

CAT COMMENTARY – FEBRUARY 2010

The time has come to pay close attention to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Study on the Eisenhower Corridor.

Major roadway and transit investments in the Eisenhower Corridor will have a substantial and long-term impact on your life. You use transportation to get to work, school, recreation, and elsewhere. Without access to a car, you are a captive transit rider. With good transit options, you have greater access to jobs and may not need a second car. The potential for negative impacts in major roadway projects is huge. The impacts of major transportation facilities affect your choice of jobs, the air you breathe, noise levels you live with, your social contacts, and the value of your property.

To make good decisions, IDOT must balance capacity, safety, costs, employment center access, economic development, air pollution, noise pollution, social connections, parks and cultural resources, property acquisition, water quality, emergency access, and construction impacts. This balancing act is tough when there are so many priorities.

IDOT's Phase 1 Study leads to an irrevocable decision because IDOT acquires property in Phase 2, and constructs facilities in Phase 3.

Go to www.CitizensForAppropriateTransportation.org to download our formal comments to IDOT. Membership in CAT is free – just send us an e-mail by clicking on Contact Us from our Home Page. IDOT's study web site is www.EisenhowerExpressway.com.

Rick Kuner
Citizens for Appropriate Transportation