

Rock River Times

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NICTI seeks input from public on transportation

The Northern Illinois Commuter Transportation Initiative (NICTI) Executive Committee has identified reasonable modes and alignments for the Rockford region from the November public meeting and other stakeholder and local officials meetings. These ideas will be presented at the upcoming public information meetings. NICTI will also detail their plan to evaluate the concepts and explain the federal screening process. The alternatives have undergone an initial evaluation to assess how well they address the six main parts of the purpose and need statement; enhance mobility through and within the corridor; provide efficient and high-quality transit improvements; develop a cost-effective transportation solution; support business, transportation and residential investments; support effective land use and development patterns; provide a cleaner and safer environment.

The public will have the opportunity to comment on the various improvement concepts, evaluation process and the draft purpose and need.

The open houses will be Tuesday, Feb. 27, from 5-7:30 p.m. at Burpee Natural History Museum, 737 N. Main St., Rockford, IL 61103; and Wednesday, Feb. 28, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Belvidere Community Building Gymnasium, 111 W. First St., Belvidere.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend at any time during the open houses. They will be updated on the study, have an opportunity to review exhibits, and participate in a question and answer forum with NICTI representatives and RATS immediately following a live presentation, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. both days. Both locations are accessible to people with disabilities. If special accommodations are required, contact Hayes Morrison at (815) 987-5628 or TTY (815) 987-3083.

“We have identified reasonable modes and alignments for our region. This is an important step in the process of obtaining a Locally Preferred Alternative,” said NICTI Board Chairman Dave Taylor. “The public’s input on these modes and alignments are very important, and we look forward to hearing from them at our upcoming public meetings.”

For more information, see the Web site at www.NICTI.net.