



Chicago Area Transportation Study

ATTACHMENT 2

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
From: Tom Murtha
Date: June 4, 2004
Subject: Level of Service and Inventory Information in Support of Project Development

A number of questions were raised by the *Soles and Spokes Plan* Steering Group at its meeting on Friday, May 28 regarding the distribution of Bicycle and Pedestrian Level of Service and Bicycle Inventory System information. The questions were referred to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force.

Questions to Be Addressed by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force:

- Should bicycle facility inventory information be pro-actively distributed?
- Should bicycle and pedestrian level of service information be distributed with inventory information? If so, should it be pro-actively distributed?
- Should level of service information be collected for new projects? How?

Background:

- Consultants collected bicycle and pedestrian level of service information for selected communities and Transportation Improvement Program projects as part of the *Soles and Spokes Plan* development process. Level of service information indicates how suitable a road is for walking and bicycling.
- Staff and consultants have collected bicycle facilities inventory information regionwide. The inventory includes on- and off-road facilities.

Potential Uses of the Data in Highway Project Development

- Engineers could use inventory and level of service data to plan accommodations around existing and planned bike and pedestrian routes.
- Engineers could seek to improve or maintain the bike and pedestrian level of service for a particular highway project.

- Policies could be developed to use the level of service data as a benchmark or target in project development.
- The data is not suitable for navigation.

Current Procedures

- Inventory information is collected and maintained region-wide for subregional plans. It is collected on an as-needed basis from local agencies.
- Inventory information is distributed upon request for studies and project development.
- Level of service information is not maintained or distributed.

A brief discussion will take place at the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force meeting on Friday, June 11 to help the Task Force answer the questions.

Note: Detailed information about how this information is being used in the Existing Conditions and Regional Trends Report supporting *the Soles and Spokes Plan* is at http://www.solesandspokes.com/Task2_Part3b_draft4.pdf and at http://www.solesandspokes.com/Task2_part3c_draft4a.pdf. More information about level of service tools and potential policy goals is in Appendices D and E at http://www.solesandspokes.com/Task2_appendices_draft4.pdf