



Northern Illinois  
Commuter Transportation Initiative

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NICTI ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS IS UNDERWAY STUDY TEAM SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT**

ROCKFORD, IL.--The Northern Illinois Commuter Transportation Initiative (NICTI) Executive Committee is seeking public input on the preliminary stages of the Alternatives Analysis to improve transportation connections between Boone/Winnebago Counties and the Chicagoland area. The initial part of the study focuses on data collection, land use, ridership forecasts, and the identification of transportation needs.

NICTI will hold two public open houses where the public can learn more about the Alternatives Analysis and provide input. The public open houses will be held:

**Wednesday, November 15, 2006**

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Rockford City Hall  
425 East State Street  
Rockford, Illinois 61104

**Thursday, November 16, 2006**

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Community Building, Lower Level  
111 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Belvidere, Illinois 61008

The Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) requires the Alternatives Analysis process be followed for projects that are interested in seeking Federal New Starts funding. The process is designed to lead to the selection of a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). The NICTI Study will evaluate a range of transportation options involving several different modes of travel such as rail, bus, and highway expansion between the Rockford/Belvidere area the Chicagoland region. The Alternatives Analysis will identify an option or combination of options that best meet the goals, objectives, and transportation needs of the area. The general study area includes a portion of Boone, Winnebago, Ogle, Lee, McHenry, DeKalb, DuPage, Cook, and Kane counties. Comments on Initial Alternatives and the project Purpose and Need are being sought at this first round of public meetings.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend at any time during the open houses. There will be no formal presentation at the open houses, but the public will be able to watch a PowerPoint presentation, review exhibits, and discuss the study with representatives from NICTI. Both sites are accessible to persons with disabilities. If special accommodations are needed, contact the Hayes Morrison at 815-987-5628, or TTY 815-987-3083.

“Public involvement is an important part of this study”, said NICTI Board Chairman Dave Taylor. “Our goal for this Alternatives Analysis is to obtain public consensus on the Locally Preferred Alternative meeting the transportation needs for the area.”

Please visit the interactive website at [www.NICTI.net](http://www.NICTI.net) where the public can learn more about the NICTI Study, find updated information, and express ideas or comments.

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