

### **TranSystems**

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# Randall Road (FAP 336) CR V29

County Line Road to Ackman Road Section: 06-00329-01-PW Village of Algonquin Kickoff Meeting March 19, 2014 11:00 a.m.

# Minutes of Meeting

#### Attendees:

John Schmitt, Village President
Tim Schloneger, Village Manager
Russell Farnum, Community Development Director
Michael Kumbera, Assistant Village Manager
Brian Fairwood, TranSystems (TS)
Todd Bright, TranSystems (TS)

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the public outreach team and provide a project status update to the Village.

### Introductions

Brain Fairwood (TS) and Ashley Newton (BLA) are leading the public outreach effort. They will function as a conduit between the public and design engineers. Ashley was unable to attend the meeting. Todd Bright (TS) is the senior project manager.

#### **Project Status**

The design team began working on the project in the middle of February 2014. They are taking a fresh look at what was originally proposed during preliminary engineering (Phase 1). Initial tasks have been reviewing existing studies, public outreach, and validating traffic forecasts.

### **Public Outreach Efforts**

The week of March 11, 2014 project update letters and flyers were mailed to all property owners along the corridor. This same information was also hand delivered to each tenant between Bunker Hill and Acorn. By the end of the month all tenants between County Line and Ackman should have received this information. The Village asked to accompany the outreach team when the remaining tenants were approached and given flyers. The improvement update flyer was also emailed to all listed on the Phase 1 contact list.

#### Caputo's Meeting Summary

In response to a letter sent to the County by Nat Caputo on March 5, 2014, the outreach team met with four representatives at the store on March 17, 2017. Both Nat and Vito Caputo were very active participants in the meeting. About 90 minutes was spent reviewing the project alternatives and issues and concerns related to the operations of their store. It was stressed that the design team was taking a new look at the project from every perspective including traffic, safety, access and internal circulation. In general they were concerned over the



impacts to their access related to the Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) alternative. Dave, the store manager, questioned why we were reaching out to them, since the CFI was a done deal. We reiterated that the exact intersection type has not been finalized.

The Caputo's store currently has 5 access points (two on Randall and three on Algonquin); only one of these is a full access driveway (middle access point on Algonquin). They stressed the importance of this full access and requested that it remain that way with the proposed improvements. They also wanted to keep the NB left turn access from Randall at Stonegate. They understood that they may lose the access points along Algonquin and Randall closest to the intersection which are currently right-in and right-out only and they seemed to be fine with eliminating or altering the access at these entrances.

Mr. Bright showed exhibits for both the CFI alternative and traditional alternative to illustrate that there were similar access impacts with both alternatives and not just the CFI. It was noted that the type of intersection is unknown at this time. The potential CFI concept was explained so the Caputo's could better understand how it would operate.

The internal traffic circulation between businesses was discussed. The Caputo's would like to work with the design team to develop a better defined access roadway for their property off of Stonegate north to their property line and west to the back of their store for deliveries. They would be amenable to restriping their lot for these improvements. They did emphasize that they do not want vehicles driving behind their store which would interfere with deliveries. They have multiple semi-trailer deliveries on a daily basis and safety is a major concern.

Lastly they were interested in improving visibility and signage. It was noted that they did not feel good about the potential loss of the gas station, but it would make their store more visible.

Overall they were very appreciative of the opportunity to meet with the design team to voice their concerns. The noted that this was not done during Phase 1. We committed to meeting with them again when we are further along with the alternatives. Draft and Final minutes will be sent to the Village.

As a side note they indicated that they sent their letter to the County in part due to LITH representatives stopping by to "bash" the project.

## **Future Outreach**

The outreach team indicated that they were available as a resource for the Village. The Village indicated that they would like the team to be present at a future meeting with representatives from the Jewel/River Pointe shopping center. The owner is Monte Strusiner (847) 564-5740 and the property manager is Dave Hene (630) 948-6076. At this time the Village did not feel a meeting with Gander Mountain would be required.

The Village stressed the importance of discussing the improvements with the decision makers. Educating realtors representing vacant parcels and releasing fact based press releases could serve to clarify the process and proposed improvements. Some in the public believe that lefts will no longer be allowed and that the McDonalds building is being demolished.

Several Village of Algonquin trustees may like to meet with the new design team, including Debby Sosine and Jerry Glogowski. Also consider meeting with the LITH president and trustees to present new ideas and willingness to work with the community. This could be done at board meetings.



Future land use concept plans may be beneficial for both the Villages of Algonquin and LITH. These concepts could identify opportunities. It was noted that the vacant five acre parcel south of the AMC Theaters was recently up for auction but did not sell. A three story senior living center was being considered at this location.

### Traffic

New traffic information is a focus, as it will be used to reevaluate the Randall and Algonquin intersection. Preliminary modeling should be completed by the end of May. President Schmitt would like to meet again in June to review the findings. He also asked that interim staged intersection improvements be considered. Build what is needed for the near future without excluding the ultimate long term design.

If a CFI is determined to be the best intersection type, preparing a drive through video or model would be beneficial for the community and stakeholders to understand the proposed improvements.

#### Access

The Village indicated that NB and SB lefts from Randall at Stonegate were critical. Equally important was the WB left from Algonquin into the Jewel. It would be difficult for the Village to support any improvements that did not accommodate these movements.

Mr. Bright noted that both the conventional and CFI intersection concepts, as originally proposed during Phase 1, do not allow these movements. The design team is reevaluating these access points. The most difficult movement to maintain would be the SB left. Many options are being explored, including triple lefts along Algonquin.

## Utilities

It was noted that many utilities are present along the corridor. The Bunker Hill at Randall intersection is very congested. A new pedestrian overpass crossing Randall has been designed and will be constructed soon. The Village expended a considerable amount of resources for ComEd facilities to be placed underground. The Village would not support any project if this condition changed.

#### Schedule

The type of intersection at Randall and Algonquin should be decided by the end of the year. Design plans will be prepared in 2015. The earliest construction could begin is 2016. This schedule is dependent on funding and property acquisition.

#### Action Items

Send the Village minutes from the Caputo's meeting.

Contact the Village when the remaining project update flyers are being distributed.

Attend future meetings with the Village, as needed.

The meeting ended at 12:15 p.m.

By: Todd Bright, P.E.