

TranSystems Chosen to Conduct NICTI Alternative Analysis Study

The Northern Illinois Commuter Transportation Initiative has chosen TranSystems as the lead firm to conduct the Alternative Analysis Study that will look at all alternatives involved with extending commuter transportation west of Chicago to the northern stateline region. The initial feasibility study, which was also conducted by TranSystems and completed November 2004, indicated that it would be feasible to extend commuter rail service from Elgin along the Union Pacific railroad to the stateline region.

The sub consultants for the project include:

- Parsons Brinkerhoff, Chicago, IL
- Images, Inc.
- ETC Institute, Olathe, KS
- Fish Transportation Group, Oak Park, IL
- TEMS, Inc.
- Vandewalle and Associates, Madison, WI
- Vlecides-Schroeder Associates, Inc. Chicago, IL

The funding for the study will be approximately \$3 million dollars. Eighty percent of that is federal funds and the state will be providing the twenty percent local match. NICTI and the consultants will be having a kick off meeting and press conference on August 30th (further details to be released). TranSystems should begin work on the project by Mid-July and hope to have a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) identified by August of 2007 and have completed the alternative analysis study by the end of 2007