

Community Advisory Group

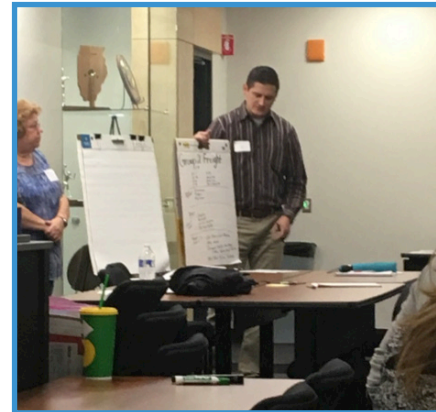
Meeting #1 October 10, 2017

- Overview of the study area and the road network
- Focus of the study and project schedule
- Problem Statement workshop



Meeting #2 November 14, 2017

- Results of the Community Context Audit/Survey
- Presentation and comments to the draft Problem Statement
- Purpose and Needs
- Alternatives Analysis Evaluation Criteria Workshop



Meeting #3 March 15, 2018

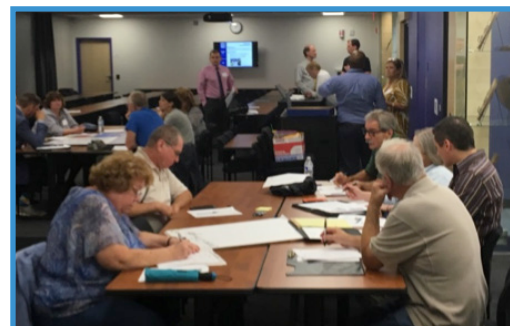
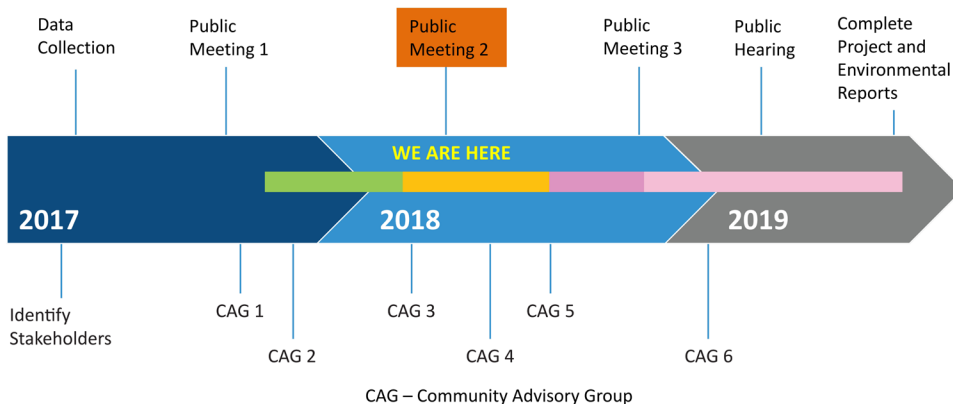
- Problem Statement finalized
- Alternatives Analysis Criteria review
- Alternatives Analysis Process Workshop
- Alternatives Analysis comments

Public Meeting #1 September 14, 2017

- Presented the study process and schedule
- Defined the project study area
- Gathered public input



Project Schedule



I-55 at IL 59 Access Project



JOLIET

PUBLIC MEETING #2

Joliet Junior College

April 11, 2018

4:00 to 7:00 PM

Purpose of tonight's public meeting:

- Summarize the initial public meeting
- Overview of the Community Advisory Group work
- Present the Purpose & Need Statement
- Discuss the Alternatives Analysis Process
- Receive feedback on Alternative Concepts



The Focus of this Study is to:

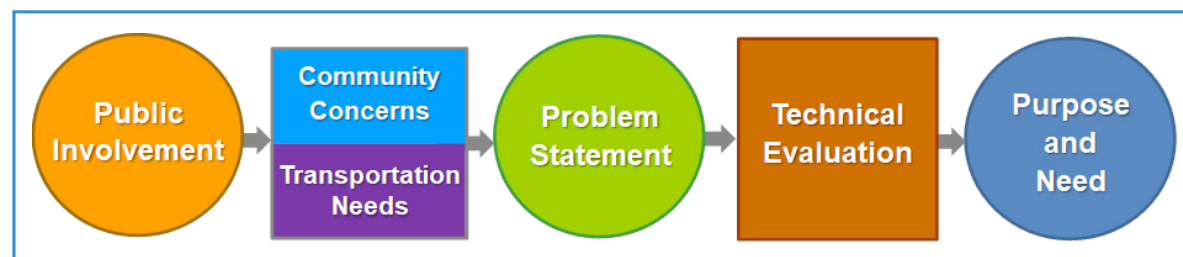
- Identify transportation and safety issues
- Develop alternatives to address these transportation and safety issues
- Evaluate impacts associated with each alternative
- Refine alternatives best meeting project needs
- Recommend a preferred alternative

Problem Statement

Interstate 55 (I-55) is a north-south interstate that is a vital transportation facility for the greater Chicago area. The I-55 at IL 59 Access project study area includes the following surrounding land uses: residential, commercial, industrial/warehousing, institutional, forest preserve, agricultural and open space/parklands.

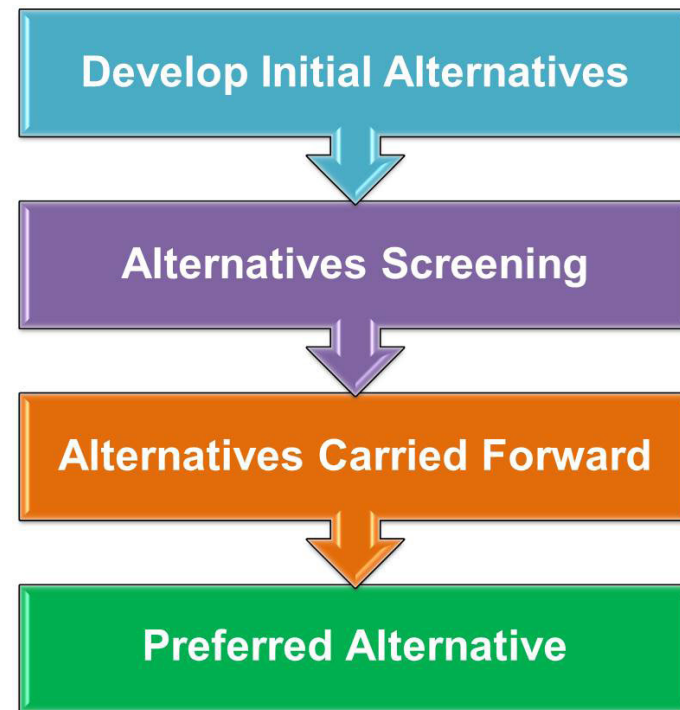
The transportation problems along I-55, from I-80 to US 52, and local routes integral to I-55 to be solved by this project include traffic congestion, high truck traffic in residential areas, safety, multi-modal transportation, lack of connectivity and access. The existing partial access of IL 59 at I-55, to and from the south only, restricts the regional connectivity needed for the economic viability of the study area. Furthermore, the limited connectivity of existing local roadways within the study area contributes to the following: traffic congestion, heavy truck traffic on local roadways and the responsiveness of first responders to emergencies within the study area.

Solutions should consider the quality of life and community character as well as minimize impacts to sensitive environment resources. Coordination among adjacent communities and governing bodies is essential in the development of a project, which best benefits the region. The incorporation of bicycle and pedestrian facilities should also be considered where possible to provide better connectivity for the purpose of commuting and recreation.



Alternatives Analysis Are Prepared:

- To provide an efficient and safe travel route/system
- To address needs defined within the purpose and need



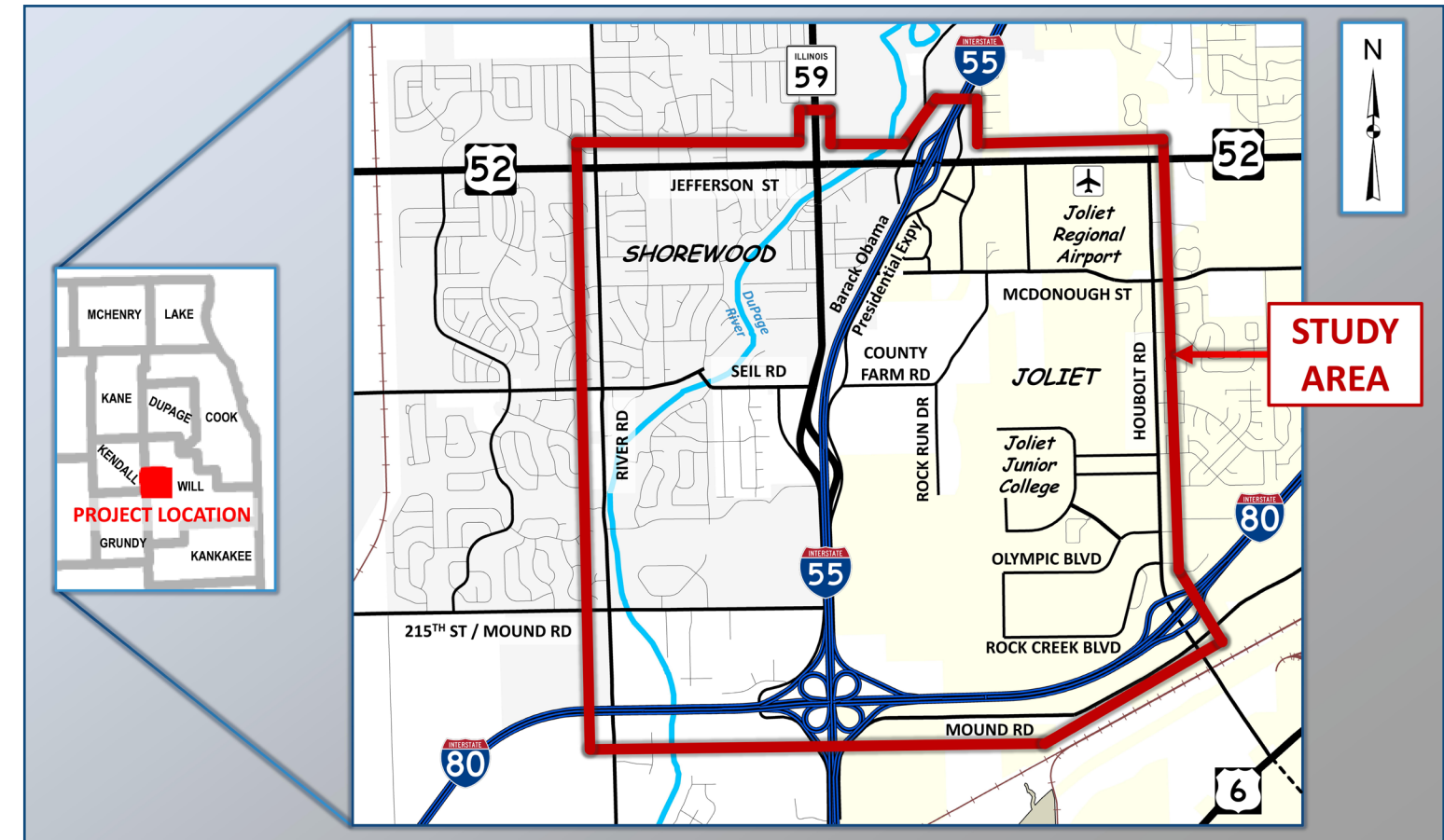
Project Purpose

The purpose of the project is to provide a safe and efficient transportation facility for both interstate travel along I-55, and for the regional and local roadway network accommodated by and affected by access to and from I-55 for the existing and the future transportation needs. This will be accomplished by improving regional mobility and local connectivity and system linkage. Inherent with such improvements is the enhancement and connectivity of existing bike/pedestrian accommodations, while either avoiding or minimizing impacts to multiple and sensitive environmental and community resources.

Project Need

The project is needed to improve regional mobility and local connectivity and system linkage. The project need has been defined by review of technical data as well as an early and strong stakeholder involvement process.

Project Location Map



NEPA Policy

This I-55 Phase I Study will be performed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. NEPA is the federal law which outlines policies to identify, evaluate and consider the environment and the effects any improvement will have on it.

The NEPA process also includes evaluation of impacts to potential historic resources. Within the project study area, an airport hangar built in the 1930's is located at the Joliet Airport, and is listed in the National Registry Of Historic Places.

Study elements to be evaluated relative to the NEPA policy include:

- Socio Economics
- Air and Noise
- Farmlands
- Parklands
- Water Resources
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Cultural and Archaeological Resources



Project Phases

Phase I

Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study
Currently Funded

Phase II

Contract Plan Preparation and Land Acquisition
Not Currently Funded

Phase III

Construction
Not Currently Funded