

Office of the Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle

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Cook County Begins Next Phase of Gathering Public Input For Long Range Transportation Plan

Cook County kicked off the second phase of public engagement in development of its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) this week with the placement of six survey kiosks at locations around the County.

The kiosks utilize a survey program called MetroQuest which is designed to gather input on various questions related to transportation. In this phase of the survey, people are being asked to define which transportation choices are most important to them and rate potential plan scenarios, ranging from maintaining the status quo to aggressively improving and investing in the overall transportation system. "When we began this process in February, we asked Cook County residents to share their opinions on where they lived, where they worked, and what priorities they felt we should pursue," said Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. "We have taken that input and, in this phase of the study, we want to hear from the public on how they view a series of go-forward strategies."

Called "Connecting Cook County," the LRTP will look at the impact of transportation systems on the economic opportunity and jobs, as well as development of livable and sustainable communities. Cook County's last comprehensive transportation plan, now more than 70 years old, identified the corridors for the today's Chicago-area expressway system. This LRTP is expected to set a transportation agenda through 2040.

The kiosks will be at the following locations through the end of September:

- Chicago State University, 9501 S. ML King Drive, Chicago
- Blue Island Library, 2433 York Street, Blue Island
- Humboldt Park, 1440 N. Humboldt Drive, Chicago
- Welles Park, 2333 W. Sunnyside Avenue, Chicago
- Chicago Public Library-Garfield Ridge, 6348 S. Archer Ave., Chicago

• Streamwood Park District, 550 S. Park Blvd., Streamwood

At the end of September, the kiosks will be moved to six locations elsewhere in Cook County. Those locations will be publicized and posted on the Long Range Transportation Plan website, www.connectingcookcounty.org. For those unable to use a kiosk, the MetroQuest survey is also available on LRTP website.

"Public input is critical to our development of this plan," Preckwinkle said. "I encourage everyone to visit a kiosk or log onto the Connecting Cook County website and weigh in so we can proceed with the maximum amount of information available."

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