

Ashland Avenue BRT



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



You're invited to attend CTA Public Open House Meetings *Formal Public Hearings for the Ashland Avenue Bus Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment*

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), in partnership with the Chicago Department of Transportation and Federal Transit Administration is proposing to implement an approximately 16-mile long Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service along Ashland Avenue to improve transit speed and reliability and enhance the pedestrian environment. The project corridor extends north-south along Ashland Avenue from Irving Park Road to 95th Street. Physical improvements proposed for this project include dedicating two general travel lanes (one in each direction) as center running bus-only lanes, implementation of traffic signal priority (TSP), and construction of median BRT stations with enhanced pedestrian amenities approximately every half-mile and at CTA 'L' stations. Most parking and existing landscaped medians would be maintained, and new landscaped medians between stations would be provided where none currently exist. Left-hand turns would be removed at most locations along the corridor to improve transit speed, general traffic flow, and transit service reliability.

Phase 1 of the project would implement center running, dedicated bus-only lanes and center stations along 5.4 miles of Ashland Avenue between Cortland Street on the north and 31st Street on the south. Outside of the Phase 1 limits, the BRT service would make stops curbside at the future BRT station locations, using existing curbside local bus stops until future Phases are built.

An Environmental Assessment (EA), which is a document that provides a detailed assessment of social, economic, and environmental impacts of the project, has recently been completed for the full 16-mile corridor of this project in accordance with federal requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). All interested parties are invited to review the EA and attend public hearings being held in public open house meeting format for this project.

The purpose of the open house meetings is to share project information and seek formal comments on the EA and BRT. The open house meetings are being conducted to give all interested persons an opportunity to express their views concerning the location and design of BRT, and the social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed improvements.

Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA)

The CTA and FTA, in accordance with the Federal requirements of 23 CFR 771.119, are hereby notifying the public of the availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Ashland Avenue BRT Project.

An EA is a detailed assessment of social, economic, and environmental impacts, and it recommends mitigation measures for any identified adverse impacts. This EA explores, in coordination with the public involvement process, the effects of implementing the Ashland Avenue BRT Project on the physical, human, and natural environments along the corridor and surrounding station locations. Potential impacts were identified with respect to traffic, parking, neighborhoods, communities, noise and vibration, air quality, energy, and construction. Mitigation measures identified in the EA would render these impacts not adverse.

Copies of the EA will be available at the open house meetings, and are also available for review between 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. November 19th through December 20th, 2013, at the CTA reception desk, second floor, Chicago Transit Authority, 567 W. Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60661. Copies of the EA are also available for viewing on CTA's website (www.transitchicago.com/AshlandBRT) or at the following Chicago Public Library locations:

- **Lincoln Belmont, 1659 W. Melrose Street, Chicago, IL 60657**
- **West Town, 1625 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60622**
- **Lozano (Pilsen), 1805 S. Loomis Street, Chicago, IL 60608**
- **West Englewood, 1745 W. 63rd Street, Chicago, IL 60636**
- **Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State Street Chicago, IL 60605**

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How to Provide Comments in Writing

Written comments may be submitted in one of two ways:

- **Via e-mail: Please submit your comments to AshlandBRT@transitchicago.com**
- **Via U.S. mail: Written comments may be sent to the following address:**

Chicago Transit Authority, Attn: Joe Iacobucci, 567 W. Lake Street Chicago, IL 60661

All written comments must be submitted by **4:30 P.M. on Friday, December 20, 2013.**

Public Open House Meetings

CTA will also conduct two public open house meetings regarding the proposed Ashland Avenue BRT Project, which includes an opportunity for public comment. These meetings will serve as the official public hearings for the Environmental Assessment (EA). Meeting facilities are accessible to people with disabilities.

When and Where?

Tuesday, December 10, 2013
6:00-8:00 P.M.

BENITO JUAREZ COMMUNITY ACADEMY

1450 W. Cermak Road
Chicago, IL 60608

*Served by Pink Line (18th Street) and
CTA Bus Routes #9, #21, #60*

Wednesday, December 11, 2013
6:00-8:00 P.M.

PULASKI PARK FIELDHOUSE

1419 W. Blackhawk Street
Chicago, IL 60642

*Served by Blue Line (Division) and
CTA Bus Routes #9 and #56*

Do you require assistance?

To receive an accessible format version of this Notice, or if you require an interpreter, including sign language services, or other accommodations at this public hearing, please contact Maria-Teresa Roman, CTA Government and Community Relations Officer, at least five days prior to the public hearing at (312) 681-2704 or mroman@transitchicago.com.

Para pedir información en español u otras adaptaciones, por favor comuníquese con Maria-Teresa Roman al (312) 681-2704 o mroman@transitchicago.com.

Aby uzyskać informacje lub pomoc w języku polskim należy kontaktować się z Maria-Teresa Roman pod numerem (312) 681-2704 lub mroman@transitchicago.com.

如要获得中文的信息或其它安排照顾，请联系 Maria-Teresa Roman，她的电话号，(312) 681-2704。或给她发电子邮件：
mroman@transitchicago.com

How else can you learn about the project?

Visit: www.transitchicago.com/AshlandBRT

Para información en español, llame al (312) 681-2704

e-mail: AshlandBRT@transitchicago.com

Customer Information: 1-888-YOUR-CTA (1-888-968-7282)