



**pace**

A Fresh Approach To Public Transportation

Thomas J. Ross  
Executive Director

December 14, 2005

Mr. Don Kopec  
Acting Executive Director  
CATS  
300 W. Adams  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Re: FY 05-09 TIP Comments

Dear Mr. Kopec:

Pace would like to take the opportunity to comment on Project 12-97-0027 of the TIP increasing the number of lanes from four to six on I-55 from Naperville Road to just south of US 6.

Pace would like to ensure that shoulder lanes are designed and constructed to allow buses to operate smoothly and safely through this area. Bus only shoulder riding would give the right of way to only buses and would allow the buses to deliver a consistently reliable schedule to passengers regardless of traffic conditions along the route. Shoulder riding would also support the goals of CATS Transportation Management and Operations task force including consideration for the development of park and ride facilities and queue jump by pass lanes. In addition, bus only shoulders can provide a congestion free lane on highways to evacuate people in case of natural disaster or other emergencies, while highways may experience major congestion.

Sincerely,

T.J. Ross  
Executive Director, Pace Suburban Bus