Appendix K
Public Scoping Written Comments
Comments 1,101-1,200
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From: Mitchell Cerrone [mcerrone@earthlink.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 10:48 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Keep South Blvd Station Open!

Steve,

I understand that part of the proposal for the Red/Purple line renovations calls for the closing of the South Blvd station.

As a long-time resident of Evanston, and avid user of the CTA Purple Line, I want to encourage you consider the effect it will have on those residents, including me, who live in closest proximity to the station and rely on it being there, particularly in the very cold weather like we've had recently. (I'm not getting any older, and it's already a struggle dealing with the snow and cold.)

South Evanston is a great area to live, particularly with its access to public transportation south into the city of Chicago, and north into downtown Evanston, and I fear that closing the stop will also deaden some of its appeal.

Finally, I believe you will find most folks also concerned by (or outright complaining about) an increase in commute time by removing the station.

Overall, it just doesn't seem like a good idea.

Please help keep the South Blvd station open.

Thanks.

Mitch Cerrone
Evanston, Illinois
Chicago Transit Authority
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From: betsywilson@gmail.com [betsywilson@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Betsy Wilson [betsy@sagemitigation.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2011 9:09 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: I love the purple line

I'm an Evanston resident who strongly believes in public transportation. I use the South Street station regularly. I hope that the CTA will improve the purple line (boy, it would be great if it ran express at little longer!) and maintain the South Street stop.

Thank you!

elizabeth wilson
attorney, mitigation specialist
sentencing advocacy group of evanston
sagemitigation.com
1603 Orrington, Suite 800
Evanston, IL 60201
917.837.2867
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From: N Laszlo Frazer [personal@cesdep.org]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 11:29 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Express Alternatives

Dear Strategic Planning and Policy,

Please drop any reductions in purple express service from your alternatives analysis. The purple express is a crucial link between Evanston and the outside world. Many people I know who work in Evanston have chosen to live near Belmont precisely because the purple express exists. Instead, consider offering occasional off-peak purple express service - currently the express is timed only to serve people commuting to work, but a huge number of people would like an easy way to get between Chicago and Evanston quickly for unusual working hours, business meetings, or recreation.

Thanks,
Nicholas

--
Nicholas Laszlo Frazer

Email is the best way to reach me.

I have very many email addresses, including laszlo@laszlofrazer.com nlf@u.northwestern.edu
You only need to send an email to one address.

Office
Northwestern University
Technological Institute FB36
Also I am often in surrounding laboratories.

Home Address (not for Northwestern Business)
1516 Hinman #510
Evanston, IL 60201

Home Phone - Will Receive Voicemail From Work
(773)634-9638
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From: Touray, Gloria [Gloria.Touray@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 12:16 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: South Boulevard Purple Line El-Station

Please, please do not close the South Boulevard Purple Line El-Station. It is so vital to our employees, visitors, and even some patients being discharged. The Howard Red Line El-Station is too far to walk and centered in one of the most dangerous locations. Main Street is also too far. Close Dempster. You still have Main and Davis. Because of where we are situated, we get a very diverse group of people coming from the North Shore or North side of Chicago. A lot of these people cannot afford or are physically unable to walk a greater distance than the Purple Line at South Boulevard. I, personally, have used it on a daily basis to get to and from work. Buses are few and far between, especially on Sunday. It is just not a feasible option.

Please, please do not close the South Boulevard Purple Line El-Station.

Thank you.

Gloria Touray

Gloria J. Touray
Information Desk Clerk/Security
St. Francis Hospital
847-316-6295
gloria.touray@reshealthcare.org

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From: Bessie Wuensch [swuenesch@comcast.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 3:10 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple line

Sent from my iPad I know many people besides myself that take the Purple line from South Blvd. We live in the Saint Francis area. Howard Street is a far walk when we have bad weather and so is Main Street. Please do not close the South Blvd. Station. I could understand the need for upgrading .but to eliminate completely seems to hard for the workers that rely on the El for transportation. Thank you for the time to include the needs for the people.
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From: echocoltwc@aol.com [echocoltwc@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 3:16 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple and Blue Line Upgrades

Mr. Hands:
I ride the Red and Purple line every day to the Loop from Evanston.
This is not the time to spend billions of dollars, whether from the federal government or local sources. all of which have unsustainable deficits. The Basic Rehab is the responsible choice at this time.

Also, the new rail cars, with the hanging straps, have seats on the sides that are too narrow. I was sitting with three other normal size people and we were so tight that we could not even put our hands into our coat pockets. What were they thinking?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Env Chocol
1020 Cleveland,
Evanston, 60202
Steve Hands, Strategic Planning & Policy, Chicago Transit Authority, P.O. Box 7602, Chicago, IL 60680-7602, E-mail: RPM@transitchicago.com.

Dear Mr. Hands,

As an Evanston resident and taxpayer it is rather peculiar that the CTA is considering several different options for the Purple and Red lines that have dramatically different costs associated with them. It is very difficult to make a decision based without this information. Thus, I offer several suggestions. 1) Because not making stations conform to the ADA requirements may make the CTA liable for litigation in the future, minimum renovations may not be adequate and additions more expensive if postponed. 2) The goal of the CTA should be to increase riders on the Purple line. This is inconsistent with removing express trains/tracks and possibly stations. 3) While making stations compatible with 8 car trains is desirable, it may be a trade-off in riders if stations are removed because they cannot be expanded. Expanding platforms should not be high on the list of renovations unless there are good projections for increased ridership. 4) The CTA obviously knows the price tag for the various options, or at least some good estimates. Why not share this information with the public? It appears that the CTA wants pie in the sky but has not figured out a way to make it attractive to the public in terms of service and cost.

Tom Lukas
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From: Louis Skydell [Lskydell@comcast.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 3:47 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: South Boulevard, Purple Line el stop

I understand that the CTA is considering closing the Purple Line el stop. If this is true, I would suggest that you reconsider. This stop serves users from both south and west Evanston and that part of Chicago that is a long way from the Howard street station. It should be very clear from the rider revenues at this stop, that it is heavily used and would be a serious economic loss.

Thank you for your consideration,
Louis Skydell
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From: Steven Novak [steven.j.novak@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 4:25 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Red and Purple Modernization Project - Wilson Stop Needs a major overhaul

I just read a brochure about the red and purple line modernization project. I just want to say, that the Wilson stop is in desperate need of repairs and modernization. Year after year, the Wilson stop gets voted the worst station on the red line and it's sad that the city has not been able to maintain it.

I'm not able to make the meetings about the modernization plan. but after reading the alternatives that were put together the only adequate choice is the 4 track modernization. It's really the only choice if you're thinking about 60 years into the future and I actually think that it's probably too modest for something that should last 60 years.

Steve
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From: Eric Goehausen [egoehausen@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 6:07 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: CTA Red Line - Sheridan

Dear CTA:

While I respect the herculean task of operating and managing the vast Chicago el network, please do something (anything!) to rehab and clean-up the Sheridan Red Line stop. It's absolutely disgusting, darkly lit, and attracts nuisance. Your help in renovating it, will also help reinvigorate the downtown Uptown area. I am happy to volunteer my time to help lead the cause, and petition for the funds.

Sincerely,

--
Eric M. Goehausen
312-823-9020
egoehausen@gmail.com
From: Therese Quinn [tquinn@saic.edu]  
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 7:00 PM  
To: North Red & Purple Modernization  
Subject: Red Line proposals  

Hi. I live in Edgewater and I strongly oppose closing the Thorndale stop. Thank you, Therese Quinn  

Therese Quinn, tquinn@saic.edu  
SAIC AAUP: Academic Freedom for a Free Society Facebook group:  
Wiki: http://saicaaup.wikispaces.com
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From: Silver McDonald [SMcDonald@schoolnet.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 7:06 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Red line updates

Please provide massive overhaul of the Red Line including Major modern amenities, extend life of Red Line for 60-80 years.
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[RPM@transitchicago.com](mailto:RPM@transitchicago.com)

From: Jan Klingberg [jl Klingberg@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 7:07 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: CTA plan for Purple and Red Lines

Although I would not like to see the Foster St. station close, it seems that Alternative 3 makes the most sense to ensure longevity of the system. Closing the Foster St. station would be terribly inconvenient for our family as well as for the hundreds of NU commuters (students and staff) who pass through the station daily. Eliminating the northbound express train in the a.m. and southbound express train in the p.m. makes no sense at all because many people live in Chicago and commute to work in Evanston or in Chicago near Howard St.

Jan Klingberg
2001 Sherman Ave, Apt #401
Evanston, IL 60201
H: (847) 328-9593
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From: Gregg Warren [gwcontact77@sbcglobal.net]  
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 7:27 PM  
To: North Red & Purple Modernization  
Subject: Comments on North Red & Purple Modernization Project

I would be in favor of the Modernization 4 Track scenario with some modifications.  
For the Red line section:
add a Leland station entrance to Wilson and close Lawrence; add the Ainsle entrance to Argyle also.  
For Purple line: combine Noyes and Foster into one large station--the entrance at Noyes would run from the south side of Noyes and stretch to just north of Foster with the entrance there from the north side of Foster St.  
Another entrance could be on Garfield.  
Retain South Boulevard station; the proposal to add a Washington entrance for Main is not close enough coverage to warrant closing South Boulevard.

I would also advocate increasing the frequency of Red Line trains and re-instituting the A and B skip-stop service between Howard and Wilson during extended rush hours. With a modern signal system in place and more cars and trains, the interval between trains would be acceptable at A or B stops. This move could also then not require closing of stations such as Jarvis, Thorndale & Lawrence.

I do not favor a 2 track subway or 3 track system, as each would impair or remove Purple Line express service.  
As the right of way already exists, subway construction does nothing in my opinion to relieve congestion and costs almost as much as the 4 track modernization.

Extend Express service to 10 am mornings and start earlier in the afternoon.

If neighborhood sentiment wants to keep Noyes, Foster, and SB in Evanston, why not start an A B skip stop service there by increasing the number of trains, and making those 3 stations and Dempster into A B stations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Gregg Warren
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**From:** Kevin Fuller [snookerbass@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 13, 2011 4:50 PM  
**To:** North Red & Purple Modernization  
**Subject:** CTA Purple Line

Please dont reduce service on the cta purple line. I depend on it for transportation to and from high school, and to other activities i participate in.

--

Kevin Fuller
Thanks
First I would like to thank you for working on updating our deteriorating public transit system and inviting public comment. I trust you will consider these comments in your final decision and enter them into the written record.

Keep all stops Open for Safety Reasons
As a woman who frequently travels on both CTA’s public transit lines and Metra trains for both business and pleasure I urge you to keep open the Jarvis el stop. In fact, closing down any of the stops is a bad idea from a safety standpoint.

It may seem like nothing much to walk a few extra blocks if you consolidate stops. However, this presents a huge problem if your main concern is safety rather than the length of the walk. I will frequently walk extra blocks out of my way (especially if it’s after dark) just so I’m on busier streets, as I’m less likely to be accosted. This is something that has happened to me in the past and is a concern every time I step off of a train.

Keep Trains Above Ground for Safety Reasons
For these safety reasons, most notably, more visibility, I am NOT in favor of moving the trains underground. I feel safer on an elevated platform that’s on view from the street, rather than underground. I worked with a man who was attacked and thrown on the tracks in a subway station in downtown Chicago and no one heard the commotion. I think you have a better chance of someone hearing you yell if you are above ground.

Keep Jarvis Open for Safety Reasons and to promote Small Business Development
I sometimes make decisions on where to get off of the train, based on how far of a walk it is to go to the venue, for instance the nearest restaurant. For that reason the Jarvis stop is attractive. It seems a shame to take away the stop when the station seems to be working as an anchor to several thriving new businesses that are just a few feet from the station.

Invest in Public Transit & Keep Stops Open for Environmental & Economic Reasons
I am very happy we are talking about beefing up our transit system for the environmental advantages of taking
cars off the road for the numerous environmental and economic reasons. These include the costs of trying to park in various neighborhoods, especially given the parking meter privatization debacle that is costing us all way too much to park anywhere. For that reason we need to open more (not close) stations. And let’s face it, many people are lazy pedestrians: If they have to walk a couple more blocks they are more inclined to drive, rather than take a bus or train.

Thank you for your consideration.
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Raunel Urquiza [raunelclassof09@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 5:15 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Wilson Redline

Modern station amenities as # 4, however, would remove one of the 4-tracks, reducing to 3-tracks
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Lauren Rein [laurenhollyrein@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 7:30 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Line Express Service

Please do not disrupt the Purple Line Express Service. This past month, I commuted downtown from the Foster Street stop and it was a dream. By closing the Foster Street stop and making the Express with more stops, that would make the ride much longer and less convenient. I would most likely opt to give my fare to Metra instead.
Thank you for your consideration.

Lauren Rein
Hello

I am an Evanston resident and a former 15 year resident of Chicago. The Purple line runs in view from my back windows. I love the CTA and I think you should build the modernization with the 2 track underground system. Future Citizens of Chicago will thank us when gas is $7 a gallon.

Regards

Steve

--
Steven Matz LEED AP BD+C

Project Manager
Northwestern University FMDC
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From: David Ptashne [dptashne@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 7:38 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Lawrence Red Line Station

CTA -

Please reject any plan that includes closing the Lawrence stop on the Red Line. It's not the right thing to do for the people of Uptown that are working so hard to restore this vulnerable community, and you must look beyond its proximity to other stations. The population density can clearly support stations in close proximity.

To quote from President Obama's 2011 State of the Union address:

"We have to do better. America is the nation that built the transcontinental railroad, brought electricity to rural communities, constructed the Interstate Highway System. The jobs created by these projects didn't just come from laying down track or pavement. They came from businesses that opened near a town's new train station or the new off-ramp."

The Lawrence Red Line station is not some obscure, rarely used station (and you know this because you have watched the ridership steadily increase). It is part of the fabric of North Uptown, around which we continue to see the renaissance of this vibrant, unique, and diverse community. Lawrence and Broadway is a major entertainment district on the North Side, anchored by two major entertainment gems (the Aragon and the Riveria). Further, the proximity of the Lawrence station is a critical economic factor in any viable plan to restore / reopen the Uptown Theater, which is a national treasure. Routing people away from these venues or making them less convenient to younger visitors who use public transportation makes them less convenient than other locales and removes a competitive advantage that highly benefits our community and supports our economic base.

Further:

1. Among Argyle, Lawrence, and Wilson, Lawrence Ave. is far and away the most direct east west connector to the Red. Argyle becomes a side street west of Broadway and Wilson is also a very slow moving, 1 lane street west of Broadway.

2. Uptown (esp. east of Broadway) is home to a large older, lower income, and special needs population that is reliant on safe convenient public transportation. The additional distance to Argyle or Wilson would be particularly difficult to these members of our community.

3. Convient public transportation is attracting investment in our community during its transition and helping attracting home owners seeking value to all corners of Uptown that are willing to help stabilize this area. Losing Lawrence would take away the incentive for people to come here and make the commitments Uptown needs for the benefit of all our residents.

In summary, closing Lawrence Station, which really anchors our Entertainment District and a major commercial
intersection is wrong for Uptown and its people. Anyone future plans for Red Line rennovation must preserve a station at Lawrence and Broadway.
Hello,

I just wanted to say that the Foster Street station is very important to me and the people I work with because that is the stop where we get on and off our trains to go to work. If you close down the Foster Street station we would have to walk all the way to Davis Street or Noyse to catch a train. I know there are plenty of young people who depend on the Foster Street station on the week-ends. I think if you close the Foster Street station it will be an invitation for more crime as people would be easier targets because they would have to walk so far.

Not only is the Foster Street station important to me it is also important to the People who visit the Senoir Citizen Facility I work at, Mather Pavilion. Which is connected to Mather Lifeways of Evanston, Il. I do hope you do not shut down this station as it is important to many people here in Evanston as well as those who travel to and from Evanston.

Thank you for your time,

Constance Sabatka

c/o Mather Pavilion

820 Foster Street

Evanston, Il. 60201
From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 1:55 PM
To: Lea, Claudia
Subject: FW: THORNDALE Stop

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From: pat guizzetti [guizzetti@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 8:02 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: THORNDALE Stop

It is vitally important to the community that the Thorndale EI stop remain open. It is a thriving intersection, bustling with businesses, restaurants and people. The stop is used by students and residents at all times of the day. Please see that it remains open.

Sincerely,
Patricia Guizzetti
6226 N.Lakewood
Chicago,IL 60660
Lea, Claudia

From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 1:55 PM
To: Lea, Claudia
Subject: FW: Please Keep the South Boulevard Station Open

---

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From: Anne-Marie Cusac [annemarie.cusac@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 9:37 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Please Keep the South Boulevard Station Open

Dear CTA,

I am writing to ask that you do everything in your ability to keep the South Boulevard El Station open. I live near the South Blvd El stop and use it daily for transportation to Roosevelt University, where I am a professor. My fiance also uses it to travel downtown for his employment. We are strongly opposed to closing the L stop.

I purchased my condo on Custer Avenue five years ago specifically because of the short walk to the El. I am deeply concerned that the closing of the station will negatively affect my property value.

I am also concerned that the closing of the South Boulevard Station would have a detrimental effect on my commute time, and perhaps on my personal safety.

Neither my fiance nor I feel safe walking to the Howard stop. But I often come home in the evening, and the long walk from the Main Street station is also potentially unsafe. In addition, a long walk to either of these stations would add significantly to my commute. Please keep the stop open to facilitate transportation for our community. Thank you

Anne-Marie Cusac
419 Custer Av #2
Evanston, IL 60202
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[RPM@transitchicago.com](mailto:RPM@transitchicago.com)

From: Joel Raedeke [joel.raedeke@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 9:47 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Wilson Ave. Station

I am not sure what precisely you are considering in revitalizing the Wilson El stop, but I have lived here since the early nineties (I grew up near the Fullerton stop) and I have always felt that a major revamp both structurally and aesthetically would be a big help for the neighborhood. I would particularly appreciate if the style reflects the architectural elements from Uptown's growth period in the early 1900s. Even if this would cost more, please let the neighborhood groups know. We could probably put together a campaign for the difference.

Thanks very much for your consideration,
Joel

--
Joel Raedeke
[joel.raedeke@gmail.com](mailto:joel.raedeke@gmail.com)
Home - None
Cell - 312-218-7427
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From: Steven Jerde [stevenjerde@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 10:03 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Line Changes

Dear Steve Hands,

It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to eliminate some stops from the Red and Purple line trains. One of the proposed closures is the Purple Line South Blvd stop. I want to vehemently oppose this closure. I live approximately 500 ft from the South Blvd Station, and not only is it quite useful to me and my wife (who is a graduate student at Northwestern University and uses the station daily), but I know many more people from the area that depend on this stop. The loss in service would hurt many people who depend on this stop, and I know my use of the train would go down to almost zero if this station were to close. This closure would also dampen the hopes of those in the area that have seen some gentrification take place here. To remove the use of the train would hurt property values and cause any renewal in the area to decline or stop completely. Please do not consider the South Blvd Station stop in any closure plans. Thanks.

Steven Jerde
421 Custer Ave #3-S
Evanston, IL 60202

TV dinner still cooling?
Check out "Tonight's Picks" on Yahoo! TV.
The possible closure of the South Blvd. and Foster Street stations along with restricting or eliminating Purple Line Express service will affect me and thousands of other commuters in the Evanston area that rely on public transportation. Personally, I rely on these trains from the South Blvd. station to get to work, downtown appointments, Cubs games, etc.

If the CTA follows through on these proposed changes, not only will arterial streets and expressways become even more overcrowded, the CTA will lose considerable revenue.
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From: Brian Kirshenbaum [bjkirshen@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 10:50 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Line

I dont mind the closure of South Blvd and or Foster but PLEASE keep the Express Service for both the passengers as well as your own revenue. I think you will loose riders to Metra.

Thanks,

Brian Kirshenbaum CSCS
847.691.3401
briankirshenbaum.com
bookbrian.com
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From: Cindy Sigal [cindysigal2011@u.northwestern.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 6:27 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Don't close PURPLE LINE Foster st EL stop in Evanston!!

PLEASE DON'T CLOSE THE EL STOP AT FOSTER ST IN EVANSTON! THERE ARE HUNDRED IF NOT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO TAKE IT TO GET TO NORTHWESTERN'S CAMPUS. IT WILL OVER LOAD THE DAVIS STOP. FOSTER IS CLOSEST TO CENTRAL CAMPUS.

THIS IS A BAD IDEA. COME LOOK AT TRAFFIC FLOW AT FOSTER STOP IN THE MORNINGS. WE NEED THE FOSTER STOP!!!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION!!!

CINDY

--
Cindy Sigal
The Family Institute at Northwestern University
618 Library Place
Evanston, IL 60201
847-733 4300 ext.1213

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From: Richard Katz [dr.katz@ett.net]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 7:15 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Evanston Purple Line Comments

Gentlepersons:

I live in South Evanston.
I CAN EASILY WALK TO THE SOUTH STREET STATION

Main Street Station IS TOO FAR AWAY from my home

DO NOT REMOVE THE SOUTH STREET STATION.

EVERYONE
FROM HOWARD TO OAKTON AND
FROM MCCORMICK TO SHERIDAN USES THE
SOUTH STREET STATION.

Sincerely,

Richard

www.katzpsych.com
Lea, Claudia

From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 1:59 PM
To: Lea, Claudia
Subject: FW: South Boulevard Stop - Red/Purple Modernization
Attachments: image001.gif; image003.jpg

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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Lavacchi, Rick [RLavacchi@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 7:29 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: South Boulevard Stop - Red/Purple Modernization

Good morning.

I'm writing to request that consideration be given to the employees, patients, visitors and volunteers of Saint Francis Hospital that use the South Boulevard stop in Evanston. Eliminating this stop will make access to health care services more difficult for those that currently use this stop.

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard J. Lavacchi
Vice President Professional Services
847 316-3900 - Office
847 316-4500 - Fax

Saint Francis Hospital
Level I Trauma Center
355 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
sfh.reshealth.org

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From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]  
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 1:58 PM  
To: Lea, Claudia  
Subject: FW: Opinion on Wilson Stop Red Line

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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Alfredo Caliva [fredochicago@comcast.net]  
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 6:26 AM  
To: North Red & Purple Modernization  
Subject: RE: Opinion on Wilson Stop Red Line

Good morning,

I have been a long time residence of Uptown, over 25 years and a native Chicagoan originally from the West side.

The Wilson stop needs to be redone! More and more people are migrating up to Uptown and it has been a viable stop for many, now that the Target Store has opened. Having a renovated station will hopefully bring a more safe environment to this area. I also like the idea of having the station becoming a transfer stop for the purple line.

Regards,

Alfredo Caliva  
Uptown Residence
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Chun, Donald [DChun@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 7:29 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Closing of South Boulevard Station

Dear CPC,

To Whom It May Concern,

Please reconsider the closing of South Boulevard Station. As a St. Francis employee, I know that our employees, patients, students, and volunteers use that station to get to St. Francis Hospital.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donald Chun, B.S., R.T. [R]
Admission Director
St. Francis School of Radiography
Resurrection Health Care
(847) 316-6393 - Office
(847) 316-5811 - Fax
dchun@reshealthcare.org

Saint Francis Hospital
Level I Trauma Center
355 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
sfh.reshealth.org

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To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to express my sincere concern regarding the elimination of the Foster Purple Line stop. I use this stop frequently and the Noyes and Davis stops are quite far from where I have to go. Additionally, I have seen many elders use this stop, closing it would be quite hurtful to them as well. I strongly suggest reconsidering the closing of the Foster Purple Line stop.

Thank you for your time,
Jaimee Benach

--
Jaimee Benach
Northwestern University
M.A. Counseling Psychology '11
http://www.linkedin.com/in/jaimeebenach
jbenach@u.northwestern.edu
(847) 400-4137
Lea, Claudia

From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 2:00 PM
To: Lea, Claudia
Subject: FW: Do Not close the South Boulevard Station
Attachments: image001.gif; image003.jpg; image002.png

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From: Kasper, Peggy [Peggy.Kasper@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 7:49 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Do Not close the South Boulevard Station

I am an employee at Saint Francis just letting you know to please do not close the South Boulevard Station. This has a huge impact on patients, employees and volunteers that use it everyday.

Thank you,

Peggy Kasper
HR IS Specialist
Human Resources
Phone (847) 316-6122
Fax (847) 316-2167
peggy.kasper@reshealthcare.org

Saint Francis Hospital
Level I Trauma Center
355 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
sfh.reshealth.org

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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Kathy L Bingham [k-binghaml@northwestern.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:20 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Foster CTA train stop

2/14/11

-- To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to strongly discourage the closing of the Foster El stop, on the Purple line in Evanston. I use that stop, as do many other Northwestern students and employees. If it is closed, I think there will be a huge increase of parking problems in that area. Please reconsider and keep the Foster Ave. El stop open.

Thank you
Kathy Bingham, Ph.D.
The Family Institute
Lea, Claudia

From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 2:01 PM
To: Lea, Claudia
Subject: FW: Concern over eliminating the Foster Purple Line stop

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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Jamie Jefkin [jefkin@family-institute.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:33 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Concern over eliminating the Foster Purple Line stop

It is my understanding you are considering eliminating the Foster stop on the Purple line. This would impact me and my staff dramatically as this is the main access to get to The Family Institute on Northwestern’s campus. This is how I get to work every day. Davis and Noyes would involve a very long walk and on frigid days, it would be almost impossible to get to the office. It’s a walk to campus as it is but this would be unbearable. Please reconsider this stop and the need for those of us on the central Northwestern campus to get to and from work.

Thank you.
Jamie

Jamie Jefkin
Director of Administration
The Family Institute at Northwestern University
618 Library Place
Evanston, IL 60201
(847) 733-4300 Ext. 104

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RPM@transitChicago.com

From: Mark Anderegg [mark@madisonequityassociates.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:34 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: ATTN: Steve Hands, RE: Proposed Changes to Purple Line

Steve,

By way of background, I have been a homeowner in Evanston for the past 3 years. I elected to move up to the 'burbs' from downtown despite some serious misgivings about being disconnected from all that the city has to offer (including my place of employment). Amongst the most significant factors giving me confidence that I could handle this transition was the comfort that my house is only one block from the Foster stop, providing me quick and easy access to downtown.

Needless to say, I have been quite alarmed by the proposed changes to the Purple Line, most notably the prospect of the Foster stop being eliminated and the contemplated removal of the Express schedule. I consider myself a highly loyal Evanstonian; my wife and I adore the town and have fond memories of our academic experiences at Northwestern (I received my MBA at Kellogg and she is wrapping up her Ph.D. in Neuroscience). However, I can say with absolutely no exaggeration that if these proposed changes were to take effect, we would put our house on the market the next day and move elsewhere. Quite simply, the net benefit to us of living in Evanston becomes negative without easy access to the train (i.e. the Foster stop) or a swift commute to work downtown (i.e. the Purple Line Express). Would we want to do this? No. Our first child is on the way and we were looking forward to raising our family in Evanston. But I'm afraid that is the reality of our situation.

It is not lost on me that you will be less than concerned about one tax-paying resident electing to move. However, having discussed this with many of my peers in the community, I think you would be surprised how many people feel similarly.

If it would be helpful, I would be happy to further discuss my position on this matter.

Best regards,
Mark Anderegg

Mark E. Anderegg
Managing Partner | Madison Equity Associates, LLC
303 W. Madison Street, Suite 2500 | Chicago, IL 60606
o: (312) 698-6339 | m: (917) 957-7769 | f: (312) 201-0703
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From: Jackson, Janet P [JJackson1@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:42 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: DO NOT CLOSE SOUTH BLVD STOP!

Please hear our plea.....I personally use this stop a couple of times per year, and is often the only solution on heavy snow days.

I manage the volunteer services department and recruit many, many students from Loyola and Northwestern for service with us. They use the South Blvd stop daily! The Red Howard stop is inconvenient and not as safe as the purple stop for these young students.

PLEASE KEEP SOUTH BLVD!!!!!!

Janet P. Jackson
Manager, Gift Shop, Volunteer and Transport Services
(847) 316-2346

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Level I Trauma Center
355 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
sfh.reshealth.org

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From: Catherine Huggins [c-huggins@northwestern.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:55 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Red and Purple Modernization

To Whom it May Concern-

I am a Purple line express rider and I work in the Northwestern University library. I use the Foster entrance Monday through Friday. I wonder at the CTA even considering permanent closure of the Foster stop. In my experience riding the Purple, the largest amount of rider disembarks at Davis, and the second largest amount leaves at Foster. Seems to be a pretty important stop.

Catie Huggins
Music Library Listening Center Assistant
847/467-1461
c-huggins@northwestern.edu
From: Scott Krafft [s-krafft@northwestern.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:58 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Possible closure of Foster Purple Line stop

Dear CTA,

Please do not close the Foster Street el station. I and many hundreds of Northwestern University employees depend on that station to get to work every day. Having to get off at Davis street would be a huge inconvenience.
Thank you in advance for considering our needs.

Scott Krafft
Curator
Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections Northwestern University Library
1970 Campus Drive
Evanston, IL 60208
Dear Mr. Hands,

I have been informed that there have been discussions about closing the Foster Purple line stop. This will greatly impact my commute from the city to Evanston to work every day, making transport from my home to The Family Institute at Northwestern University nearly impossible via public transportation. I will be left only with the option of driving to and from work. This will be very unfortunate as I have heavily relied on this form of transportation for many years—especially when the weather makes driving hazardous. Please consider keeping the Foster Purple line stop open.

Thank you,
Sharon Risch

Sharon C. Risch, Ph.D.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist
Assistant Director, Psychological Assessment Services
The Family Institute at Northwestern University
618 Library Place
Evanston, IL 60201
(847) 733-4300 ext. 1270
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From: Judith Archer [itchspeld@ameritech.net]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 9:21 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Rehab of the RED Line Station at Wilson

It would be a shame to not remodel the Wilson Avenue Red Line station as it was one of the most beautiful of all the stations.
I am a Uptown Resident and rarely use the station as I am a senior & the stairs are a killer.
Please realize this improvement needs to be made.
Judy Archer
Concerned Senior of Uptown.
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: monappy@aol.com [monappy@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 9:39 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Line Service

Please do not close the Foster and South Blvd. stops. Many elderly people using these stops may be stuck at home because they have too far to walk.

Thank you!

Denia Hester
Chicago Transit Authority
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: JAMES PSZANKA [James.Pszanka@AAscreditunion.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 9:45 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Please bring a purple line stop to granville or loyola stop in Edgewater-thank you

Please bring a purple line stop to granville or loyola stop in Edgewater-thank you
Ed Pszanka
1436 w rosemont ave
Chicago, Il 60660
Chicago Transit Authority
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www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Cunera Buys [c-buys@northwestern.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 9:49 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: potential station closings

Please do not close the Foster station. I work at Northwestern University and I use that station often. Although the distance doesn't seem all that great on paper, from where I work, walking to Noyes or Davis street will take an additional 15-20 minutes. So by closing Foster, my total commute time would be longer and not shorter. Also, if I have to walk to Davis I might as well take Metra because that is an option for me as well.

Foster is the station closest to the North end of campus and would be a real disservice to those that use CTA to get to work and school.

Cunera Buys
From: Hanlon, Maureen [MHanlon@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 9:51 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: KEEP SOUTH BLVD OPEN

Please keep this station open for our employees, patients and visitors.

Maureen Hanlon
Director Risk Management
Saint Francis Hospital
(847) 316-4019
mhanlon@reshealthcare.org

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From: Robert Puckett [robertp@hullinvestmentsllc.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 9:54 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Do not close South Blvd. Station

The South Blvd station is needed and extending the Main St station farther south with an additional entrance is not a viable alternative, especially for all those people who live West of Chicago Ave. Because of the Metra and CTA tracks, many of the streets are blocked and do not have access to Chicago Ave. This makes the walk to Main much more circuitous than a straight shot. For those living south of South Blvd the cemetery, rail yards and Metra tracks, make a walk to Howard prohibitively long.

Keep South Blvd and improve it.

Robert Puckett

141 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 340
Chicago, IL 60604
312-356-4413-direct
312-356-4450-main
312-356-4451-fax
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Wyatt, Patricia [PWyatt@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 10:17 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Closure of South BLVD station

To Whom it may Concern,

I am an RN at St Francis Hospital in Evanston and wish to request that the South BLVD station not be closed. Many of our employees, patients, family members and visitors utilize this stop to reach our hospital. It makes no sense to have someone get off at Main or Howard and then need to transfer to a bus to get here if they are physically able to walk. The inconvenience to transfer, adjust schedules and try to make connections in order to keep appointments because a station is closed just doesn't make this very user friendly option. As an Evanston resident I am well aware of the needed repairs to bridges and retaining walls and the closure of this station to my way of thinking is not a solution to very long standing problems.

Thank you,

Patricia Wyatt
Chicago Transit Authority
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Carrie Worley [cworley1@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 10:33 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Red Line El Rehab

I'm writing to respond to the request for public input on the CTA redline el renovations as posted in the Uptown Update. Having lived in New York City and spending significant time in London and other European cities, I can say that Chicago's transit system is sadly inadequate and needs significant re-thinking for how not only to renovate the 100+ year old elevated lines, but to reconsider how to make a robust transit system that efficiently moves people between key areas of the city. We need this not only to relieve our traffic clogged streets, but to address climate change, and air quality which are two of the most significant concerns facing today's society.

Chicago could be a great city to live/work in if we had a solid rapid (emphasis on rapid) transit system. That should not focus on setup of bus lines, which are simply stuck in all the traffic. We need to look at updating the el trains to move more quickly and more often (they are packed all times of the day, so there shouldn't be a revenue issue there). And we should be looking to link the el system with Metra -- since it's amazing there is no point where these two train systems hook up. We should further be planning trolley systems -- like those used in Zurich, Vienna, Sydney/Melbourne and dozens of other cities for intra-neighborhood travel. This could include shutting down vehicle traffic on certain streets to accommodate these, or building segmented lanes specific for the trolleys so they are not slowed by car traffic. We should be looking to expand the subway system to provide connections between existing trains and linking with the current shopping and entertainment centers in the city -- since our current system is aimed at connections to the loop only, not where the population 100 years later is now congregated. Most major cities around the world have a solid subway system -- allowing city residents to move with ease throughout the metropolitan area. A city the size of Chicago should have the same, and we would especially benefit from this given our inclement weather. In New York, you don't even notice the cold because you're 2-3 blocks from a subway stop and the trains drop you within a similar distance to your destination -- sheltered from the cold, snow, rain, underground. I have to believe maintenance on these systems is also less -- given the toll our weather takes on infrastructure. And New York is building new subways, as are cities from Istanbul in Turkey to Delhi in India . . . with today's tunneling technology, we should be able to improve our system with a solid 20 year plan.

As for the nearest term goals, you should:

1) Immediate renovation of the redline el to include modern amenities -- with a focus on addressing the Uptown stations which appear to be the most neglected on the entire line
2) I would suggest closing the Wilson el stop altogether . . . it makes no sense to have a Wilson stop, and then Lawrence a mere 2 blocks further north. The stop should be moved to Montrose or Sunnyside, evenly between the Sheridan & Lawrence stops -- which might help boost the Broadway retail corridor around the Target store, and provide impetus to remove the blighted buildings that surround the Wilson el -- most of which should simply be torn down as they are in such disrepair. A Sunnyside stop would also still serve Truman College -- and aside from that, there is nothing at Wilson/Broadway that requires an el stop.

3) I would suggest a Purple line stop at the new Sunnyside/Montrose stop proposed above -- this is far enough north of Belmont to make sense. And if you build a new stop, it's easier to accommodate. I don't think you need a transfer point at Loyola -- the local redline from Howard is a short distance, so north suburban residents wanting to travel to Loyola have a reasonably short trip anyway.

4) Lastly -- relative to the bus services --- these need to be revisited too. In Uptown, buses on Clark stop every single block . . . every one! What is the possible point behind that scheduling . . . the bus should stop no more than every 4 blocks. People can walk 2 blocks to a stop, which is all that would be required. And that would ensure buses have a better chance to keep moving at a decent pace, and can better stay to a schedule (and avoid the inevitable bunching of buses that occurs). This also is the current routing for the Wilson #145 bus, the Montrose bus, the Clark #22 bus, the Broadway #36 bus. All of these have routes that require them to stop -- over long stretches -- at every intersection for a stop, and then across the system they are planned to stop every 2 blocks. That is ridiculous.

5) Also relative to the bus lines, we should move off the antiquated "grid" system for many of these buses -- for some streets (like Clark) this makes sense as it's a street lined with shops, restaurants, businesses all the way. But other buses could be better used to navigate a route that simply connects neighborhoods to others by linking different el lines and key neighborhood areas for entertainment/shopping/businesses. For example, a bus that would wind from the Blue line in Bucktown, up through Roscoe Village, to North Center, and Lincoln Square Brown Line and east to the Red Line at Lawrence. In sum, retain some bus lines to travel major streets, bus utilize others to connect travelers to neighborhood areas that are centers for businesses, shopping, entertainment and get people to el lines with ease. This is done to some degree downtown with buses connecting the Loop to Michigan Ave . . . but this would be even more advantageous in the northside, southside, near west neighborhoods.

Thanks for considering these proposals.

Sincerely,
Carrie Worley
Chicago Transit Authority
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Esmeralda Kale [ekale@northwestern.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 10:45 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject:

I am saddened to hear about the proposed close of the Purple line Foster station. It is such an important link between the university and the rest of Evanston and Chicago. I often park my car in the lot next door and hop on the train early in the morning. I take it during rush hour knowing it will cut down my trip and the number of connections I have to make. It is such an important connection for those of us who work at Northwestern and are faced with getting in Chicago to run errands and take part in cultural events. The thought of walking to Davis or the other direction will discourage me from taking the train at all.

Esmeralda Kale
I am writing to express my concern over the possible closing of the South Blvd station in Evanston. I practice in the professional bldg at Saint Francis Hospital. South Blvd is the only El station within walking distance to the hospital and professional bldgs. I have patients that would be terribly inconvenienced were the station to close. Closing the station would be a disservice to the community. I urge you to attempt to keep the South Blvd station open.

Thank you
Dr Kevin Tunnat
800 Austin
Evanston, IL 60202
(847)328-2282

$65/Hr Job - 25 Openings
Part-Time job ($20-$65/hr). Requirements: Home Internet Access
Channel11NewsReport.com
With the minimal public transport options in the south and southeast corner of Evanston, closing the South Boulevard stop on the Purple Line is going to create a hardship for many of us who use that station. The folks that have difficulty walking great distances will have difficulty getting to an extended Main Street station and those that do not have difficulty being mobile will find it difficult in the harsh winter months to walk to Main or Howard. Bus service in our area of Evanston is negligible and we hope you would reconsider your plan and not close the South Boulevard station.

Further, I and the people in my neighborhood have had numerous discussions on this subject and many of us feel were we forced to walk to Main Street for rail service, we would be far more likely to switch over to Metra since the trip into downtown is much faster, thus CTA will again have a decrease in ridership.

--

Cheryl Muno | EA to CARL LARSON, GVP
Phone: 312-651-8287 | Fax: 312-651-8287
Oracle NATO National Sales
ORACLE United States | Sears Tower, 233 South Wacker Drive, 45th Floor | Chicago, Illinois 60606

Please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this e-mail
To Whom It May Concern,

It would be a horrible blow for our neighborhood if the Jarvis red line station were to be shut down. Besides proximity to the lake, well kept homes, and a friendly neighborhood vibe, easy access to the red line is one of the things that makes living in Rogers Park so pleasant. It's easy for friends to come visit us and for people to hop on and off the train to patronize local businesses, and I know a large percentage of our residents depend on the train for commuting to and from work. Whenever my parents fly up to visit from out of town, they LOVE taking the train to Rogers Park from the airport and avoiding traffic and crazy cab drivers! I believe it would seriously damage businesses in our area as well as residential property values if we were to lose access to our train station. The station at Howard is crowded, dirty, and no one like going there if they can help it (which is another issue itself...). Please don't close the station at Jarvis. We would be devastated if our neighborhood were to turn into a "dead zone."

Thanks,
Nina Bell
Chicago Transit Authority
Red and Purple Modernization (RPM)
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: bruff@ABMS.org [bruff@ABMS.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 11:50 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Line Proposed Changes

The Purple Line is an invaluable train service to the Evanston Community. Cutting the express service between Evanston and downtown Chicago would be devastating to a vast majority of Evanston riders. Please do not cut this service, it would make commuting to a from the Loop extremely difficult and much more time consuming!

Thank you for your consideration,

Brenda Ruff
Information Services Manager
American Board of Medical Specialties
222 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60601-1117
(312) 436-2610 - Direct
(312) 436-2710 - Fax
bruff@abms.org
Visit us online at www.abms.org
Hello, I am a long time resident of Evanston and a long time user of the Purple Line. Having the luxury of a stop virtually within a block of my home has been a necessity for me as I commute daily to and from downtown. The express service keeps me riding, as the stop and change at Howard street can add hours to a commute.

The City of Evanston depends on the lifeblood of the CTA to connect our great City with the great City to our South. Economic development in downtown Evanston has long relied on this convenience to bring people to our downtown and neighborhoods beyond.

I can’t imagine living and working in Evanston without this convenience. I realize that there are more underserved areas of Chicago, but to take this away from Evanston would be a huge detriment to both communities.

How much money would be saved if stations are closed and services cut?

Please reconsider the CTA’s closure of South Boulevard Station and stopping the Purple Line express to and from downtown Chicago.

Thank you very much!

Laura Saviano
847 332 1946
i am writing to you regarding the Purple line changes that are proposed.

I think it would be a mistake to close South Blvd and Foster. There are a great number of people that rely on these two stations. There are a great number of students that use these stations.

Evanston needs these stations. Also to close the express would be a horrible decision. I work at Evanston Hospital and a number of employees use the express and it would be a hardship for all these employees.

Please reconsider this.

Shirley Rateike
We want your input on the North Red and Purple Modernization Project. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify public and agency concerns early in the environmental process, define the issues and alternatives that will be examined in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and facilitate an efficient EIS preparation process. The RPM project is one part of CTAs efforts to enhance and expand the entire Red Line. Please PRINT.

Name: THOMAS GONZALES

Organization: Northwestern Chi State: IL

Address: 1603 RIZE AVE Zip: 60201

City: EVANSTON State: IL

Phone: 925-381-2169 E-mail: fomggonzales@gmail.com

☑ Check here to also receive updates about other projects along the Red Line.

Please comment on the proposed alternatives, the purpose and need for the project, the proposed topics of evaluation and the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered. Comments must be submitted by the close of business on February 18, 2011.

Any reconstructed viaducts should not have open areas underneath that are not extremely well lit or else this is a huge safety concern. Even better would be to put retail & restaurants underneath & have developers pay for some of the construction cost. Having multiple station entrances & consolidating some stations is also a great idea. However, stations should be partially or fully funded by adjacent or within air rights development (retail like grocery or pharmacy, etc. would be great) - similar to Ogilvie Transportation Center or European rail stations. This would greatly reduce needed capital funding.

The underground option does make the most sense from a system standpoint. 3 tracks, on the other hand, is a terrible idea. At minimum, we badly need the basic rehabilitation with transfer stations. It is probably important to mitigate in most cases.

Scoping comments may be submitted via mail, e-mail or fax with attention to: Steve Hands, Strategic Planning & Policy, Chicago Transit Authority, P.O. Box 7602, Chicago, IL 60680-7602. Fax: (312) 681-4195, Email: rpm@transitchicago.com, Website: www.transitchicago.com/rpmproject. Customer Information: 1-888-YOUR-CTA (1-888-968-7782), Hearing & Speech Impaired: 1-888-CTA-TTY (1-888-282-6891), Transit Information: 836-7000 from any local area code RTA TTY: 312-836-4949
We want your input on the North Red and Purple Modernization Project. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify public and agency concerns early in the environmental process, define the issues and alternatives that will be examined in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and facilitate an efficient EIS preparation process. The RPM project is one part of CTA's efforts to enhance and expand the entire Red Line. Please PRINT.

Name: Charles Evans

Organization: 

Title: 

Address: 1330 W. Birkwood Ave

City: Chicago 

State: IL 

Zip: 60626

Phone: 773 412-3299 

E-mail: carl.tsum@ctc.com

[ ] Check here to also receive updates about other projects along the Red Line.

Please comment on the proposed alternatives, the purpose and need for the project, the proposed topics of evaluation and the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered. Comments must be submitted by the close of business on February 18, 2011.

Please Do Not Close Jarvis Station
Chicago Transit Authority
Red and Purple Modernization (RPM)
Improving your commute. Improving your community.
www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Sara K. Stigberg [s-stigberg@northwestern.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 2:18 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Red & Purple Modernization Project

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that the current Red & Purple Modernization Project might result in the closing of the Foster St. Purple Line station in Evanston, among other Purple Line stops. As an employee of Northwestern University I urge you especially not to close the Purple Line Foster station.

This station is the closest CTA station to NU’s Evanston campus, and an essential stop for many of the NU staff, faculty, and students who live in Chicago. Closing this station would seriously impact many of us in our daily lives. We use this station for travel to and from work and school, the essence of our livelihoods.

Please consider the major impact closing the Foster St. Purple Line station would have on the community at large.

Sincerely,

Sara Klein Stigberg
Evening Supervisor, John P. McGowan Information Commons NULSA President Northwestern
University Library 1970 Campus Drive Evanston, IL 60208-2300
(847) 491-2174
Dear RPM,

I do not support this plan to, as you call it, consolidate CTA stops. Language play cannot disguise that these are stop closures. I live in the area of the Jarvis El. I am fearful of walking to Howard or Rogers, particularly after dark. No amount of policing can cure the desolation of this area. The systemic problems of poverty, dilapidated housing stock, and few places of work, result in what the Urban Planner, Jane Jacobs might call a lack of eyes on the street. There are no eyes in this area other than those of the small shops near the Jarvis El. I have spoken with several of these business owners, who have valiantly struggled to revitalize the neighborhood, and they feel the destruction of the Jarvis El would put their burgeoning businesses at risk. I ask you to consider the overall health of a small neighborhood: the convenience stores, dry cleaners, coffee shops, delis and hot dog stands, bars, and the like, that depend on rush hour commuters to utilize their service! s.

The proximity to public transportation is crucial for a dynamic and thriving neighborhood.

In particular, I spoke with a woman entrepreneur who operates a day care center out of her home near the Jarvis stop, and who may fly below your radar. The parents she serves take the El with their children, drop them off on their way to work, and pick them up after work. Her business as well as the parents need for child-care in the area would be devastated. This is just one example. I implore you to consider the eco-system of a neighborhood, how El stops are meeting points for people, and how the existence of these stops are critical to overall neighborhood development.

I do not think that time motion studies, nor statistics, can convey the real need of people. In an era that should focus on mass transit, it is criminal to think about attrition. You should enhance the use of mass transit, not by cutting out stops, but by improving the infrastructure and making mass transit more accessible and attractive to use. If your issue is getting people, and it sounds like you are more interested in those people from the north suburbs, downtown more quickly, why not go back to the old system of A and B stops?

I am particularly worried that this is a done deal. Terry Peterson was head of the CHA under the Plan for Transformation which got rid of Public Housing. The CHA also called for public input after deal had been made. Is this another pre-planned project, a Plan for Transportation that, like Public Housing, solicits input only after the decisions have been made? Can I expect a response?
Thanks you for your consideration,
Judy Hoffman
From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 2:45 PM
To: Lea, Claudia
Subject: FW: South Blvd El Station

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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Lori Bollom [lbollom@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 2:41 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: South Blvd El Station

To whom it may concern,
I wanted to convey my support for the Evanston South Blvd el station and emphasize the importance of that station remaining open. That station is widely used, and of vital importance to that neighborhood.

The next closest stations (Main St. or Howard St.) are about a 20 minute walk from the South Blvd stop and are not a viable alternative for many people, especially in inclement weather. People who use the South Blvd station would be forced to drive to another stop, and at that point, many would just choose to drive to their destination vs. using public transportation.

Please keep the South Blvd el stop in service. Thank you.
Hello,

I wanted to give some feedback on the RPM Project. I believe the underground alternative is a bad idea. Part of the character of this city is its elevated train line. In addition to the personality of the city, the elevated train line provides a better experience overall. Subways are too often plagued with poor lighting and dank air. The open air stations are more pleasant and allow for odors and uncleanness to be kept at bay.

I think the other options are much better for this city.

Matt

Matt Gebhardt
matt.c.gebhardt@gmail.com
www.luc.edu/saga
www.luc.edu/afterhours
www.leadershipstudy.net
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www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Cynthia Yesko [CYesko@family-institute.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 3:52 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: urge you to reconsider your decision to close the Foster stop

This email is regarding the following notice:

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) thanks everyone who submitted comments and attended the Public Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping Meetings on the Red and Purple Modernization (RPM) project. If you haven’t submitted a comment or would like to provide additional comments, you can do so until February 18th, 2011.

I work at The Family Institute at Northwestern University where I jointly administer a Master’s Program in Counseling Psychology and a therapy clinic at The Family Institute and the closest EL stop is Foster on the Purple Line. Our counseling students attend classes at The Family Institute in Evanston and work in our Family Institute clinics that are located in both Evanston and Chicago. They have tight schedules that often require them to attend class in Evanston and then see clients in both locations on the same day and even in the same afternoon. THEY RELY ON THE EL FOR TRANSPORTATION AND NEED TO BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE FOSTER STOP TO BE ABLE TO DO THEIR JOBS AS COUNSELORS.

Additionally, in our therapy clinic, many of our clients are under-resourced and rely on public transportation to get to our clinic. CLOSING THE FOSTER STOP MAY PREVENT UNDER-RESOURCED CLIENTS FROM BEING ABLE TO REACH OUR THERAPY CLINIC!

I urge you to reconsider your decision to close the Foster stop as doing so would create a great hardship for those of us who work at The Family Institute.

Cynthia L. Yesko, M.A., LCPC
Associate Director, Quality Improvement
Assistant Director, Master’s Program in Counseling Psychology
The Family Institute at Northwestern University
618 Library Place
Evanston, IL 60201
Direct: 847) 733-4300 x320
Fax: 847) 733-0390
Cyesko@family-institute.org
www.family-institute.org
This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. E-mail transmission cannot be guaranteed to be secure as information can be intercepted, lost, arrive late, or incomplete. The sender therefore does not recommend total dependence on e-mail for secure and timely communication.
I am a full time employee of St. Francis Hospital in Evanston and I take the purple line everyday to go to work. If the CTA is going to close the Purple Line to South Blvd up to Linden, a lot of employees and patients that go to St. Francis Hospital for their care will be greatly affected. Most of them, the CTA is their only means of transportation, and closing these vital CTA stations, will greatly affect numerous citizens using public transportation. Please reconsider this unnecessary plan to close these CTA stations. Thank you for your consideration.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submitted a comment last Friday asking that the Foster Street station not be closed. I stated that this was the primary stop for Northwestern students coming from Chicago. I also stated that I am a staff member and current CTA rider working in the NU building at 2020 Ridge. What I want to add, is that there are several hundred employees of Northwestern that also work in the 2020 Ridge building, many of whom ride the CTA to and from work and all of whom would have to walk much further from the stop at either Davis or Noyes (or the suggested “alternate” stops) than they do now.

From the Foster stop to the office is about three blocks and the distance would be more than doubled if the stop were closed. I believe that this would cause a hardship resulting in some either forced to drive (very hard to park and to park in the small NU lot is expensive) or have to seek other employment. This would be bad for everyone concerned including the CTA.

Your attention to this matter is very much appreciated.

Herb Nechin
Hello Mr. Hands

I am writing to you to let you know that I support keeping the Purple Line South Blvd El street station open. The closure of this station should not be part of any renovation plan. This station services a great many people in my community and it would be a large hardship on all of us if it were to be closed. My community houses a diverse population including many who are lower income and we truly need access to public transport to get to jobs, school etc. Please do not close this station!

Thank you
Dianne Schuyler
1112 Hull Terrace
Evanston, IL 60202
Chicago Transit Authority
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www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Valery True [valtrue@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 4:55 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Line Express

I am not a commuter, but would be very disappointed to see the Purple line express service ended. I live very close to the Noyes St stop and am very glad to be able to use the el instead of driving for my trips to Chicago from Evanston, sometimes several times a week. Let's improve mass transportation instead of curtailing it.
Sincerely, Valery True
847.866.9184
I am writing to ask for your support to keep the South Boulevard CTA Station open. A longtime resident of southern Evanston, I recently purchased property at the corner of Ridge and Oakton because of its close proximity to the Purple Line and affordable prices. I do own a car but I take public transportation into the city frequently and my roommate uses it every day to get to work. Closing the South Boulevard station would add an additional 25 minutes a day to my commute. The 3rd, 8th and 9th Wards of Evanston need CTA service at South Boulevard to remain attractive. Closing this station would further depress the home values in an already depressed market, and affecting one of the least affluent sections of our city. It will mean that I will either need to walk .83 miles to the Main street station or 1.2 miles to the Howard station versus .33 miles now to South Blvd station. It means I can safely get home at night. South Evanston is has a diverse mix of people who live in it. By removing the South Blvd Station it means that people who live even farther south than I will be forced to walk to the Howard station. This can be a VERY unsafe walk. I like living in a diverse area where there is a mix of nice condo's and homes and affordable apartments to rent in a safe neighborhood. This is one of the parts of Evanston that people from all over can move into that is safe, affordable and diverse and still be near public transportation. Not only would this hurt the local housing prices but it could drive good people out of the neighborhood who rely on public transportation.

I fully support the CTA with my money and enthusiasm. Please do all you can to keep South Boulevard Station open.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Avery
900 Oakton St., Unit 3
Evanston, IL 60202
Chicago Transit Authority
Red and Purple Modernization (RPM)

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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Aaron Cooper [acooper@family-institute.org]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 5:08 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Foster Station in Evanston

This station is so important to many of the clients who come to our organization for family counseling services. We ask that it not be shut down.

Aaron Cooper, Ph.D.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist
Director, Clinical Marketing
The Family Institute at Northwestern University
8 South Michigan Avenue, 10th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
618 Library Place
Evanston, Illinois 60201
847.733.4300 x1118

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Many people who commute to Chicago take the train at Dempster. As for myself I do some volunteer work at night in Chicago and getting off at Main Street at night is not a prudent thing to do. Please raise the rates rather than closing the stations and do away with free pass for seniors who can afford to pay.

Danielle R. Pickard
"Life is short. Eat dessert first!
Jacques Torress
I have been a resident of Uptown, regularly using the Wilson CTA station, for nearly 5 years now. I had grand hopes for this station after hearing promises from Alderman Shiller when I first moved to the area and instead of seeing it improve, it's only gotten worse. It would be a dream come true to have a clean, urine-smell free, well-lit, safe, and modern CTA station (resembling something like Belmont) at Wilson. If I'm completely honest with you, I've been met with less-than-safe conditions to count at Wilson station and I refuse to ride the CTA home after dark purely due to its poor condition. You, the CTA, are losing money in this regard as I cannot be the only one who chooses alternate transporation under these circumstances.

Further, its embarrassing that Wilson station is the "gateway" to Uptown as its anything but welcoming. This station, with its history and existing architecture really has the potential to be something great, something that truly would be a gateway to the community (not to mention the recently added Target store). It would be ideal to have the station in some way connect into or nearer to Target. Perhaps Target would be willing to "sponsor" the station to some extent, similar to Apple and the Red Line station at North & Clybourn?

It would also serve the area well to have access to the Purple Line. Personally, this would cut-down my daily commute to a much more manageable timeframe and I can only imagine there are a number of other area residents who would welcome a transfer to Purple at Wilson - plus the basic infrastructure already exists!

There also seems to be a great opportunity for increased retail - I have to believe with the right tenants, this would add to the CTA's revenue base! The existing storefronts could house a coffee house, a dry cleaner....places that would provide convenience to the primary customer (i.e. the CTA rider who would finally have one location for multiple stops). What about an Uptown "welcome center"? Or a StubHub-type place? With all the theatres and entertainment venues (not to mention proximity to Wrigley with ample, and often-times free parking available) in the immediate area I think this could be a viable opportunity.

My primary concern is safety. There really needs to be a constant, vocal, security presence and better lit platforms. I've seen theft, drug dealing, solicitation, gang-related graffiti, men exposing themselves, public urination and people repeatedly smoking on the platforms....this all has to stop. I have to believe it's in the CTA's best interest to facilitate its stoppage.

There are so many ways to pick Wilson station UP, that it would a shame to let it continue to sit in its as-is condition with all its filth and squalor. Doing nothing is not acceptable. I really hope that the CTA will take this opportunity to turn Wilson station around for the better.

Kind regards,
Heather Klintworth
hfedewa@yahoo.com
Chicago Transit Authority  
Red and Purple Modernization (RPM)  
*Improving your commute. Improving your community.*  
www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject  
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Debbie Lessin [debbie.rose98@gmail.com]  
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 6:14 PM  
To: North Red & Purple Modernization; janschakowsky@mail.house.gov; stisdahl@cityofevanston.org; mwynne@cityofevanston.org; arainey@cityofevanston.org; cburras@cityofevanston.org  
Subject: Please keep South Blvd station open....

To Whom It May Concern:

Keep South Blvd (purple line) open! I moved to Evanston because it has some of the same convenience Chicago has to offer. I don’t drive so I depend on CTA and RTA to get around. One of the main reasons I chose the town house I currently reside in is because of the close proximity of the South Blvd station is to my house. The closest station would then be Main St. which would add an additional 15 minutes to commute everyday. Four blocks may not seem like much to some but when you have weak legs that tire quickly it becomes problematic. Not to mention that when it’s super cold or super hot four blocks can also have a negative impact.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. Please keep South Blvd station open!

Debbie Lessin  
Assistant Manager

Children's Healthcare Associates PC  
PH # 773-348-8300 EXT 132  
Fax # 773-348-7163
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Bob J. Koester [bob@delmark.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 6:26 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: against closing of South Purple Line

I moved to my current house because of the proximity to the South station; the other stations would be a lot less convenient (especially in bad weather or when I've got a heavy load).

And keep in mind that during the storm they closed Howard for a while. If you close South and Jarvis, then if that happened again there would be a gap from Morse to Main (2 miles) with no stations.

Thank you for considering my opinions and for everything the CTA does,

Bob Koester
612D South Blvd
Evanston, IL 60202
Chicago Transit Authority
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www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: DAVID GORLEWSKI [davenlisagorlewski@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 7:24 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization; janschakowsky@mail.house.gov; etisdahl@cityofevanston.org;
mwynne@cityofevanston.org; arainey@cityofevanston.org; cburras@cityofevanston.org
Subject: Please keep South Blvd station open

To Whom It May Concern:

Keep South Blvd (purple line) open! I moved to Evanston because it has some of the same convenience Chicago has to offer. I don't drive so I depend on CTA and RTA to get around. One of the main reasons I chose the town house I currently reside in is because of the close proximity of the South Blvd station is to my house. The closest station would then be Main St. which would add an additional 15 minutes to commute everyday. Four blocks may not seem like much to some but when you have weak legs that tire quickly it becomes problematic. Not to mention that when it's super cold or super hot four blocks can also have a negative impact.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. Please keep South Blvd station open!

Lisa Gorlewski
630-440-9439
Chicago Transit Authority
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Rachael Chisholm [h2osprite@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:53 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Opinion on CTA Options for Red Line

Hi-
Wanted to write with my take on the Red Line (in Uptown and in general). I've been a Chicago resident for 14 years, and an Uptown resident for 6.

I've heard that Lawrence will definitely not be closed, which is reassuring. However, I also think that Wilson should have a Montrose entrance, that we should invest in the subway, and that there should be consideration given to a lateral cutover to brown (and/or) blue lines. What is not an option is to let things continue to decay. This city will continue to become more dependent on public transport given status of oil resources and the current state of alternative fuels. We need to work proactively against future need.

Thanks,

Rachael Chisholm
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Jeremy Davis [jeremyrdavis@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:58 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject:

Of the options presented, my preference for the red line renovation is...

Modern station amenities, reroute Red Line trains to 2-track sub-way system from Addison to Loyola

Sincerely,
Jeremy Davis
1000 W. Leland Ave,
Chicago, IL
Chicago Transit Authority
Red and Purple Modernization (RPM)
Improving your commute. Improving your community.
www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Pat Fuller [patriciapfuller@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 10:39 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Purple Line Service to Evanston

Attn: Steve Hands

Steve,

I am a resident of Evanston and a regular Purple Line Express rider. I cannot stress enough the importance of keeping this train service in place as it provides a critical link between Evanston and Chicago. The commute from Evanston to downtown takes an hour on the Express train. Eliminating this service will result in the train ride running close to 1.5 hours which means it is not a viable option for commuters.

In my experience, the Purple Line Express picks up a large number of riders as it stops at all the Evanston stations; the train is always full.

As a committed public transportation rider and a CTA devotee, I urge you to not cut Purple Line and Purple Line Express service any more. We've suffered enough degradation of service in the past two years.

Thank you,
Pat Fuller
2252 Orrington Ave
Evanston

--
Pat Fuller
Technology Management Group
847.370.0539
Would there not be considerable time and construction cost savings with a Broadway subway alternative? It was a logistical nightmare maintaining train traffic while rebuilding the stations and just some of the support structures for the recent Brown Line improvements; I cannot imagine what the same would involve with the northern leg of the Red Line. The underground alternative would also would free up existing right of way - some of which the CTA could sell for development.

Edgewater Beach CTA User
Regarding the 5 subject alternatives presented for public consideration on January 27th, I offer the following:

1. The alternatives are so constructed that none would totally satisfy the needs of the public. Regardless of public meetings and their input, the CTA will proceed in whatever manner it seems appropriate. The immediate danger is the closing of the South Blvd. and Foster St. stations. It should be abundantly clear, that every means possible shall be employed to get people out of cars and onto public transit. Closing these 2 stations counters this objective. If closing stations is the CTA’s direction, why would Jarvis stay open?

2. The CTA has been in existence for roughly 65 years. After decades of inactivity related to station work, only lately has work been done mainly due to ADA requirements and increased train length. Eventually, all stations will have to be ADA compliant. After all, shouldn’t stations conform when all buses do? Also, the degradation of CTA bridges and viaducts during this period is inexcusable.

3. The thought of expansion to a 3 or 4 track system, or contraction from a 4 track system downward would be an economic impossibility. Anything less than a 4 track system, with the Brown Line trains coming on and off just north of the Belmont station, would be a disaster. About 20 years ago, the CTA downsized the 4 track system to 2 tracks used by Purple/Brown line trains from Armitage to Chicago Av. in Chicago. Also, a 3 track system has long been abandoned on Chicago’s South Side from Roosevelt to Pershing Rd. for the old Kenwood/Stock Yard Branches.

4. A conversion to subway is just as bizarre as the track changes in comment 3 above.

5. ThePurple Line Express should be retained. Also, A/B staggered station service should be restored Monday thru Friday during daytime working hours on major lines.

I’m a retired mechanical engineer with 30 years of public service, and I’ve used the CTA for over 60 years.

Fred J. Wittenberg, P.E.
1726 South Blvd.
Evanston, IL 60202-2764
847-869-9794
To Whom It May Concern:

Keep South Blvd (purple line) open! I moved to Evanston because it has some of the same convenience Chicago has to offer. I don't drive so I depend on CTA and RTA to get around. One of the main reasons I chose the town house I currently reside in is because of the close proximity of the South Blvd station is to my house. The closest station would then be Main St. which would add an additional 15 minutes to commute everyday. Four blocks may not seem like much to some but when you have weak legs that tire quickly it becomes problematic. Not to mention that when it's super cold or super hot four blocks can also have a negative impact.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. Please keep South Blvd station open!

Debbie Lessin
Assistant Manager

Children's Healthcare Associates PC
PH # 773-348-8300 EXT 132
Fax # 773-348-7163
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www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Carol Harper on Sherwin [rpgarden@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:23 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Jarvis Station

I would be very disappointed if the CTA were to close the Jarvis station on the red line. From my home on Sherwin Avenue, Jarvis is a safe and convenient alternative to Howard or Morse. As a senior citizen, I would not be comfortable walking to either of these stations, particularly after dark. Also, it seems to me that, even though Jarvis is not as heavily utilized as those stations, it certainly must alleviate the increased congestion that would occur at both stations if Jarvis were closed. This is a very high-density area and, at some point, the economy will turn around and ridership will increase. It seems short-sighted to close an existing structure.

Carol L. Harper
1522 W. Sherwin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60626-2128
(773) 764-6687
Chicago Transit Authority
Red and Purple Modernization (RPM)
*Improving your commute. Improving your community.*
www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Sr. Christina [religioused@nickchurch.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 8:52 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: South Blvd Staation - keep OPEN

Dear Sir, We need the South Boulevard Station. I use it and many other do too. I think that closing this station would add to the poverty of south Evanston! Please do all you can to keep it open. Peace and thanks, Sister Christina Fuller from 1020 Hull Terrace in Evanston
Keep South Blvd Open.

More than 20 years ago I bought a condominium in the south of Evanston in the proximity of South Blvd. There is little direct transportation within the Third Ward. The most immediate is the El at South BLvd. If the South Blvd. stop is removed, there will be an awful lot of residents having to find alternative transportation to get from Howard Street to their homes in South Evanston. The busses are not convenient and run on a very erratic schedule on Howard, Ridge and Chicago.

South Evanston has residential areas that have been developed because the South Blvd stop was close. There is no El transportation for the south of Evanston residents as close as South Blvd. This includes ALL of ward 3. Make modifications to South Blvd, but please do all that is possible to let it remain as a usable stop on the purple line.

John P. Joynes
Hello,

The South Boulevard "El stop" is a vital part of our neighborhood. As the second must used stop on the purple line it clearly needs to be retained. My own experience with its use has been important to me in getting to my job as well as taking advantage of the attractions that this metropolitan area has to offer. Without this stop the progress that my neighborhood has seen over the will be halted. Please consider retaining the South Boulevard stop.

Thanks

Robert Muno
Information Support Coordinator
Jewish Community Center of Chicago
Phone: (847) 763-3550
Fax: (847) 933-9042
RMuno@gojcc.org
http://www.gojcc.org
Hi,

I live near the South Blvd El stop and use the El daily to commute to work. One of the main reasons we purchased our home back in 2006 was because it was near the near the El. My son attends Evanston Township High School and uses the EL to commute to and from school sometimes. There are some buses that he can take as well, but depending on the time of day and the after school activities, those buses are not always running. I do not feel that it is safe for me or my son to walk alone from Howard at night after work or after school.

Having the public transportation so close is a benefit to the neighborhood and also has an impact on the property values in the area. If the property values start to go down then the neighbor will go down as well.

Sincerely,

Julie Dees
Chicago Transit Authority
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www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Mattison, Johnnie [jmattison@reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 10:35 AM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Closing South blvd

Please do not close the station, if you do there is no way to go places w/o a car.
That station is very important to everyone. Thank of other people for a change. We are
paying part of your salary. God will bless you. Please let the station stay open. There are riders that work in
Evanston at both hospitals. Without they train they will not be able to
get to work. Stop thanking of yourself for a change. Thank of the riders.
Dear Mr. Hands,

I support efforts to expand and modernize the red line and purple lines north and any other efforts to make the CTA more efficient, safe, and pleasurable for riders. I think it is a key component to the future success of the City and surrounding areas. The current CTA is efficient in terms of how long it takes riders to get to and from the loop and other key transportation hubs like Ohare and Midway.

I do have concerns about costs, and trust that fares will be kept at a competitive amount. The CTA must stop the doomsday scenarios that it presents every couple of years, and must create a sustainable long-term plan that encourages ridership and the public trust. I would love to see the CTA to serve as a model of efficiency and profitability to other cities across the world! How is that for a vision.

Mark Law
5 day a week rider (and more)
Chicago Illinois
Ward 48
More security is needed on the elevated tracks. Police substations need to be setup at every stop. This would drop the amount of crime on the 'L' significantly.
My name is Mairead Smialek and I am currently employed at the Saint Francis School of Radiography located at St. Francis Hospital, Evanston. The South Boulevard stop is VERY important to our students. The students who attend our school travel great distances in sometimes very inclement weather and carry a large volume of very heavy books. Eliminating this stop could be very detrimental to our students who need this stop. In addition, the elimination of the South Boulevard stop will impose a great hardship on many of our patients, employees and volunteers. Please consider St. Francis Hospital and its needs and use of the South Boulevard stop before closing it. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mairead Smialek, MA
Project Coordinator
Saint Francis School of Radiography
Resurrection Health Care
847-316-6143 office
847-316-5811 fax
msmialek@reshealthcare.org

Saint Francis Hospital
Level I Trauma Center
355 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
sfh.reshealth.org
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From: eve turner [hireseka@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 1:35 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Proposed Closing of the Jarvis Avenue "RED LINE" El

Please do not do this. Many people rely upon this mode of transportation as their only mode.

There are several Nursing Homes in the neighborhood whose staff and clients depend upon this station.
Also, for some of us, safety issues (surrounding the usage of nearby stations) are a definite concern.
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Soukup, Thomas [Thomas.Soukup@mwrddc.dst.il.us]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 2:10 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Red/Purple Line improvements

Mr. Hands,

I have emailed you previously in regards to my desire that the CTA not close the South Blvd. Purple Line stop in it’s campaign to “improve” service on the Red/Purple Line north of Belmont. Before going further, let me repeat that closing the South Blvd. station would make my life—and undoubtedly the lives of all the other many people who use that stop—more difficult each and every working day of my life.

As I understand it, the possible “improvements” might also include eliminating the rush-hour Purple Line express service from Howard to Belmont. I ride that train to and from work in downtown Chicago every working day. That train is generally full, or very nearly so, from Howard to Belmont (where I get off to ride the Red Line to my eventual destination). Eliminating the express service would add an extra 15-20 minutes—maybe more—to both my morning and evening commutes. How would you like to get up earlier every morning, or get home later every evening, because someone thought that would make an “improvement” in your commute?

From my perspective, an improvement to the Red/Purple Line between Belmont and Linden would mean upgrading the tracks so that the express could actually run express on the way north, not creep along. It would mean performing some basic maintenance at stations—for instance, replacing the leaking roof at South Blvd. And it would mean figuring out how to run the trains on time. I believe that efficient service that takes people where they want or need to go is what riders are interested in. While beautiful stations are nice, clean, functional stations are a reasonable expectation and more within the CTA’s budget constraints.

At the risk of belaboring the obvious, the CTA needs to figure out how to encourage more people to utilize public transit. Closing stations and reducing service is not a way to do that. That just forces people into their cars, and we already have some of the worst commuting times, and air quality, or any large city in the nation. Please don’t do things to make that worse.

Tom Soukup
Chicago Transit Authority
Red and Purple Modernization (RPM)

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www.transitchicago.com/RPMproject
RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Kuditiyanickal, Thomas [Thomas.Kuditiyanickal@Reshealthcare.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 2:30 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: South Boulevard station

Sir,

I am a priest working as chaplain in St. Francis hospital. I have been informed that there are plans to stop the South Boulevard station. I undusted your economic constraints and other issues.

But my heart goes out to the poor and the needy. May of the patients who come here are poor as they depend on the charity of the hospital. Such people use the public transportation. I have seen discharged patients walking out in the cold, alone, to take public transportation. The train is of great solace to them. I also know some low-paid staff that uses that station.

So I request you to reconsider the issue, mindful of the neediest.

With sincere gratitude,
Fr. Thomas

Fr. Thomas Kuditiyanickal, SAC
Chaplain
Phone (847) 316-2095
Fax (847) 316-2015

Saint Francis Hospital
Level I Trauma Center
355 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
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Lea, Claudia

From: North Red & Purple Modernization [RPM@transitchicago.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 3:53 PM
To: Lea, Claudia
Subject: FW: Attention Steve Hands

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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Mick Tiffany [micktiffany@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 2:46 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Attention Steve Hands

My wife and I have lived in Uptown for three years and have lived on W Lakeside PL for about a year and a half. We both take the bus to and from work in the loop. We would prefer to use the Red Line from Wilson; however, we are concerned about safety around the station. When we invite people over, we do not recommend them to use the Red Line due to the safety of the Wilson stop, and honestly we are embarrassed by the condition of the dilapidated Wilson station.

There are many people in our community, including my wife and I, that believe a thorough modernization of the Wilson station could greatly improve the safety, local economy, and appearance of the Wilson area. The Target and Aldi developments and the improvements to Truman College are steps towards a better Uptown; a thorough modernization of the Wilson station would keep the momentum of development going and would significantly improve the area.

The area is home to many professionals and families with children. It took me a while to realize this because I was not seeing families, children, and professionals at the Wilson Red Line station or the retail areas around the station. People are avoiding the area because of its appearance and safety concerns. The Wilson station is surrounded by a large rider population, the station and area just needs a complete renovation so people feel safe. As the area improves, more and more people will confidently use the station and over time families, children and professionals will replace gang members, drug dealers and loiterers. However, this all starts with a thorough modernization of the Wilson station.

My wife and I are greatly in favor of adding a Purple Line stop at Wilson. If a Purple Line stop was added at Wilson, our commute would significantly improve. Again, the primary reason my wife and I currently use the bus rather than the train is due to the safety around the station. If the appearance and safety around the station improved we would take the train for the following advantages (in order of importance) : (1) The train runs later than the express bus (my wife and I often work past 6:30pm and miss the last express bus). (2) In most situations the train would be faster than the bus. (3) The train does not get stuck in gridlock traffic on Lake Shore Drive. (4) The train is less
affected by weather conditions, whereas a light rain can significantly slowdown traffic on Lake Shore Drive. (5) The train is quicker than the bus on weekends (fewer express buses on the weekend).
My wife and I support the Modernization 4-Track or Modernization 3-Track Projects. At the very least the Basic Rehabilitation with Transfer Stations Project should be completed.

Thank you,

Mick Tiffany
Dear Steve Hands at CTA,

I am writing respectfully to ask that you do everything in your ability to keep the South Boulevard El Station open.

I live near the South Blvd El stop and I use this stop daily for transportation to Northwestern University, where I am a postdoc researcher. My husband uses this stop as well on a daily basis to travel to downtown for work. We are strongly opposed to closing the El stop for the following reasons:

1. We purchased our property 4 years ago mainly because of the convenience to walk to the El station. There is ~1 mile each way to either Main Street station or to Howard station from my condo. My husband is an accountant and he has to work for long hours in winter times because of the annual busy season, many times until midnight. Not being able to get home in a timely and safe manner will be a big problem for us.

2. The Closing of the South Blvd station will potentially cause sharp decrease of our property value and affect the housing market in this area, which is not beneficial for local business growth.

3. To my knowledge, most of our neighbors own the property instead of renting, this fact ensures a stable and safer community than a more dynamic renting area, where one could consequently have more potential problems associated with resident member changes.

4. The closing of the South Blvd station could force certain people to switch their daily transportation from taking the El to personal vehicles, which is environmentally less preferable, will potentially cause more traffic jam and affect the efficiency of ambulances to get to the St. Francis hospital, and cause more street parking.

5. Please do consider the fact that not every community member will get to know the proposed closing of this El station in a timely manner and not everyone will have chance to write such comments as we did. Our comments should represent a large population of our community members.

Some questions I would like to ask were how much effort is required from CTA to keep the South Blvd station open, what is the real benefit of doing so, what is the trade off of closing one very important train station by
cutting down the salary for one or two officers at the train station, if there is no other expenses that is hard for me to image?

Please help us as the best you can to keep the South Blvd El station open!

Thank you very much for your consideration on this!

Ning Wang and Jianjun Fan
419 Custer Ave. #1
Evanston, IL 60202
Dear Steve,

I live within walking distance of the South Blvd. Purple Line stop. I use it almost every day to get to work. It would be a major inconvenience for me and my family if it closed. I bought my property eight years ago because of its proximity to the Purple Line. I am quite sure that my property values would drop if it was closed. It is one of the major sources of transportation for South Evanston. The values and the vitality of the entire neighborhood would suffer if you closed the station. I would be happy to talk further with anyone about my views if there was interest.

Best regards,

Michael Puican
1016 Hull Terrace
Evanston, IL 60202
We want your input on the North Red and Purple Modernization Project. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify public and agency concerns early in the environmental process, define the issues and alternatives that will be examined in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and facilitate an efficient EIS preparation process. The RPM project is one part of CTA’s efforts to enhance and expand the entire Red Line. Please PRINT.

Name: Rosalind Bruce Evanson

Organization: __________________________ Title: __________________________

Address: 1330 W. Birchwood Ave

City: Chicago State: IL Zip: 60633

Phone: 312 511 3241 E-mail: rodruce@rem.com

☐ Check here to also receive updates about other projects along the Red Line.

Please comment on the proposed alternatives, the purpose and need for the project, the proposed topics of evaluation and the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered. Comments must be submitted by the close of business on February 18, 2011.

Please Do Not Close Jarvis Station
We want your input on the North Red and Purple Modernization Project. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify public and agency concerns early in the environmental process, define the issues and alternatives that will be examined in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and facilitate an efficient EIS preparation process. The RPM project is one part of CTA's efforts to enhance and expand the entire Red Line. Please PRINT.

Name: Joe Vulcovich

Organization: 

Address: 1401 West Shermn 2U

City: Chicago State: IL Zip: 60626

Phone: E-mail: Ghostwriter61@hotmail.com

☐ Check here to also receive updates about other projects along the Red Line.

Please comment on the proposed alternatives, the purpose and need for the project, the proposed topics of evaluation and the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered. Comments must be submitted by the close of business on February 18, 2011.

With gas expected to reach the $4.00/gallon price, the CTA should be working to get more ridership. Don't close any of the stations. What happened to the plan of extending the Yellow line to connect with the blue line? So many people from the far north side could benefit without having to go into the city to get to O'Hare. The bus options from Jarvis/Howard to O'Hare take way too long and don't run on time.

Clean up all the stations especially Howard (That's why I like Jarvis). There are no trash cans on the platforms and trash is everywhere. Make people want to use public transportation!
We want your input on the North Red and Purple Modernization Project. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify public and agency concerns early in the environmental process, define the issues and alternatives that will be examined in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and facilitate an efficient EIS preparation process. The RPM project is one part of CTA's efforts to enhance and expand the entire Red Line. Please PRINT.

Name: John E Norris

Organization: ___________________________ Title: ___________________________

Address: 1401 W. Sherwin, #2W

City: Chicago State: IL Zip: 60626

Phone: ___________________________ E-mail: ___________________________

☐ Check here to also receive updates about other projects along the Red Line.

Please comment on the proposed alternatives, the purpose and need for the project, the proposed topics of evaluation and the potential impacts and mitigation measures to be considered. Comments must be submitted by the close of business on February 18, 2011.

Closing ANY of the stops is a disservice to the entire citizenry of the city. In our neighborhood the Jarvis el stop helped to revitalize the community. There are several area businesses centrally located, in addition to those only a few steps from our el stop, that depend on the proximity of the Jarvis stop to continue to stay in business. But as I said before to think of closing ANY stop is unconscionable. How can you want to close the Lawrence el stop? With Green Mill a Chicago historic institution) a 2 minute walk away. That's the Uptown entertainment center: Aragon, Riviera, several popular bars & clubs.

Keep our stops - All of them. Spend the money on upgrades. Forget about reconstructing for high speed. Ditch the subway idea.
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From: Feedback
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 4:04 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: FW: Transit Chicago Contact Us - South Blvd (purple line) station

FYI:

CTA FEEDBACK TEAM

From: Debbie Lessin [debbie.rose98@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 4:00 PM
To: Feedback
Subject: Transit Chicago Contact Us - South Blvd (purple line) station

Address: 613B Custer Ave
Address2: 
Address3: 
City: Evanston
State: IL
Country: United States
Zip: 60202
Phone: 312-502-8841

Comment: Keep South Blvd (purple line) open! I moved to Evanston because it has some of the same convenience Chicago has to offer. I don't drive so I depend on CTA and RTA to get around. One of the main reasons I chose the town house I currently reside in is because of the close proximity of the South Blvd station is to my house. The closest station would then be Main St. which would add an additional 15 minutes to commute everyday. Four blocks may not seem like much to some but when you have weak legs that tire quickly it becomes problematic. Not to mention that when it's super cold or super hot four blocks can also have a negative impact.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. Please keep South Blvd station open!
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RPM@transitchicago.com

From: Paige Finnegan [pknutsen@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 4:46 PM
To: North Red & Purple Modernization
Subject: Evanston Stations

Please don't shut down the South and Foster stations in Evanston.

--
Paige K. Finnegan
(847) 942-0016