

MEETING MINUTES  
CALUMET-SAG TRAIL CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
Informational Meeting

**Project:** Calumet-Sag Trail  
**Location:** City of Blue Island  
**Meeting Date:** February 26, 2009

A preproposal information meeting was held at the City of Blue Island to give a brief history of the project and to answer any questions regarding the Request For Proposal. Those that were present to give the presentation and to answer questions consisted of the following:

Mary Poulsen	City of Blue Island
Michael Leonard	City of Palos Heights
Jeannette Huber	Alsip Park District
Diane Banta	National Park Service
David Landeweer	URS

The following is a summary of the discussion that occurred.

URS has begun Phase 1 Engineering for the development of a bike trail along the Calumet-Sag Channel from Illinois Route 83 on the west to the Burnham Greenway Trail on the east. Federal money has been obtained by the City of Palos Heights and the City of Blue Island to perform both Phase 1 and Phase 2 Engineering for the project. While those agencies are the lead agencies for the west and east halves of the project, eight other agencies are also part of the project through the signing of Intergovernmental Agreements. In addition, the City of Blue Island recently obtained additional federal dollars for the Calumet-Sag Trail Project in the amount of \$261,748. The initial idea for the use of this additional money was to use it to design and install wayfinding and interpretative signage the length of the trail. However, through various discussions among the agencies, a more appropriate idea would be to use the money as described in this current Request for Proposal.

The major focus of this current RFP is to make the proposed trail a destination trail with a regional identity and to provide for continuity along the entire length of the trail. Focus groups will be established in each participating community to determine the desired public amenities. Specific public spaces have not been identified, however, some general locations are shown as places of interest on the exhibits that are part of the RFP.

The final product for this work will be conceptual plans with construction cost estimates. Bid document preparation is not part of this project. The IDOT/FHWA process will need to be followed. Based on a previous meeting with IDOT, no Project Development Report will be needed. The environmental review will be done as part of the trail project. However, this will all need to be verified through the review process with IDOT.

Topographic survey is currently being performed as part of the trail project. This survey will be available for use by the selected consultant. If additional survey is needed, it will be provided by URS.

The alignment of the trail has been set on the west end of the project, up to 127<sup>th</sup> Street. The corridor of the trail east of 127<sup>th</sup> Street is not yet finalized at several locations. It is expected that the alignment for the east end will be set by sometime this summer.

While the Forest Preserve District of Cook County will be a part of this project from the standpoint of having a common theme and signage, they will not be implementing any additional features or public amenities.

The agencies will likely shortlist and interview several firms prior to selection. Other agencies that are involved with this project include Friends of the Cal-Sag Trail, the National Park Service, and the Active Transportation Alliance. However, those and other similar agencies will not be involved with the selection of the consultant.

The selected consultant will sign an agreement with the City of Blue Island. Due to the use of federal funds, the IDOT/FHWA process will need to be followed. The scope of work, hours, and cost will be reviewed and approved by the agencies as well as IDOT. It is anticipated that the signed agreement will occur prior to August of this year. Once Notice to Proceed is received from IDOT, completion of the project will be no later than eight months from that point.