



PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Public Comments for a Proposed Bus Station Impacting Kickapoo Woods Forest Preserve in Riverdale, IL

Pace Suburban Bus (Pace) and the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) are in the planning stages for a project funded in part by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The project would involve construction of an enhanced bus station for the South Halsted Bus Corridor Enhancement Project in a small portion of the Kickapoo Woods Forest Preserve located at 144th Street and Halsted Street. The proposed station would be located on the same site as a current local bus stop and bus shelter; however, it will be larger to accommodate additional passenger amenities.

A permanent easement, estimated at 826 sq. ft. is needed to provide Pace and CTA with the legal rights to use a portion of this property. The Forest Preserve District of Cook County would retain ownership of the entire preserve. A temporary easement, estimated a maximum of 268 sq. ft. is also needed for construction access. The temporary easement will only be required during the construction timeframe and the land will be restored to the previous use once construction is complete. The existing land use in this area is maintained lawn grasses. No trees will be impacted. There will be no impacts to the Kickapoo Loop paved trail.

Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Act of 1966 provides special protection and opportunity for obtaining input from the public when recreational resources may be impacted by transportation projects.

Based on the proposed station and minor impacts, this project would not adversely affect any of the activities, features, or attributes associated with the Kickapoo Woods Forest Preserve. As such, it is the intent of FTA to issue a *de minimis* impact determination – meaning impacts to this property are minor in nature. In accordance with federal requirements, the views of the public are being sought regarding the effect of the proposed project on the public recreational area before FTA finalizes its Section 4(f) determination.

Please respond with any comments no later than May 16, 2022 to the contact information provided below. Comments may be sent via regular mail or by e-mail.

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