Federal Transit Administration’s
New Starts Process

Red Line Extension
Alternatives Analysis Study

4-5-2007
Schedule for Tonight’s Meeting

- **Structure of the Meeting**
- **Questions and Answers Process**
  - Submit your comments in writing on comment cards
  - Comments and questions will be grouped and answered by topic
  - All comments and questions will be addressed on CTA’s website - [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com)
  - An interpreter for the hearing impaired and a translator for the Spanish speaking community are available this evening
Tonight’s Speakers

• Darud Akbar – Moderator
  – Chicago Transit Authority

• Jeffrey Sriver – Project Manager
  – Chicago Transit Authority

• Ronald Shimizu – Red Line Study Area Manager
  – PB Americas, Inc.
Outline of the Presentation

- Describe Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Required “New Starts” Process
- Define Alternatives Analysis Study Steps
- Emphasize Importance of Public Involvement Process
- Discuss Status of Red Line Extension Alternatives Analysis Study
FTA’s Required New Starts Process

- **Concept Development**
  - Alternatives Analysis Study
    - Preliminary Engineering
    - Environmental Impact Statement
        - Final Design
            - Construction
                - Operation
Alternatives Analysis (AA) Studies

• FTA Requirement for Federal Funding for Transit Expansion (New Starts)
• Identifies Transit Opportunities and Ensures All Practical Solutions are Considered
• Ensures Planning is Consistent Among All New Starts Projects Throughout the Country
• Provides Opportunity to Gather Information and Receive Public Input
• Identifies Locally Preferred Alternative
Alternatives Analysis Process – Key Steps

- Define Purpose and Need
- Identify all Possible Transportation Alternatives called the “Universe of Alternatives”
- Evaluate Viability of Possible Alternatives through a Screening Procedure
- Identify Locally Preferred Alternative

Public Involvement
Public Involvement Process

• **Key Component of the Alternatives Analysis Study**

• **Opportunity to Provide Information and Receive Public Input**
  – Your comments are needed to complete this screening process

• **Community Outreach:**
  – General public, elected officials, community and civic organizations, faith-based organizations, city and state agencies

• **Ongoing Public Involvement/Input**
  – Meetings announced through public notices and advertisements
  – Project updates on the CTA web site - [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com), accessible at local public libraries
Status of Study
Purpose and Need

- Significant Bus and Passenger Congestion at 95th Street Red Line Station
- Lengthy Bus Trips to Access 95th Street Red Line Station
- Far South Area Residents Experience 20% Longer Commute Times than Rest of City
- Traffic Congestion is Expected to Grow along with Study Area Population and Employment
Opportunity for Improvement

- Extend Rapid Transit Service South From 95th Street Red Line Terminal:
  - Improve access to, within, and beyond study area
  - Shorten transit travel times through faster and more direct routings
  - Stimulate economic development and job opportunities
As the AA study progresses and the evaluation criteria are applied, options within the Universe of Alternatives are eliminated until, at the end of the process, there is a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).
Screen 1

Evaluation Process – Screening Detail

- **Screen 1 – Review Universe of Alternatives**
  - Eliminate alternatives based on technology, corridor and profile
  - Advance strongest alternatives to Screen 2

- **Screen 2 – More Detailed Definition and Evaluation**
  - Define alignments, forecast transit ridership, calculate capital costs, identify neighborhood resources along the alignment
  - Evaluate and reduce number of remaining alternatives

- **Screen 3 – Final Definition**
  - Refine remaining alternatives
  - Identify Locally Preferred Alternative
Screen 1 Process

1. Define the Universe of Alternatives
2. Evaluate all Potential Technologies
3. Evaluate all Potential Alignments (Corridors and Profiles)
4. Evaluate all Potential Combinations of Technological and Alignment Alternatives
5. Advance Strongest Combinations
Technologies Evaluated
Universe of Alternatives Considered

TECHNOLOGIES

- Automated Guideway/Monorail
- Bus Rapid Transit
- Commuter Bus
- Commuter Rail
- Heavy Rail Transit
- High Speed Rail
- Light Rail Transit
- Local Bus
- MagLev
- Personal Rapid Transit
- Streetcar
Technologies Reviewed

Automated Guideway/Monorail
Technologies Reviewed

Bus Rapid Transit
Technologies Reviewed

Commuter Bus
Technologies Reviewed

Commuter Rail
Technologies Reviewed

Heavy Rail Transit
Technologies Reviewed

High Speed Rail
Technologies Reviewed

Light Rail Transit
Technologies Reviewed

Local Bus
Technologies Reviewed

MagLev
Technologies Reviewed

Personal Rapid Transit
Technologies Reviewed

Streetcar