BEFORE THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS of individual

WILSON TRANSFER STATION)

PUBLIC HEARING - ENVIRONMENTAL)

AND SECTION 4(f) EVALUATION)

IN THE MATTER OF:

6:30 p.m.

speakers held at Table 1, taken in the

above-entitled matter, taken before STEVEN

BRICKEY, CSR, a notary public within and for the

County of Cook and State of Illinois, at 900 West

Wilson, Chicago, Illinois, on the 18th day of

February, A.D., 2014, scheduled to commence at

MR. LONGHINI: Good evening. I want to thank you all for coming out tonight. My name is Greg Longhini. I'm the secretary to the Board for the Chicago Transit Authority and thank you for coming out tonight. Luckily we didn't have last night's weather tonight. Before we begin the presentation that Jeff Wilson, our Government Community Relations Officer, and Carol Morey, our Chief Planning Officer, are going to make in a few minutes I just want to introduce our Spanish interpreter.

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MR. MONTIEL: Good evening. I'm Omar Montiel, the interpreter Spanish language vice versa.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you. And also our sign language interpreter Stephanie is here as well if anybody needs assistance. Heather, you'll need assistance and we will certainly accommodate you with that. So, with that, I'm going to turn this over to Jeff Wilson from our GCR staff to explain why we're here tonight.

MR. WILSON: I wasn't going to use this. Can everybody hear me in the back or do you want me to use the microphone?

Page 3 1 THE AUDIENCE: Use the microphone. 2 MR. WILSON: I want to welcome 3 everybody to -- is this working? 4 MR. LONGHINI: Yes. 5 MR. WILSON: Okay. I want to 6 welcome everybody to the Environmental Assessment 7 meeting for the Wilson Transfer Station Project. 8 It is great to see so many faces in the audience. 9 So the purpose of this meeting 10 is we're going to talk about the Environmental 11 Assessment, but I wanted to say how critical it is 12 for everybody to put in their comments. So, with 13 that, I wanted to talk to you about what is an Environmental Assessment. 14 15 An Environmental Assessment 16 evaluates potential impacts to the community's 17 natural environment and historic resources that 18 may result from the project, describes and 19 compares the project to the existing environmental 20 setting, analyzes the potential effects of 2.1 construction and operation of the project, 22 proposes ways to reduce or eliminate potential 23 negative effects. 24 The preservation of historic

1 properties. A class of federally funded projects. 2 Historic properties analyzed: The Uptown Square 3 Historic District, Uptown Broadway Building and the considerations to determine affects on 4 5 historic properties. The purpose and need, cost, affects on the community, environment and other 6 historic resources. Identify and analyze ways to 8 avoid affecting historic properties. So what have 9 we heard from you so far? The October 2012 public meeting, 10 a modern facility with improved amenities making 11 12 the station more accessible and safe and 13 preserving the historic character of the Uptown 14 community. The Section 106 consulting parties 15 meeting we learned that the Sunnyside exit what would the entrance/exit look like? How would 16 17 pedestrian circulation work? We also heard that

we wanted to hear from you about the restoration of the Gerber Building to improve appearance and to attract development. Safe pedestrian

connections around the station on Broadway and Wilson.

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In response, the EA and design include renderings of the Sunnyside access to show

1 appearance and pedestrian circulation, over a 2 hundred security cameras, improved lighting around 3 the station, ramps, elevators and accessible fare 4 gates, a restored Gerber Building at 4620 North 5 Broadway for economic development, reduce the number of columns on the street and sidewalks and 6 7 the esthetic improvements under the L south of 8 Wilson Avenue. Analysis of historic resources, 9 expanded area of analysis and consulting parties, conducted five consulting parties meetings between 10 January and September of 2013. Without further 11 12 adieu, I want to introduce Carol Morey, who is our 13 planning --MS. MOREY: Chief Planning Officer. 14 15 MR. WILSON: Chief Planning Officer. 16 She just got promoted. Carol, thank you. 17 MS. MOREY: Thank you, Jeff. want to talk a little bit about some of the 18 19 benefits of the project to the community. As Jeff 20 said, we had a public meeting in October of 2012. 2.1 We had five consulting parties meetings between 22 January and September of 2013 and we heard what 23 you had to say and incorporated that into the 24 design and into the Environmental Assessment.

first of all, if you're a transit rider, you're going to see a more comfortable, larger facility, better lit. You're going to see accessibility, two elevators in the main station house which will be on the southside of Wilson. You'll have accessible fare gates. There will be a ramp on the Sunnyside side. So that will be an accessible entrance as well. So two of the entrances will be accessible, braille signage and full ADA compliance.

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We'll have two 26-foot wide platforms when you go up the escalator from the main station house, which will accommodate transfers between the Red and Purple Lines. More than one hundred security cameras. We heard your concerns about security. So the lighting and the security cameras will address those issues and the Sunnyside entrance will also allow for a connection between the southside of Wilson, the Montrose side, and the community.

The project is also designed to provide economic benefits to the community. So in addition to the construction jobs that will be generated by the project, we're going to be

1 restoring the Gerber Building to attract retail. So that involves a full restoration of the terra 2 3 cotta. It involves restoration of the original 4 clock tower, which is not there at this point. 5 So, you know, we re-created it essentially from 6 photos. We're also going to have fewer track columns at the street level, which will provide 8 for better views of buildings in the area. 9 The project is also going to benefit the visual environment. Again, the 10 11 restoration of the Gerber Building, the 12 elimination of the track columns as well as the 13 restoration of the facade of the Majestic Menswear 14 Store. Overall, we'll be replacing what is now 15 dilapidated infrastructure with brand new 16 infrastructure. The project will also benefit the 17 street environment. As you can see out on 18 Broadway, there is a lot of columns in the street. Sort of a forest of columns there. It makes for a 19 20 difficult traffic pattern. It makes it difficult 2.1 for bicyclists. It also makes it difficult for 22 pedestrians. So in the new configuration, there 23 will be no columns in the street.

Let's talk about what the

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project will not affect. It is not going to affect any existing or planned land uses; it is not going to create an additional noise, at least on a permanent basis; it is not going to affect air quality; energy use; it is not going to have a despaired impact on any minority or low income populations and during construction there will be no impacts to air quality; hazardous materials; or safety and security.

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The project will have some impacts. During construction, pedestrian activities will be somewhat curtailed due to sidewalk closures during construction. This is necessary for safety reasons and there will also be bike and traffic lane closures during construction. To mitigate this, we'll be getting construction permits and we'll be notifying the public of our construction schedule and we'll be working very closely with the alderman's office on that outreach.

There is also an impact to the Uptown Square Historic District. So there are certain resources within the Uptown Square Historic District that are affected. The Gerber

Building, the Majestic Menswear Store as well as the track structure itself, which is considered a historic structure.

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So in order to mitigate this we have an agreement with the FTA and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency for compatible design and construction. So there is a memorandum of understanding that reflects our agreement with respect to those elements. And then near Leland and Clifton, there is an impact vibration after construction which we are required to mitigate and we'll be doing this by modifying the column foundation and placement as well as temporary construction noise and vibration affecting the Uptown Recording Studio and 1110 and 1116 West Leland. We'll be using construction materials and methods to eliminate or minimize noise and vibration and we'll also be notifying the public of construction operations and the schedule.

So if you had an opportunity to look at the EA or view the boards in the back, you will have seen one column placement, but we did want to show you the current column placement on Broadway that is in the bid set. So if you looked

at the one in the EA, you would have seen a column right about here which has now been eliminated and what we did -- there was a column here which has been pushed out to a bump out in the sidewalk. You would have also seen a column right about here which has been pushed out to here to a bump out in the sidewalk and then you would have also seen a column here which has been eliminated. So the EA tells you that we've reduced the number of columns in the street from 31 to 10. Actually, we've now gone down to 8. So a great reduction in the number of columns in the street.

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So, in short, we're here to talk about the preferred alternatives, which we believe is the design which has the least overall affect on the Uptown Square Historic District, but which also meets the project's purpose and need and provides the benefits to the community and some renderings with respect to the preferred alternative so we see the wide and modern platforms 26-foot wide, similar to what you see at Fullerton and Belmont, to allow the transfers between Red and Purple. You see an open Wilson Avenue, a safe and secure and prominent station

entrance on the south of Wilson as well as the enhanced visual environment.

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So next steps if you don't have the opportunity or don't want to give comments tonight, we'll be accepting written comments through 4:30 p.m. on February 26th. We'll review and respond to comments for input in the final environmental decision document, which we expect to be issued by the FTA in the Spring of 2014 and the final environmental decision document allows the project to begin construction using federal funds. And now I'd like to turn the mic over to Greg Longhini to start our public comment.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, Carol.

Before we -- I just want to follow up on a few things that Carol just said. As Carol just said, we are accepting comments through 4:30 p.m. on February 26th, 2014. You can e-mail us at wilsontransferstation@transitchicago.com or you can send US mail to the Wilson Transfer Station Project in care of the CTA at 567 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661.

So we will accept comments through February 26th at 4:30 p.m. I also ask

everybody to please silence your cellphones for the remainder of this evening. Before we begin taking public comment, there are a few things I'd like to say to lay out the ground rules tonight.

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Anybody who wishes to speak tonight please sign in at the front desk and get a card and we'll call you up by the color of your cards. If you don't -- we're going to limit all speaking to three minutes and I have a stopwatch on me and at two minutes and forty-five seconds I will ask you to please start wrapping up your comments at three minutes.

As Jeff had mentioned, the purpose of tonight's meeting is as he mentioned the Environmental Assessment. So there's a lot of comments that one would make about the CTA. We certainly know that, those of us that ride it every day as well. That is not the purpose of this meeting. We have staff here in the back from various departments that can answer any questions or you could contact the customer service line.

If somebody does not wish to speak for those three minutes, but wishes to provide comment, we have a second court reporter

in the back. That is Lori who is raising her hand right now. So if somebody has a lot they want to say, they want to get off their chest. You can go back and see Lori. She is a court reporter and will take it down. She does not have a three minute timeline like we do. So I mentioned that second one. So before I ask you for your comments I'm going to ask the 46th Ward Alderman James Cappleman, my alderman, who would like to say a few words.

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MR. CAPPLEMAN: Thank you. Thank
you so much. I want to say the very first
conversation I had with Mayor Rahm Emanuel he said
"Okay, Cappleman. You got one wish. What do you
wish for?" And I told him -- I said "I would wish
that we could rehab the Uptown Theater, but the
Uptown Theater is in the 48th Ward." Actually, it
was in the 48th Ward. It is now in the 46th Ward.

So I said "My wish is, if I could have a wish, was to have three wishes. No."

My wish was I really wanted to focus on what the ULI study had back in 2000, the Urban Land Institute, and that was we need -- this ward desperately needs the rehab of the Wilson L and

the mayor was already -- he knew that is something that needed to happen. He was certainly glad to hear that I was strongly, strongly focused on having the rehab of the Wilson L, the outcome of that, and the Mayor's Office and the CTA and our Governor Quinn and Senator Durbin there has been so much work done behind the scenes and this has just gone way past our wildest expectations.

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None of us would have guessed this when the announcement was made and I still remember it very clearly, Jeff as well, October 2011 when we made the formal announcement, but then the day before that announcement was made I was at some other event and the mayor was -- the speaker and the mayor just kind of ran over to me and gave me a high five and said "You're not going to believe this. I got you \$200 million for the Wilson L." And I remember I didn't think I heard him right. I wasn't -- it wasn't registering and when he said it, it just blew me away.

This Wilson L is going to be so pivotal because a lot of -- this is going to spur more economic development and there is always -- there has already been a lot of buzz happening

about economic development, which we desperately need because we desperately need those jobs in this community. So it is so important that we get this right and I'm very impatient, the mayor is actually more impatient than I am and every time I see the mayor he always -- without question always says something about the Wilson L. This is something he is very, very excited about as all of you are as well.

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So we're going to make sure we get this done right. It is going to be a lot of work. Another reason why it is so important to get this done correctly because when we did our ward master plan we discovered that 45 percent of our residents here do not own cars. How many of you do not own a car in this room? I'm one of them. Two years ago I got rid of mine. Best thing I ever did and all the more reason why we have to have a CTA that works well for us. So this is our chance to make sure it is done right. So, with that, I'll turn it over.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, Alderman.

MR. CAPPLEMAN: Thank you.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you very much.

When you came in and signed in, you were given a color card. We try to have people speak -- the people who come in first get to speak first and then on and on. So the blue cards are the first two speakers and our first two speakers we have two up front here so we're going to start with Heather Armstrong. Heather?

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MS. ARMSTRONG: Good evening, everyone. Thank you, Alderman, for commenting on that because it is very important that we fix the They could have made -- fixed it 25 years system. ago in 1990 when President Bush signed it into They could have made this -- these stations wheelchair -- Red Line wheelchair accessible including the Blue Line, too, because one thing I'm disabled and it was hard for me to -- it is hard for me to get up and down stairs. It is hard for me to get up and down stairs and now they're doing something about it now. Okay. They're doing something about it now. This is good. Now, they're doing something about it, but they should have done something about it in 1990. When the -but I actually like it that they're finally doing something about it. They should have done

1 something when Metra did something about it.
2 That's it.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, Heather.

MR. CAPPLEMAN: As the CTA -- Jeff

Wilson mentioned. If you want to keep updated,

6 the way to keep updated is what we've learned in

7 | the 46th Ward is residents like good

8 | communication. So every week we send out a

9 | newsletter. We're going to send out a newsletter

10 tomorrow. That's my commitment. Every week. So

11 if you have not yet signed up for it, just go to

12 james46th.org. You can just Google James 46 and

13 then you can sign up for the newsletter. That way

you can get updates especially with the Wilson L.

15 Greq, that's it.

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MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, Alderman.

17 One more thing I forgot to mention at the very

beginning. Hold on, Garland. We will not be

19 answering questions or responding to questions

20 | verbally tonight. All comments will be

21 acknowledged and responded to. All comments will

be acknowledged and all questions will be answered

23 by writing, which we have to do, so you will

24 | receive it in writing. So hopefully when you sign

up I've got your name when you speak, we've got your address where you live and we'll respond in writing. So I just want to make sure I was clear about that. Just like our budget hearing and many other hearings and our public comment at the Board meeting we will not be responding verbally to any comments or questions. Thank you. Garland?

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MR. ARMSTRONG: Good evening. I'm Garland Armstrong from Elmwood Park along with my wife and I'm on the ADA Advisory Committee and I just want to say finally this is long overdue and with the environment thing I finally am glad that CTA is finally checking really deep on environment issues to make sure that we get it right because with all of this air because I know CTA studied it very carefully to make sure we get good, clean air with every station. We're trying -- especially with this one right here because definitely this is going to be the -- this is going to be the top of the -- the top of it because CTA is definitely on it -- on one of its kind best to make sure that everybody in the disability community saying finally they got the best station of them all and I think one day that CTA should definitely put out

for the disability community and for everyone a good survey rating the station when they start -- when they start finishing up because definitely they should have some pluses and minuses.

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So everybody, not only the disability community, but the general public so that they will say, yes, this station is definitely going to be right now all the way into the next decade. So I'm definitely for it all the way and make sure that they have the best survey so people will say it is definitely one of a kind. Thank you very much.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, Garland.

Does someone upfront have a blue card? Do you have a blue card? Step right up, sir. I'll get you next, sir. Thank you. Please state your name for the record, sir.

MR. HARRIS: Hello. My name is Clifford Harris. How are you doing tonight? I came up here to say when I think about the name Gerber I think about the program the Gerber Life Institute that helps people -- helps students at the grade of seven study for the Constitution test. I am now a student at Truman College.

1 Thank you very much. The people from the 2 neighborhood knows what Truman College is. 3 It is located on Wilson and Clifton across the street from the Gerber 4 5 Building. Harry Truman actually instituted the rail labor draft bill in mid 1947 amongst other 6 7 things. He thought the country should be operated 8 for the benefit of the mainstay and their children. I've lived in this neighborhood for at 9 10 least eight years. I work at Street Wise, which is in the building some of us know on the corner 11 12 of Broadway and Wilson and I would like even 13 though they say there should be retail if the contracts should be awarded in the interest of all 14 15 the people that are residents and travelers, we 16 have a great beach front. People -- there is a 17 place to fish as well as a place to walk the dog. 18 If that could be part of the 19 Gerber Building where you just show that there is 20 beach life, there is seafaring people out here, 2.1 that would be great. It would add to us that 22 actually have a vested interest in seeing the 23 community and the ecosystem stay balanced. 24 mean, it's just right there. It is four blocks

1 away. So that would be the big -- big thing.

2 Just the education in Wilson's ecosystem and that

3 is it. Thank you very much.

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MR. LONGHINI: Thank you,

5 Mr. Wilson. Sir, right upfront. I'll take your 6 card. Please state your name, sir.

MR. NAKAI: Sure. Good evening. My name is Gary Nakai. I'm representing the Buddhist Temple of Chicago who has been in the Uptown neighborhood since 1956. We started in Chicago in 1944 and moved to the Uptown area.

From my perspective after attending many of these hearings, I would like to applaud the CTA from my perspective in doing and listening to the issues to make the change, make this structure, the infrastructure of this Wilson Street project, Wilson station project, improvement renovation as good as it looks.

I appreciate the curb kick outs and the way you placed the columns and the way that the station looks as Alderman Cappleman said about why we need this and how much of a boost this will give and I'd also like to applaud the spirit of Alderman Cappleman and the adjective he

used to do it right. So I hope from this point forward we continue to make sure we do it right.

Thank you.

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MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, sir.

Nobody with a blue card upfront? Who would -ma'am, will someone please come up with a blue
card. I'm sorry. I didn't see you, sir. Please
state your name, sir.

MR. TANGORA: My name is Martin

Tangora and I'm here with a portfolio of the

Uptown Historical Society. I've been to all these

consulting party meetings. It has been a long

session. I want to say I have a lot of criticisms

to this and I don't want the people here from the

CTA to take it personally. Carol and the others

they have done a good job. They are doing what

they think is their job and what they think is

their job is to get this project built and they're

historic buildings here, nationally recognized

historic buildings, and there is serious impact on

this district.

I see three serious impacts on this district and one is the superhighway that is going to go through the district. That is what I

call the several hundred feet of concrete wall that is going to be up there above the buildings. It doesn't look like historic structure at all. Second, is the Gerber Building which is billed as a station building is not going to be a station building anymore except for a tiny corner where they're going to put the third entrance, but it is not -- if you think that you're still going to be able to go through the Gerber Building to go to the tracks, that is not true according to the present plans.

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In fact, we don't even know if they're going to keep the stairs on the Broadway entrance which they talk about wider stairwells. Those are the nicest stairwells on the northside. They're not going to keep those and what I think of as the Majestic Menswear Building under the tracks at Leland -- I've bought clothes there. It has been a while because that building does not have a good landlord. Do you know who the landlord of that building is? I believe it is the CTA and when we hear that the building is not useable because it has a bad roof and it has bad walls and bad everything, then you have to ask who

the landlord was and why they allowed that to happen.

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But the issue is that instead of saying "We have a historic district here. Let's see what we can do with this project so they're compatible," I believe looking at the evidence what they did was they told the engineers "Run these tracks through here. It will accommodate ten car trains and it will save ten seconds off the travel time between Lawrence and Wilson and there is a historic district there, but don't worry about that." That is what I think the engineers were told and I was very grateful to Carol at one of the later meetings when she showed us alternatives that have been considered, but those alternatives didn't address the historic buildings. None of those alternatives kept the Gerber Building as a station building and none of them preserved the Majestic Building as a store.

Hard to say preserved because it hasn't been a store for many years because it's too dilapidated. So it is great to have accessibility. I'm totally in favor of that. It is great to have a transfer station to the Purple

Line. I'm all for that and it is great to fix all this dilapidated infrastructure.

MR. LONGHINI: Mr. Tangora, you need to want up pretty soon.

MR. TANGORA: Fifteen seconds?

MR. LONGHINI: Yes.

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MR. TANGORA: It is not at all clear why one of their alternatives was to move the Wilson station a mile to the west. Can you believe that? Just -- I'm trying to address a 190-page document in three minutes.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, sir. As I said, Mr. Tangora, you're more than welcome to step up with more comments to our other court reporter. Thank you. Other blue cards. Thank you. I know there are six more out there. If the blue card people still want to speak? If so -- please, ma'am. Sir, why don't you come up here. Ma'am, you can go next. Thank you. Please state your name.

MS. SPEARS: Yes. Yes, I have the card. Thank you. Natalie Spears. Just a few questions and I know you said you're not going to answer questions. These are just logistic,

Page 26 1 though, so I thought maybe you might consider 2 these. Will a copy of this Power Point be 3 available? It is very helpful. I'm sure if it 4 could be placed on the website of the CTA or 5 someplace. Would that be possible? 6 MR. LONGHINI: I'm sure it can be 7 possible to be placed on the website. Absolutely. MS. SPEARS: Yes. 8 9 MR. LONGHINI: Yes. 10 MS. SPEARS: And then you mentioned 11 final environmental documents and we're curious. 12 When will that -- is that the FONSI, the 13 F-O-N-S-I? 14 MS. MOREY: Right. 15 MS. SPEARS: When will that be 16 issued? 17 MS. MOREY: That will be issued by 18 the FTA this Spring. 19 MS. SPEARS: In the Spring? 20 MS. MOREY: We're hoping, yes. 2.1 MS. SPEARS: But there is no 22 specific date. Last one. Will there be a 30-day 23 period of review for the FONSI? 24 MR. LONGHINI: Before you leave

tonight, we'll try to get you an answer to that if
we can.

MS. SPEARS: Okay. And since you're not answering other questions, we'll reserve our comments and our questions in writing and do that.

MR. LONGHINI: That's fine. Thank you.

MS. SPEARS: Thank you.

MR. LONGHINI: Please state your

name, sir.

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MR. PRICE: Arrian Price, long time resident of Uptown. Rahm Emanuel passed an ordinance August 29th, 2013, stating that a percentage of the residents should have jobs on any construction sites that are over \$100,000 and what I would like to know is like how is that process going to be done? You know, the alderman mentioned that 45 percent of the residents in Uptown don't have vehicles.

Well, the unemployment rate for African-American men ages 19 to 33 is almost double. And what I would like to know is -- because I personally am invested in the union; the carpenter's union and labor union. And what I

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     would like to know is like what do we need to do
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     so that we'll make -- to ensure that we're a part
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     of this process of building the CTA train station?
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                  MR. LONGHINI: Unfortunately, we
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     can't respond to that tonight although those are
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     very, very good questions. Hopefully, at some
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     point we'll be able to respond to you on those.
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     We have your name and number. Those are very
     legitimate questions. It's not to be responded to
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     tonight. Thank you.
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                  MR. WILSON:
                               If I may respond.
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     Eva-Dina Delgado will be able to answer those
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     questions.
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                  MR. PRICE:
                              Thank you.
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                                 Thank you. Another
                  MR. LONGHINI:
     blue card, please. Anybody else with a blue card
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     that wants to speak? Let's go to purple cards.
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     Step right up here, please. Hello, Mary. How are
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     you, Mary?
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                  MS. SULLIVAN:
                                 Fine.
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                  MR. LONGHINI: I didn't see you back
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     there.
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                  MS. SULLIVAN:
                                 I just got here.
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MR. LONGHINI: Come right up. Do

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Page 29 1 you want to sit down and talk or stand? 2 MS. SULLIVAN: I can stand. 3 MR. LONGHINI: Let me give you a microphone. 4 5 MS. SULLIVAN: Would you mind? 6 MR. LONGHINI: Not at all. Please 7 state your name, Mary. 8 MS. SULLIVAN: Mary Sullivan, 110 9 North Clifton, Park Ridge, Illinois. I am greatly appreciative that you will be doing this to 10 accommodate the disabled as someone else had said 11 12 and it should be more accessible to those who are 13 physically challenged and thank you very much. 14 MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, Mary. Ιt 15 is good to see you. MS. SULLIVAN: 16 Thanks. 17 MR. LONGHINI: Sure. Any other 18 purple cards? Please step right up. Ma'am, would 19 you mind sitting right there? I saw her first. 20 The woman in the red coat, please come right up. 2.1 Would you like to sit down? 22 MS. GILBERT: No, I'll stand. 23 MR. LONGHINI: Please state your 24 name. Thank you. I'll take your card.

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MS. GILBERT: My name is Debbie Rose Gilbert and I am physically disabled and I have a recommendation for this particular project because I take the Red Line station and the Brown Line station since I'm a student at Wilbur Wright College. So I would recommend that the construction will be better than the already renovated stations where you would anticipate natural occurrences like heavy snowfalls. way the stations do not look like a flooded mess for travelers. This does not give any good impression to our visitors of Chicago, Illinois. Currently, like I said before, the Red Line and Brown Line look a raw mess from the heavy snowfall and flooded water in a lot of areas of these stations.

So, basically, my recommendation is that when you do all this modernization to anticipate the natural occurrences that way all this money that you invest in order to renovate these stations, it will not look like a raw mess just because no one wants to anticipate natural occurrences of heavy snowfalls. And I did have to go carefully so I don't slip and fall and become

Page 31 1 more physically disabled than I am already. All 2 Thank you for listening. right. 3 MR. LONGHINI: Thank you. MS. GANNETT: Who takes these? 4 MR. LONGHINI: I will take it. 5 6 Thank you. Please state your name. 7 MS. GANNETT: I'm Joanne Gannett and I live on Dover Street and I have lived here for 8 9 26 years and I just want to say that I am very thrilled that we're finally doing something to 10 renovate the Wilson L. Some of us have been 11 12 waiting as other people have said for a good 20 13 years. So -- and we are -- of course we expect 14 the environmental issues to all be resolved, but 15 also where I am in favor of maintaining the historic character of the facade and 16 17 incorporating -- we're a part of the Sheridan Park Historic District. So we're interested in the 18 19 historic character of the neighborhood. 20 you. 2.1 MR. LONGHINI: Thank you. Any other 22 purple cards? Miss? Watch your step here. 23 are cords laying across. Please state your name. 24 MS. BERMAN-CUTLER: Hi, Alyssa

Berman-Cutler with Uptown United, the economic development organization for the neighborhood and we are really thrilled with the economic development impact of this project and especially the amount of negotiations that CTA has made to the neighborhood with the historic property so far. I wanted to make a couple of points, though. We want to urge and continue focus on the retail development of the project and continue focusing on making sure the right developers do end up partnering on the project.

2.1

I want to urge and continue your focus on the Sunnyside entrance and making sure that relates to the street, relates to the merchants on Broadway, that it does both support the amount of consumers that are coming to Target, but also that it helps the folks who are shopping at our local businesses out there on Broadway and making sure that there is some planning dollars that get implemented for that use and then as we're now getting closer to the actual construction, which is incredibly exciting, making sure the CTA continues to work with the community to lessen the impact of that.

1 We all know it is going to be 2 hard. There is going to be noise. There is going 3 to be dust, but making sure that there is as much 4 communication as possible, a budget for signage for communication and that kind of thing that you 5 can do to make sure the businesses are supported 6 7 while there is this construction process. 8 you. 9 MR. LONGHINI: Thank you. I saw 10 another card. 11 MR. WARD: Right here. 12 MR. LONGHINI: Sorry. I have my 13 reading glasses on. Not my long range ones. 14 Please state your name, sir. 15 MR. MILLER: Hello. My name is Ward 16 I'm president and executive director of Miller. 17 Preservation Chicago. Thank you so much. 18

really like the way this is all proceeding, the public process, the reuse of historic preservation and historic resources on the site and we just want to continue the conversation and dialogue to preserve as many historic resources as possible and that has been a goal of Preservation Chicago in working with the community for a number of

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2.1

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years now. So to that end we applaud the progress to date and hopefully we can make further progress on the placement of columns and keeping whole buildings intact where we can. Thank you so much.

2.1

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you, sir.

Again, watch your footing up here. Please state your name.

MS. BOYDA: Thank you. My name is
Katherine Boyda and I'm speaking on behalf of the
Graceland Wilson Neighbors Block Club. I'm on
their Board. I want to say, first of all, thank
you for the Sunnyside mall, the Sunnyside station.
We are thrilled and delighted. I would like to
add and hope that it continues that the
conductivity as you call it or as we call it help
people get to the L safely, quickly and
expediently get there in the best way possible.

With the Sunnyside entrance, we still have some roadblocks. We hope the CTA will work with CDOT and the alderman to address so that people who are wheelchair accessible, people with walkers and I often have many neighbors who -- or people who come to the neighborhood. I live on Clifton that I call the rear end of the Wilson L

stop and ask me how do I get to the L station and when I tell them they have to walk three blocks to get to that some of them just burst out in tears.

2.1

So we hope that we will see a new plan that includes a plaza; public spaces; pocket parks; short, safe, quick, easy access so that people can get to and from the station as quickly as possible and, again, thank you for the Sunnyside entrance.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you. Any more people with cards who wish to speak? Sir, come up. Ma'am -- sir, you come up next. Miss, you can sit right here. Sir, you can speak next. I saw you first and she has a card.

MR. KAPLAN: Okay.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you. Please state your name and watch your step.

MR. KAPLAN: My name is Marc Kaplan.

I'm with a group called Northside Action For

Justice. First of all, though I am generally on
opposite sides of the fence, myself and

Mr. Tangora, I have to support him on his issue of
the preservation of the historic nature of the
entrance, et cetera, et cetera and a few years ago

we were also on the same side of the fence when the city in its effort to make a beautiful renovation of the Goldblatt's Building tore down another historic property because this was going to be great. We're going to put all these TIF funds in. We're going to have a new Borders and everything is going to be great.

2.1

Well, anyone who passes by there on foot now sees what the new Borders has turned into. The old historic hotel that was residential units that was torn down, that is torn down and here we are with another advancement, and I think it would be an advancement, but I think that unless the community is totally involved unless, you know -- when you're building an entertainment district, what is some of the things about an entertainment district? You know, it is facades and keeping things that were popular and making them more popular. So that's my first comment.

My second comment is according to what Mr. Price said. Absolutely. We have a huge problem in the neighborhood with young people and some not so young people who can't get jobs. Any \$200 million project has got to, as a

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priority, provide jobs for people in the
neighborhood and other people around the city.

And my experience is unless there is a detailed,
mapped out plan step-by-step about how that is
going to happen it does not happen. If you leave
it up to contractors, they will do what they
always do.

2.1

They will hire from their friends, from family subcontractors, et cetera, et cetera and even if you bid it out or they have to bid out a certain percentage to minority and women owned businesses, the deals are at the top, not at the bottom and who gets pushed aside and ignored are the people that are most in need of advancement.

These would be good, stable
jobs. I know many, many years ago when we did -when we were involved in the Pepsi Cola place
project and that Jewel because we had a detailed
plan in place many people in the community got in
both the labor and the carpenter's union, but
specifically the labor union and that led to
long-term, stable employment. Unfortunately, a
lot of them moved out of the neighborhood, but

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1
     that happened and that's what we'd like to look
2
     towards in this project and I think if that
3
     happens and if other things are planned and are
     taken into consideration and even if it has to
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5
     wait a little bit longer so it is done right, I
6
     think that's the way it has to be done.
7
     you.
8
                  MR. LONGHINI:
                                 Thank you,
9
     Mr. Kaplan. Ma'am, in the orange sweater.
10
     out. Please state your name.
                                    Thank you.
11
                  MS. SYKES: My name is Ginny Sykes
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     and I have been in the neighborhood for 25 years
13
     also.
            I live right off of Wilson and what I want
     to know is since we lost the Wilson bus, what is
14
15
     going to be done to reconnect that easily for
     travelers? It is already, I think, a disservice
16
17
     to many people in the community including able
18
     bodied and bodied folks who we can't really get
19
     easily to the train especially in inclement
20
     weather. So I'm wondering if there are any
2.1
     conversations happening about what the connection
22
     -- specific connections will be bus to train?
23
                  MR. LONGHINI: As I mentioned, we
24
     will not be answering --
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Page 39 1 MS. SYKES: I know. 2 MR. LONGHINI: -- questions here. 3 However, there are people in planning in the back 4 who will be happy to talk to you about that. 5 MS. SYKES: Okay. And my other question is I know I'm aware of the RFQ that went 6 7 out for the public art that is going to be part of the train station. I'm wondering when those 8 9 decisions are going to be made and when that information will be released to the public in 10 terms of drawings and design? 11 12 MR. LONGHINI: We will respond to 13 that in writing. 14 MS. SYKES: Thank you. 15 MR. LONGHINI: You gave us your 16 address, right? 17 MS. SYKES: (Affirmative nod.) 18 MR. LONGHINI: Just raise your hand 19 if you have a card. Do we have any more people 20 with cards? Any people that wish to speak to go 2.1 get a card? Sir? Did you sign in, sir? 22 MR. MADALINSKI: I did. 23 MR. LONGHINI: Okay. MR. MADALINSKI: At first I wasn't 24

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going to take a card and say anything.

MR. LONGHINI: That's okay. That's all right. Please state your name and spell it if it's not quite obvious and give them your address eventually. Thank you.

MR. MADALINSKI: Mike Madalinski.

MR. LONGHINI: Please spell that,

sir.

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MR. MADALINSKI:

M-A-D-A-L-I-N-S-K-I. Thanks. It is very simple.

11 I've lived on the northside my whole entire life.

12 | The last 14 of 17 years I've lived in Uptown.

13 | Just build the station. Just build it. We're

14 tired. We've waited the last two years. We're

15 told it's coming. Build it, please. Thank you.

MR. LONGHINI: Thank you. Anybody

17 else wish to speak? No. We're not going anywhere

18 because this meeting has been scheduled until 8:30

19 tonight so people who may be running late we're

20 still going to be here to take their comment, but

21 unless somebody else here wishes to speak I'm

going to put down this microphone and we'll be

23 around. So I'm not concluding the meeting, but

24 there will be no more speakers, I guess, until

February 18, 2014

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     somebody else comes in.
 1
 2
                            (Whereupon, no more public
 3
                             speakers provided testimony.)
 4
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February 18, 2014

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1
    STATE OF ILLINOIS
                        )
2
                         ) SS.
3
    COUNTY OF COOK
                         )
4
5
           I, Steven Brickey, Certified Shorthand
6
    Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported in
7
    shorthand the proceedings had at the trial
8
    aforesaid, and that the foregoing is a true,
9
    complete and correct transcript of the proceedings
10
    of said trial as appears from my stenographic
11
    notes so taken and transcribed under my personal
12
    direction.
13
          Witness my official signature in and for
    Cook County, Illinois, on this day of
14
15
      , A.D., 2014.
16
17
18
19
20
                          STEVEN BRICKEY, CSR
21
                          8 West Monroe Street
                          Suite 2007
22
                          Chicago, Illinois 60603
                          Phone: (312) 419-9292
                          CSR No. 084-004675
23
24
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