



Public Meeting #1

Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2019
Time: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Location: Lincoln Elementary School
910 Forest Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202

Hosts: City of Evanston
Patrick Engineering
Terra Engineering
Kettelkamp & Kettelkamp Landscape Architects

Summary of Public Meeting:

A Public Meeting was held on Wednesday, May 15, 2019, for the Evanston Main Street Phase I Study at Lincoln Elementary School in Evanston, Illinois. Approximately forty-seven (47) people attended the meeting between 7:00 PM and 9:00 PM. Three Evanston City Aldermen were invited and two of which attended. There were a total of 5 exhibits on display; one (22" x 34") exhibit showing locations of vaulted sidewalks; one (22" x 34") exhibit showing traffic counts; one (22" x 34") exhibit showing the project overview and goals; one (22" x 34") exhibit showing safety and crash data; and one (22" x 34") exhibit displaying a proposed cross-section looking east on Main Street. In addition to the exhibits, there was a 30-minute PowerPoint presentation by Lara Biggs, Steven Lynch, and Jarrod Cebulski presenting about the project process, existing conditions, data collected, various sidewalk scenarios, and various design elements being considered. The presentation was followed by a 35-minute Question-and-Answer session for members of the public to ask questions and provide live input.

City of Evanston Aldermen, and staff from the City of Evanston, Patrick Engineering, Terra Engineering, and Kettelkamp & Kettelkamp were on hand to answer questions and guide attendees through the exhibits. Meeting announcements were displayed in Evanston Review newspaper prior to the Public Meeting on 5/9/2019. Flyers were delivered throughout the local neighborhood promoting the meeting in the first few days of May 2019.

Project informational brochures were available at the meeting for all attendees, and all meeting participants were offered a comment sheet to fill out at the meeting, or to submit to Patrick Engineering at a later date via mail or e-mail.





Summary of Public Meeting Comments:

Of the 47 attendees, nine (9) written comments were submitted regarding the presentation and design alternatives. An additional two comments were submitted via the website. The contents of the comments and live input were mixed. A summary of both the live input comments and the written comments are written below. They have been organized into categories. Some comments appear more than once since they may fall into more than one category.

Comment Category	Comment	Comment Type
Local Business	Consider placeholders that take advantage of the business character and the city's intangible characteristics.	Live Input
	What about business interruption during construction?	Live Input
	Consider staging construction one block at a time.	Live Input
Pedestrian/Bicycle Concerns	There are three schools in the proximity of the project. Was pedestrian scramble considered?	Live Input
	Please put the truck route back on Oakton and off of Main Street – Main should be more of a pedestrian/shopping area	Written (from written comment #9)
	Consider data from the Argyle project, recently converted to shared-use by vehicles and pedestrians.	Live Input
	Places to lock bicycles by businesses.	Live Input
	Where will pedestrians walk when sidewalks are under construction?	Live Input
	Bike route signs should be added on Main and perhaps Sherman.	Written (from written comment #6)
	Design to slow traffic and discourage people driving distances less than 2 miles. This	Written (from written comment #8)



Pedestrian/Bicycle Concerns	is an opportunity to change a business district from car-centric to more pedestrian, bike, and public transit-centric.	Written (from written comment #8)
Traffic	Traffic calming near the Metra/CTA stations?	Live Input
	Cars will speed on Sherman if travel speed on Main Street is reduced.	Live Input
	Address current congestion on Sherman?	Live Input
	Is the project considering adding left turn lanes on Main Street at Chicago Avenue?	Live Input
	I request the congestion on Sherman and Elmwood near Nichols School be addressed. It's very congested in the mornings/evenings. Hard to drive down Lee Street. Sometimes, people/motorists don't have anywhere to go (some traffic involves Nichols School drop-offs and pick-ups at their events).	Written (from written comment #6)
	Design to slow traffic and discourage people driving distances less than 2 miles. This is an opportunity to change a business district from car-centric to more pedestrian, bike, and public transit-centric.	Written (from written comment #8)
	Design can affect people's behavior. Consider traffic signals allowing pedestrians to cross first, rather than having to wait for turning cars.	Written (from written comment #8)
Safety	There are three schools in the proximity of the project. Was pedestrian scramble considered?	Live Input
	Not many accidents – how much safety improvement is expected?	Written (from written comment #5)



Safety	<p>I request the congestion on Sherman and Elmwood near Nichols School be addressed. It's very congested in the mornings/evenings. Hard to drive down Lee Street. Sometimes, people/motorists don't have anywhere to go (some traffic involves Nichols School drop-offs and pick-ups at their events).</p>	<p>Written (from written comment #8)</p> <p>Written (from written comment #8)</p>
	<p>My main interest is the area around Park School. My son attends school there and it can get tough during drop-off or pick-up when there is a lot of traffic going by. The cross section is narrow so the cars going by get close to cars parked on either of the streets. This makes it feel less safe to open the car door and get our kids out. Plus, our kids are not always patient and well-controlled by nature and so we are managing our kids while we are checking for traffic or getting them in/out of the car. If you haven't come during drop-off (9am) or after school (3:15pm) to observe pick-up and drop-off, you might consider doing so.</p>	<p>Written (from written comment #10 submitted via e-mail)</p>
Truck Concerns	<p>Bump-outs are problematic for trucks. Existing turning radii are already tight.</p>	<p>Live Input</p>
	<p>Trucks delivering to businesses need turning space i.e. Evanston Lumber</p>	<p>Live Input</p>
	<p>Delivery truck turnaround issue on Main & Custer</p>	<p>Written (from written comment #4)</p>
	<p>Fix Truck Route!</p>	<p>Written (from written comment #4)</p>





Truck Concerns	Please put the truck route back on Oakton and off of Main Street – Main should be more of a pedestrian/shopping area	Written (from written comment #9)
Union Pacific/Metra/CTA Viaduct	Union Pacific and CTA to reduce eyesore.	Live Input
	I would love to see the Metra wall repainted, lots of chipping paint and cracks.	Written (from written comment #1)
	What kind of influence can the City use to have CTA & Metra improve, paint, and repair their rail bridges?	Written (from written comment #3)
	Vegetation of Metra embankment is dying- need for landscaping improvements to CTA bridge.	Written (from written comment #5)
	Address the Union Pacific Railroad bridge please.	Written (from written comment #6)
	Please remove the unused UP bridge just east of Custer	Written (from written comment #9)
Parking/Public Transit/Alleys	Possibilities for more bus routes/alternative transportation/car-bike sharing.	Live Input
	People from west clogging local parking.	Live Input
	Explain the parking lot at Hinman south of Main. (Permeable Pavers)	Live Input
	Please finish/pave the alley coming off Custer to the west, north of Main and the parking lot behind the post office.	Written (from written comment #9)
Sidewalk/ADA Concerns	Severe slope on Custer	Live Input
	More restaurant type businesses on the south side, consider wider sidewalk on south side.	Live Input
	Sidewalk continuation into Custer (side streets).	Live Input





Sidewalk/ADA Concerns	What about the impacts to water/sewer mains in regard to the vaulted sidewalk?	Live Input
	The sidewalks are in poor condition and it is the first impression people have as they get off the Metra.	Written (from written comment #1) Written (from written comment #1)
	Please address the dangerous sidewalk pitches at the southwest corner at Chicago & Main (at the newsstand) and Custer & Main (at the restaurant).	Written (from written comment #2)
	I understand that school staff, when they take the kids out into the community, run into uneven and narrow sidewalks making it difficult to walk the kids around. Improving the sidewalks to eliminate these features would be very helpful.	Written (from written comment #10 submitted via email)
	Steve, thank you for getting back to me so promptly. I took a quick look at the presentation on the City's page and it looks like you guys are on the right track- bump outs at corners and as much sidewalk width as we can get without losing too much parking on both sides of the street.	Written (from written comment #11 submitted via email)
Streetscape/Beautification	Businesses use sidewalk to display merchandise. Gardens obstruct views of business.	Live Input
	Consider Evanston's climate change, net zero by 2050. What about use this project to push for more climate action to show case?	Live Input
	Visually improve the neighborhood with gardens.	Live Input





Streetscape/Beautification	Public art or mural?	Live Input
	Funding for parking lot beautification?	Live Input
	I believe there should be design continuity around the south corner of Custer to the alley since the building extends almost to the alley.	Written (from written comment #1) Written (from written comment #1)
	Pave the Roadway!	Written (from written comment #3)
	Trees, trees, and more trees!	Written (from written comment #3)
	Very interested to hear your plans for street lighting.	Written (from written comment #3)
	What about public art and murals as part of project?	Written (from written comment #5)
	Vegetation of Metra embankment is dying- need for landscaping improvements to CTA bridge.	Written (from written comment #5)
	Opposed to climate related changes.	Written (from written comment #5)
	We're definitely lacking seating and outdoor dining opportunities in general, and I'd prioritize that over planting beds and green infrastructure if hard choices need to be made.	Written (from written comment #11 submitted via e-mail)
	Main & Custer	Severe slope on Custer.
Sidewalk continuation into Custer.		Live Input
What are the improvements for Custer Ave north of Main St considering the future town homes?		Written (from written comment #6)
What will happen to Post Office Mailboxes on corner of Custer & Main?		Written (from written comment #7)



Attendees:

Name:	Address:	City:	Representing:
Karen Christian	515 Main St #602	Evanston	Self
Clare T Ruen	812 Reba Pl	Evanston	Self
Shaun Chinsky	714 Main St	Evanston	Good's Picture Framing
Allan & Carla Price	700-708 Main St	Evanston	Self
Mike Karl	9516 Ridgeway Ave	Evanston	Self
Louise Rosenberg	704 Main St	Evanston	Cultivate Urban Rainforest
Paul Lindman	901 Hinman 4B	Evanston	Self
Jeff Balch		Evanston	Self
Dick Lanyon	1019 Mulford	Evanston	Self
Karen Taaffe	811 Chicago Ave	Evanston	Self
Alex Gouge		Evanston	Self
Don Wilson	1425 Main St	Evanston	Evanston 4 th Ward
Harris Miller	905 Sherman Ave	Evanston	Self
Katherine Gotsick	800 Chicago Ave, Ste 104	Evanston	British Collectibles
Rupert Krieg	911 Washington St	Evanston	Self
Susanne Ali	711 Main St	Evanston	Dave's Rock Shop
Ann & Ed Cipro	515 Main St # 305	Evanston	Self
Paul Chashoff	919 Forest Ave	Evanston	Self
Vickie Jacobsen	1027 Maple Ave	Evanston	Self, Go Evanston
Bakula Patel		Evanston	Self
Terry Straker	709 Main St	Evanston	Guitar Works, Ltd.
Scott Berstein	917 Elmwood Ave	Evanston	Self
Eric Ismond	860 Chicago Ave	Evanston	Chicago Main Newstand
Lauren Heckathorne	828 Main St	Evanston	Park School
Cecelia Wallin	703 Greenleaf	Evanston	Self, Go Evanston
Reuben Perelman	543 Florence	Evanston	Self
Melissa Wynne	1130 Hinman Ave	Evanston	Evanston 3 rd Ward
Pete DeJong	833 Sherman Ave	Evanston	Self
Mike Kelly	945 Maple	Evanston	Self
Anne Cordes		Evanston	Self
Barbara Miller		Evanston	Self, Go Evanston
Juanita Folt	515 Main St	Evanston	Self
Madelon Clyma	926 Judson	Evanston	Self
Eric Young	523 Chicago Ave	Evanston	Company/Organization





Corrie Fisher	818 Main St #2	Evanston	Self
Terri & Joe Klauke	703 Main St	Evanston	Virag Jewelers
Paul Whittaker	825 Main St	Evanston	Self
Gail Straus	900 Chicago Ave #302	Evanston	Self
Jill Anderson	828 Main St	Evanston	Park School
Craig Heckathorne	1316 Washington St	Evanston	Self
Christian Sorenson	1425 Cleveland St	Evanston	MWRDGC
Dave Stoneball		Evanston	City of Evanston
Michael Lock	1022 Harvard Terrace	Evanston	Self
Jon & Alyssa Newman	2141 Ridge Ave # 1A	Evanston	Self

Comments:

1

Name: Allan & Carla Price
Address: 700 Main Street, Evanston, IL 60202 (Owners of south corner of Main & Custer)
Phone: 847-475-2706
Email: candaproperties@aol.com

Comment:

I believe there should be design continuity around the south corner of Custer to the alley since the building extends almost to the alley. The sidewalks are in poor condition and it is the first impression people have as they get off the Metra. I would love to see the Metra wall repainted as well, lots of chipping paint and cracks.





2

Name: Mike Kelly
Address: 945 Maple Avenue, Evanston, IL 60202
Phone: 224-628-1943
Email:

Comment:

Please address the dangerous sidewalk pitches at the southwest corner at Chicago & Main (at the newsstand) and Custer & Main (at the restaurant).

3

Name: Ed & Ann Cipro
Address: 515 Main St. #305, Evanston, IL 60202
Phone: 443-915-0562
Email: edwardcipro@gmail.com

Comment:

- 1) Pave the Roadway!
- 2) What kind of influence can the City use to have CTA & Metra improve, paint, and repair their rail bridges?
- 3) Trees, trees, and more trees!
- 4) Very interested to hear your plans for street lighting.

4

Name: Ann Cipro
Address: 575 Main St. #305, Evanston, IL 60202
Phone: 410-409-9353
Email: ciprofam@gmail.com

Comment:

- 1) Delivery truck turnaround issue on Main & Custer
- 2) Fix Truck Route!





5

Name: Paul Whittaker
Address: 829 Main St. #210, Evanston, IL 60202
Phone: 773-791-9039
E-mail: grassroots

Comment:

- 1) What about public art and murals as part of project?
- 2) Vegetation of Metra embankment is dying- need for landscaping improvements to CTA bridge
- 3) Opposed to climate related changes
- 4) Not many accidents – how much safety improvement is expected?

6

Name: Harris Miller
Address: 905 Sherman Ave #35, Evanston, IL 60202
Phone: 847-275-4703
Email: h.miller211@sbcglobal.net

Comment:

- 1) I request the congestion on Sherman and Elmwood near Nichols School be addressed. It's very congested in the mornings/evenings. Hard to drive down Lee Street. Sometimes, people/motorists don't have anywhere to go (some traffic involves Nichols School drop-offs and pick-ups and their events).
- 2) Address the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge please.
- 3) What are the improvements for Custer Ave north of Main St considering the future town homes?
- 4) Bike route signs should be added on Main and perhaps Sherman.





7

Name: Terri Klauke, Virag Jewelers
Address: 703 Main St., Evanston, IL 60202
Phone: No Phone provided
Email: terriv131@gmail.com

Comment:

What will happen to Post Office Mailboxes on corner of Custer & Main?

8

Name: No name provided
Address: No address provided

Comment:

- 1) Design to slow traffic and discourage people driving distances less than 2 miles. This is an opportunity to change a business district from car-centric to more pedestrian, bike, and public transit-centric.
- 2) Design can affect people's behavior. Consider traffic signals allowing pedestrians to cross first, rather than having to wait for turning cars.





9

Name: Joe Klauke, Virag Jewelers
Address: 703 Main St., Evanston, IL 60202

Comment:

- 1) Please put the truck route back on Oakton and off of Main Street – Main should be more of a pedestrian/shopping area.
- 2) Please finish/pave the alley coming off Custer to the west, north of Main and the parking lot behind the post office.
- 3) Please remove the unused UP bridge just west of Custer.

10

Name: Aimee King
Address: No address provided
E-Mail: aimeeking23@yahoo.com

Comment:

SUBMITTED VIA E-MAIL

Hi, Steve. Thanks for the link and the opportunity to comment. My main interest is the area around Park School. My son attends school there and it can get tough during drop off or pick up when there is a lot of traffic going by. The cross section is narrow so the cars going by get close to cars parked on either of the streets. This makes it feel less safe to open the car door and get our kids out. Plus, our kids are not always patient and well-controlled by nature and so we are managing our kids while we are checking for traffic or getting them in/out of the car. If you haven't come during drop off (9am) or after school (3:15pm) to observe pick up and drop off, you might consider doing so.

Additionally, I understand that school staff, when they take the kids out into the community, run into uneven and narrow sidewalks making it difficult to walk the kids around. Improving the sidewalks to eliminate these features would be very helpful.





11

Name: Mike Kritzman
Address: No address provided
Phone: 312-467-5445 x 212
Email: mkritzman@thelakotagroup.com

Comment:

SUBMITTED VIA E-MAIL

Steve, thank you for getting back to me so promptly. I took a quick look at the presentation on the City's page and it looks like you guys are on the right track – bump outs at corners and as much sidewalk width as we can get without losing too much parking on both sides of the street.

We're definitely lacking seating and outdoor dining opportunities in general, and I'd prioritize that over planting beds and green infrastructure if hard choices need to be made. In any case, I look forward to seeing what you come up with next, keep up the good work!

12

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

Comment:

