

OPTION #3: HANGING GARDENS
- Bridge panels become vertical gardens
- Linear planters are mounted to sides of bridge
- Utilize drought tolerant plants with seasonal interest
- Garden-themed mosaic on abutment walls
- Synthetic turf beneath bridge expands green space
VIADUCT IMPROVEMENTS

- Set up a steering committee with City’s Cultural Arts Coordinator as the lead
- Develop standards for Viaduct Improvements
- Hold Public Hearing early next year near to finalize standards
- Implement Emerson/Ridge/Green Bay viaduct improvements as pilot project
NEXT STEPS

Spring 2015
- IDOT Design Approval – Phase I Engineering

Summer/Fall 2015
- Finalize Design Details and Complete Construction Plans

FY 2016
- IDOT Letting March
- Summer Construction

THANKS