



Infrastructure Task Force Minutes

May 24th, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Hosted by UI Labs, 1415 N Cherry Street

Updates on Requests & Projects

1. Damen-Elston- Fullerton intersection Improvement Project (**CDOT**)
 - Completion date: July 31, 2017
 - Landscaping completion: October 2017
 - Current work zone: S. Fullerton / W. Damen
 - Elston between Winchester and Fullerton currently closed for construction, but on schedule.

2. Western Ave. Improvement Project (**CDOT**)
 - Completion date: end of July/early August
 - Spans Logan to Waveland
 - Servicing 1st section beginning tomorrow (5/25)

3. Division St Bridges & Overall Division St. Improvement Project (**CDOT**) - Status of both Division St bridge reconstruction projects & Left turn signal for east bound Division St. turning left onto N. bound Elston
 - Includes 2 bridge removals, widened lanes (involving property acquisition in phase 2).
 - Phase 1 – Engineering – completion by end of 2017
 - Phase 2 – Engineering – completion by 3rd quarter of 2019
 - Phase 3 – Construction – beginning end of 2019, completion August 2021.
 - Funding phase 1 and 2: TIF (tentative), funding not determined for phase 3 construction.
 - During construction: there will be a temporary bridge, 1 lane of traffic in each direction, no detour.
 - There will be a traffic signal added at Hickory & Division

4. Chicago Ave Bridge Replacement (**CDOT**) - schedule for the Chicago Ave Bridge reconstruction.
 - Remove and replace Chicago Ave. bridge and viaduct
 - Phase 1 – Engineering – completion by end of 2017
 - Phase 2 – Engineering – completion Dec. 2018
 - Phase 3 – Construction – beginning mid-2019, completion Dec. 2020
 - Funding: TIF (tentative).

5. 4-way stop sign request on Kingsbury & Evergreen (**Ward 27**)
 - Currently fabricating the stop sign and surveying the area to schedule installation
 - Completion by end of 2017 (hopefully sooner).

6. Stop sign at Cherry/ Blackhawk & Cherry/Hickory (**Ward 27**)
 - Currently fabricating the stop sign and surveying the area to schedule installation
 - Completion by end of 2017 (hopefully sooner).



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7. Railroad at Blackhawk / Cherry Street tracks under maintained (**CTRR, CDOT**)
 - Weed maintenance ~1 month ago, will have weed-whacker and weed sprayer returning soon.
 - Replaced and fixed track
 - Successfully sent rail car through, line is open.
 - General Iron will be shipping some scraps using the railroad.
8. Fence along railroad at North Ave and Kingsbury (**CTRR/Iowa Pacific**)
 - Added blacktop and leveled on North Ave. in April, will continue to monitor
9. Continuous issue of large pot holes with rebar sticking out on Cherry Ave. from Division south. (**CTRR, CDOT and Ward 27**)
 - Holes were filled.
10. Resurfacing Mendell Street between Cortland & Homer (**CDWM, Ward 2, Mendell St Lofts**)
 - Madden Sewage & Drainage – Private entity responsible
 - Citation issued to Madden for not restoring to city code
 - CDOT will communicate with CDWM moving forward
11. Signage above unused RR tracks for safety purposes: Photos of RR and curb as safety issue on Goose Island (**Wrigley, CDOT**)
 - 3 Reflective, flexible posts were recommended by CDOT and will be installed
12. Blackhawk Street connection, potential to repurpose the Division Street bridge as a pedestrian bridge across Blackhawk once they install the new four-lane bridge at Division in 2018 (**R2, CDOT**)
 - Low feasibility: clearance issues, ~\$10 million project.
 - Debate over whether moving the bridge would lessen traffic (CDOT & Mars)
 - CDOT will improve traffic signals
 - Suggestion for a hatch pattern to be painted in intersection with correlating citation penalties.
 - Goose Island tenants would like to continue the conversation about potential for a Blackhawk bridge through a study

New Projects

1. Chicago Water Taxi (CWT) stop at North Ave/Sheffield open for the season as of Tuesday May 30th, 2017. (**Wendella**)
 - Season will run through the end of September
 - 8 stops per day between 6am-6pm
 - Future plans to expand service April – October and to add additional stop.
 - Corporate perks are available for partnering businesses to promote to employees.
2. Traffic Signals at North Branch/Division and Elston/Division get out of phase regularly, causing severe congestion on Goose Island. Proposing a proactive reset for phase quarterly. (**Lauren, CDOT**)
 - Traffic Signals reset this week
 - Unsure about automated reset option; contact Lauren if traffic signals seem out of sync and she will contact CDOT to reset the phase.



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3. Flooding on Campbell just north of Belmont (**Metropolis Coffee, CDWM, CDOT, Ward 47**)
 - "Rain water collects in the drains behind the shopping center on Western and significantly floods the right lane of Campbell (heading toward Western). That lane becomes virtually unusable and cars are forced to drive into the opposite lane to be able to pass. This can become particularly treacherous because the flooded area also corresponds with a curve where Campbell turns into Roscoe. This situation provides conditions that could result in a head-on collision."
 - Catch basins were cleaned on the whole street by CDWM, flooding should be alleviated now
 - Coordinating with S&S for added sweeping. Lauren has reached out to the Alderman's office about surveying the street sweeping

The North Branch Corridor Infrastructure Task Force was created to facilitate improved communication and decision-making on public infrastructure & transit investments in the North Branch, Addison and Kennedy Industrial Corridors to benefit local industry and businesses that supports the movement of goods and services, workers and residents in the area. The Infrastructure Task Force focuses on transit, major capital infrastructure investment and advocacy to create an industrial corridor that is safe, accessible and functional, competitive and marketable, manageable and attractive. The Infrastructure Task Force is staffed by North Branch Works and key staff from the Chicago Department of Transportation, the Department of Planning & Development, the Office of Emergency Management and Communication and the Chicago Transit Authority with participation by local Aldermanic offices.