APPENDIX H
Public Involvement
Western/Ashland BRT Public Notification Activities

**Community Outreach**

Project information was also posted on CTA’s Western/Ashland BRT website and social media sites. News releases were also sent to local media outlets.

**Meetings with Stakeholders**

- **September 18, 2013** – The Resurrection Project and the Greater Pilsen Economic Development Association
- **September 18, 2013** – North Branch Works
- **September 17, 2013** – Chicago Grand Neighbors Association
- **September 16, 2013** – University Village Association-Little Italy
- **September 11, 2013** – Illinois Medical District Commission
- **September 4, 2013** – Wicker Park Committee
- **August 21, 2013** – Martha Goldstein, West Loop Community Organization (by phone)
- **August 20, 2013** – Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council
- **August 5, 2013** – East Village Association
- **February 20, 2013** – The Industrial Council of Nearwest Chicago
- **January 24, 2013** – Ashland Avenue-Western Avenue Coalition (Comprising Near West Side Chamber of Commerce, Near West Side Community Development Corporation, Randolph/Fulton Market Association, West Central Association, and West Town Chamber of Commerce); Aldermen in attendance: Representative for Bob Fioretti, 2nd Ward; Representative for Walter Burnett, Jr., 27th Ward; Jason Ervin, 28th Ward; Scott Waguespack, 32nd Ward. State Representative Derrick Smith also in attendance.
- **August 1, 2012** – Logan Square and Wicker Park Chambers of Commerce
Area Design Meetings

Design meetings were held with community organizations to receive feedback on the proposed alternative. Community leaders were able to comment on conceptual designs of the Ashland roadway geometry specifically within their community. Two rounds were held, the first showing the groups the preferred roadway design and the second displaying modifications that could be incorporated within Final Design.

Second Round Meetings

August 13, 2013 – Pilsen (Comprising Eighteenth Street Development and the Resurrection Project)

July 29, 2013 – Illinois Medical District (Comprising Illinois Medical District Commission)

July 19, 2013 – Kinzie Industrial Corridor (Comprising Industrial Council of Nearwest Chicago and Reliable Plating)

July 17, 2013 – Wicker Park/West Town (Comprising West Central Association, Wicker Park – Bucktown Chamber of Commerce, East Village Association, West Town Chamber of Commerce and Wicker Park Committee)

First Round Meetings

July 8, 2013 – Pilsen II (Comprising Pilsen Neighbors Community Council)

June 26, 2013 – University Village/ Back of the Yards (Comprising University Village Association/Little Italy and Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council)

June 19, 2013 – Illinois Medical District (Comprising Illinois Medical District Commission)

June 19, 2013 – Pilsen I (Comprising Eighteenth Street Development Corporation and the Resurrection Project)

June 18, 2013 – Kinzie Industrial Corridor/West Loop (Comprising Randolph/Fulton Market Association and Rickard Circular Bindery)

June 18, 2013 – Wicker Park/West Town (Comprising West Central Association, Wicker Park-Bucktown Chamber of Commerce, West Town Chamber of Commerce and Wicker Park Committee)

June 18, 2013 – Kinzie Industrial Corridor (Comprising Industrial Council of Nearwest Chicago and North Branch Works)
Public Open House Meetings and Associated Outreach

October 16 – October 18, 2012 Public Open House Meetings

October 16, 2012 – Iglesia Rebaño Church 2435 W. Division St. Chicago, IL 60622
October 17, 2012 – Lindblom Math and Science Academy 6130 S. Wolcott Ave. Chicago, IL 60636
October 18, 2012 – Lane Tech College Prep High School 2501 W. Addison St. Chicago, IL 60618

Postcards
October 1, 2012 – postcards mailed to a list of 823 stakeholders.

Transit cards
October 5, 2012 – transit cards posted on all bus routes
October 10, 2012 – English and Spanish versions of the transit cards posted at selected rail stations

E-Blasts
October 3, 2012 – invitation to upcoming Public Open Houses e-mailed to 424 e-mail addresses of interested parties and individuals

Newspaper Display Advertisements
October 2, 2012 – Hoy
October 3, 2012 – Chicago Sun Times
October 3, 2012 – Chicago Defender
October 3, 2012 – Beverly Review
October 4, 2012 – Evanston Review
October 4, 2012 – Chicago Journal
October 7, 2012 – La Raza

Flyers (Printed in English and Spanish)
For the October Public Open Houses, flyers were mailed to City libraries on database list with a request to post them.

June 12 – June 14, 2012 Public Open House Meetings

June 12, 2012 – 7th District Police Station 1438 W. 63rd St. Chicago, IL 60636
June 13, 2012 – Lane Tech College Prep High School 2501 W. Addison St. Chicago, IL 60618
June 14, 2012 – Wells Community Academy High School 936 N. Ashland Ave. Chicago, IL 60622

Postcards
May 22, 2012 – postcards mailed to a list of 438 stakeholders.
Transit cards
May 23, 2012 – transit cards posted at selected rail stations and on selected bus routes
May 25, 2012 – Spanish version of the transit cards posted at selected rail stations

E-Blasts
May 22, 2012 – invitation to upcoming Public Open House e-mailed to 373 e-mail addresses of interested parties and individuals.

Newspaper Display Advertisements
May 23, 2012 – Chicago Sun Times
May 23, 2012 – Chicago Defender
May 23, 2012 – Beverly Review
May 24, 2012 – Hoy
May 24, 2012 – Chicago Journal
May 25, 2012 – Our Village
May 27, 2012 – La Raza
May 31, 2012 – Evanston Review

Flyers (Printed in English and Spanish)
June 5, 2012 – Active Transportation Alliance (ATA) passed out flyers at Western stop on Pink Line
June 7, 2012 – ATA passed out flyers at Western stop on Brown Line
June 11, 2012 – ATA passed out flyers at Ashland stop on Green Line
June 12, 2012 – ATA passed out flyers at Western stop on Blue Line, O'Hare branch
Flyers also mailed to select City libraries with a request to post them.

Elected Officials Briefings

July 2013 Outreach
Meetings with Aldermen:


June 2013 Outreach
Meetings with Aldermen:

- June 17, 2013 – Ald. Walter Burnett, 27th Ward
- June 24, 2013 – Ald. Jason Ervin, 28th Ward
February 2013 Outreach

Meetings with Aldermen:

- February 11, 2013 – Ald. Debra Silverstein, 50th Ward
- February 20, 2013 – Ald. Lona Lane, 18th Ward

October 2012 Outreach

Meetings with Aldermen:

- October 2, 2012 – staff of Ald. Thomas Tunney, 44th Ward
- October 9, 2012 – Ald. Walter Burnett, 27th Ward
- October 10, 2012 – Ald. Willie Cochran, 20th Ward
- October 10, 2012 – Ald. Debra Silverstein, 50th Ward
- October 11, 2012 – staff of Ald. Roberto Maldonado, 26th Ward
- October 16, 2012 – Ald. George Cardenas, 12th Ward
- October 16, 2012 – Ald. Scott Waguespack, 32nd Ward
- October 17, 2012 – staff of Ald. Daniel Solis, 25th Ward
- October 23, 2012 – Ald. Proco Joe Moreno, 1st Ward

The following aldermen were also contacted and offered briefings:

- Ald. Robert Fioretti, 2nd Ward
- Ald. Pat Dowell, 3rd Ward
- Ald. James A. Baker, 11th Ward
- Ald. Ed Burke, 14th Ward
- Ald. Toni Foulkes, 15th Ward
- Ald. JoAnn Thompson, 16th Ward
- Ald. Latisha Thomas, 17th Ward
- Ald. Lona Lane, 18th Ward
- Ald. Matthew O'Shea, 19th Ward
- Ald. Howard B. Brookins Jr., 21st Ward
- Ald. Jason Ervin, 28th Ward
- Ald. Carrie M. Austin, 34th Ward
- Ald. Patrick J. O’Conner, 40th Ward
- Ald. James Cappleman, 46th Ward
- Ald. Ameya Pawar, 47th Ward
- Ald. Harry Osterman, 48th Ward
- Ald. Joseph A. Moore, 49th Ward
May/June/July 2012 Outreach

Meetings with Aldermen:

- May 23, 2012 – Ald. James A. Balcer, 11th Ward
- May 29, 2012 – Ald. Roberto Maldonado, 26th Ward
- May 31, 2012 – Ald. James Cappleman, 46th Ward
- June 4, 2012 – Ald. George Cardenas, 12th Ward
- June 5, 2012 – Ald. Carrie M. Austin, 34th Ward
- June 5, 2012 – Ald. Toni Foulkes, 15th Ward
- June 7, 2012 – Ald. JoAnn Thompson, 16th Ward
- July 2, 2012 – Ald. Matthew O'Shea, 19th Ward
- July 3, 2012 – Ald. Walter Burnett, 27th Ward

The following aldermen were also contacted and offered briefings:

- Ald. Proco Joe Moreno, 1st Ward
- Ald. Robert Fioretti, 2nd Ward
- Ald. Pat Dowell, 3rd Ward
- Ald. Ed Burke, 14th Ward
- Ald. Latisha Thomas, 17th Ward
- Ald. Lona Lane, 18th Ward
- Ald. Howard B. Brookins Jr., 21st Ward
- Ald. Jason Ervin, 28th Ward
- Ald. Scott Waguespack, 32nd Ward
- Ald. Patrick J. O’Conner, 40th Ward
- Ald. Thomas Tunney, 44th Ward
- Ald. Ameya Pawar, 47th Ward
- Ald. Harry Osterman, 48th Ward
- Ald. Joseph A. Moore, 49th Ward
- Ald. Debra Silverstein, 50th Ward

**Non-CTA-led Outreach**

**Active Transportation Alliance (Active Trans)**

For the October 2012 Public Open Houses, Active Trans contacted interest groups, posted information on their organization’s social media pages, and provided infographic information to the media.
Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC)

For the October 2012 Public Open Houses, MPC communicated information via social media and sent letters to 40 property owners along the corridor.

MPC also reached out to the following Aldermen:

- December 8, 2011 – Ald. Joseph A. Moore, 49th Ward
- December 8, 2011 – Ald. Willie Cochran, 20th Ward
- January 10, 2012 – Ald. Toni Foulkes, 15th Ward
- January 17, 2012 – Ald. Latasha Thomas, 17th Ward
- January 23, 2012 – Ald. James Balcer, 11th Ward
- January 25, 2012 – Ald. Joe Moreno, 1st Ward
- January 25, 2012 – Ald. Scott Waguespack, 32nd Ward
- January 27, 2012 – Ald. James Cappelman, 46th Ward
- February 1, 2012 – Ald. Walter Burnett, 27th Ward
- February 1, 2012 – Ald. Debra Silverstein, 50th Ward
- February 16, 2012 – Ald. Danny Solis, 25th Ward
- February 22, 2012 – Ald. Ameya Pawar, 47th Ward
- March 27, 2012 – Ald. Lona Lane, 18th Ward

A briefing was also held on February 22, 2012 at the 1st Ward Community Meeting.

MPC and Active Trans Meetings

MPC and Active Trans also worked with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) to meet with a number of members of their New Communities Partnership lead agencies, which took place on April 23, 2012. Beyond efforts to schedule individual meetings with the community organizations listed below, all were invited to attend one of the following three BRT sessions:

- May 24, 2012 (25th Ward presented by ATA with Alderman Solis)
- May 30, 2012 at Active Trans
- January 10, 2012 – Ald. Toni Foulkes, 15th Ward

The following table lists each community organization that MPC and Active Trans reached out to. While MPC/Active Trans has met with 31 of these organizations, every organization listed below has been called, emailed, and has received informational materials about BRT and the Western/Ashland Avenues Alternatives Analysis public meetings hosted by CTA and CDOT.

MPC and Active Trans met with the following 31 Organizations:

- 17th Ward Community Redevelopment Advisory Council
- Back of the Yards
- Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation
- Edgewater Chamber of Commerce
- Enlace

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Greater Auburn-Gresham Development Corp.
Greater West Town Community Development Project
Humboldt Park LISC*
ICNC
Lakeview Chamber of Commerce
Lincoln Bend Chamber of Commerce
Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce
LISC/MetroEdge
March 27, 2012 – Ald. Lona Lane, 18th Ward
Little Village LISC
Logan Square Chamber of Commerce
Logan Square Neighborhood Association
LVEJO
Mercy Housing
Near West Side Chamber of Commerce
Near West Side Community Development Corp.
North Center Chamber
North River Commission
Rogers Park Business Alliance
Southwest Organizing Project
Teamwork Englewood
Washington Park Consortium
West Central Association
West Ridge Chamber of Commerce
West Town Chamber of Commerce
Wicker Park & Bucktown Chamber of Commerce

Organization listed below did not meet with MPC / Active Trans; however, they have been called, emailed, and received informational materials about BRT and the Western/Ashland Avenues Alternatives Analysis public meetings hosted by CTA and CDOT.

95th Street Beverly Hills Business Association
Alevio Clinic
Beverly Area Planning Association
Canaryville Improvement Association
Catholic Charities
Chinatown Centennial Committee
Chinese Chamber of Commerce
Cristo Rey High School
Division Street Business Development Association
EcoAndersonville
Friends of Holstein Park
Greater Northwest Chicago Development Corporation
Greater Southwest Development Corporation
Instituto
- Interfaith Organizing Project
- Juarez High School
- Lakeview High School
- Little Village Chamber of Commerce
- Mujeres Latinas en Accion
- Near Northwest Neighborhood Network
- North Side Alliance
- Northwest Corridor Business Organization
- Pilsen "Together" Chamber of Commerce
- Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of Illinois
- The Resurrection Project
- Tri-Taylor Chamber of Commerce in Little Italy
- Universidad Popular
- UNO
- West Andersonville Neighbors Together
- West Bucktown Neighborhood Association
- West Edgewater Area Residents
- West Lakeview Neighborhood Association
- West Loop Gate
- West Rogers Park Community Organization

**Chicago Architectural Foundation (CAF)**
- October 17, 2012 – CAF hosted a Lunchtime BRT Lecture.
- June 6, 2012 – CAF hosted an Evening BRT Panel Discussion.
- May 14, 2012 – CAF opened Lecture Hall Exhibit on BRT to the Public.
- April 25, 2012 – CAF hosted a BRT 101 Lunchtime Lecture with MPC’s Peter Skosey.

### Media Summary

The following lists all media pertaining to Ashland BRT. This includes online and print publications as well as television and radio reports.

- **October 4, 2013** – StreetsBlog, “Residents Respond to West Town Chamber of Commerce’s Anti-BRT Stance,” John Greenfield
- **October 3, 2013** – ChicagoNow - Getting Real, “In A Nutshell...Why The Ashland Bus Rapid Transit Plan Is Insane,” Gary Lucido
- **October 1, 2013** – Wired, “To Attract Urban Investment, Build a Bus Line,” Keith Barry
September 30, 2013 - Chicago Tribune, "Getting Around: Bus rapid transit for Ashland Avenue hits road bump in Chicago," Jon Hilkevitch


September 20, 2013 - Chicago Sun-Times, “Cutting lanes on Ashland a really bad idea,” Herb Gould


September 19, 2013 – StreetsBlog, “Have No Fear, Ashland Residents, BRT Is a Good Fit for City Neighborhoods,” Kristen Maddox

September 18, 2013 - Chicago Sun-Times, “Rapid transit buses not there yet,” Greg Borzo

September 18, 2013 - WMAQ-TV Channel 5 (NBC), "Rapid Transit System Proposed For Ashland," Regina Waldroup

September 17, 2013 - Chicago Sun-Times, “Backers of Ashland bus rapid transit plan object to left-turn ban,” Rosalind Rossi

September 17, 2013 - WLS-TV Channel 7 (ABC), "Ashland bus-only lane proposed from Irving Park to 95th Street," Eric Horng

September 16, 2013 - Chicago Sun-Times, “North Side residents question CTA plan for bus rapid transit on Ashland,” Rosalind Rossi


September 8, 2013 - Lincoln Square Patch, “CTA Makes Case for BRT, Critics Call it a 'Glorified Ashland Express Bus,'” Andy Ambrosius

September 6, 2013 – StreetsBlog, "Quigley Hosts Roundtable on Sustainable Transportation in Chicago Region," John Greenfield

September 6, 2013 - NorthCenter-RoscoeVillage Patch, “CTA Makes Case for BRT, Critics Call it a 'Glorified Ashland Express Bus,'” Andy Ambrosius

September 5, 2013 - Curbed Chicago, “CTA Presents Case (w/ Facts) for Ashland Bus Rapid Transit,” Ian Spula

September 5, 2013 – DNAinfo, "City Makes Case for Ashland Express Bus Project," Darryl Holliday
CTA – Western/Ashland Corridors BRT


August 16, 2013 - Lake View Patch, “Petition Created to Keep BRT off Ashland, Western,” Andy Ambrosius


August 9, 2013 - Chicago Tribune, “The creation of a traffic disaster,” John McCarron


August 2, 2103 - The Gazette, “Business owners question BRT practicality as project continues,” Jane Lawicki


July 15, 2013 – Chicagoist, “Pawar Supports Bus Rapid Transit As Group Calls It A 'Cheap L Train,'” Chuck Sudo


July 2, 2013 - DNAinfo.com, “Ashland Express Bus: Center Lane Project Raises Questions, Concerns,” Alisa Hauser


June 24, 2013 - Crain’s Chicago Business, “Reconsider BRT,” Letter to the Editor by Jim Greenwell, president, Reliable Plating Corp. and Steve Debretto, Executive director, Industrial Council of Nearwest Chicago


June 7, 2013 - The Gazette, ”Bus Service Coalition proposes alternative to Bus Rapid Transit on Ashland Avenue,” Jane Lawicki

June 6, 2013 - Chicago Weekly, ”The CTA plans for bus rapid transit on Ashland Avenue,” Jamison Pfeifer


May 3, 2013 - The Gazette, “RFMA wants changes in street designs and in truck bans in area,” Dermot Connolly

May 2, 2013 - Scene Magazine, “Chicago Totally Copying Cleveland with Planned Bus Rapid Transit,” Sam Allard

May 1, 2013 - WTTW-TV “Chicago Tonight,” “Bus Rapid Transit,” Eddie Arruza


April 25, 2013 - Chicago Tribune - Letter to the Editor, “Bus rapid transit a win for aging population,” Bob Gallo, AARP Illinois State Director

April 22, 2013 - RedEye blog, “Get ready for bus rapid transit,” Tracy Swartz

April 22, 2013 – Patch, “Ashland Avenue Chosen for ‘Rail-Like’ Bus Route,” Sarah Flagg

April 19, 2013 - Chicago Sun-Times, “City officials, CTA propose Bus Rapid Transit on Ashland,” Rosalind Rossi

April 19, 2013 - eNews Park Forest, “Mayor Emanuel, CTA and CDOT Announce Next Steps in Pursuit of Bus Rapid Transit on Ashland Avenue”

April 19, 2013 - Crain’s Chicago Business, “Bus rapid transit coming to Ashland Avenue,” Greg Hinz

April 19, 2013 - WLS-AM 890, “Ashland chosen as city’s first bus rapid transit corridor”

April 19, 2013 - Red Eye, “CTA details proposed Ashland express bus service,” Tracy Swartz

April 19, 2013 - Chicago Tribune, “Chicago picks Ashland Avenue for next bus rapid transit corridor,” Jon Hilkevitch


April 19, 2013 - Chicago Sun-Times Media Wire, “Ashland chosen as city’s first bus rapid transit corridor”