Sims, Kelly

From: Illinois Terminal Expansion <info@itetheyards.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 6:06 PM

To: Media@mtd.org

Subject: Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District to Expand Illinois Terminal through Joint

Development Project

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Media Alert Contact: Jane Sullivan, 217.384.8188 September 16th, 2020

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District to Expand Illinois Terminal through Joint Development Project

Online Presentation Available through October 14

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA - Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) today announced its plans to improve and expand Illinois Terminal. By expanding the facility on adjacent surface parking lots, MTD will be able to construct dedicated MTD, intercity, and rural bus platforms to reduce bus congestion resulting in improved on-time performance and a safer pedestrian environment.

MTD received a \$17.275 million federal grant in November 2019 from the FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities Grant program to complete the improvements to the Illinois Terminal. In addition to dedicated bus platforms, the newly expanded mixed-use facility will provide additional tenant space, retail, apartments, and a parking deck. The existing Illinois Terminal building will also be renovated to expand waiting areas and passenger amenities and create green space.

The project is being completed as a Joint Development initiative with Core Spaces, who will contribute private funding for the residential spaces in the mixed-use expansion and parking deck. All work to be completed as part of the Illinois Expansion Project is located north of Logan Street. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2021.

"In the midst of the many challenges our community is facing, we are grateful that the federal funding for the Illinois Terminal Expansion is secure and that plans for this public-private partnership have continued to progress. The project partners are excited to begin the public outreach stage and move this transformative project forward" said Karl Gnadt, MTD's CEO and Managing Director.

As MTD develops an Environmental Assessment to evaluate potential impacts and benefits of expanding Illinois Terminal, it invites you to review information online about the planned project and provide your feedback. An on-demand video presentation is available at ITETheYards.com and comments will be accepted until October 14th, 2020.

Comments may be submitted by:

Email: <u>Info@ITETheYards.com</u>
 Online: ITETheYards.com
 Mail: Champaign-Urbana MTD
 Attn: Jane Sullivan

1101 E. University Ave. Urbana, Illinois 61802

• Phone: 217-384-8188

If you do not have Internet access to view the Virtual Meeting, please visit the Customer Service Counter at Illinois Terminal or call 217-384-8188.

For more information follow Illinois Terminal at www.facebook.com/ITattheYards, twitter.com/ITatTheYards, or visit ITETheYards.com.



Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) invite you to view an online video presentation at ITETheYards.com to learn more about the project, ask questions, and provide comments.



Photo taken at Illinois Terminal's

Amtrak waiting area in 2017.

The presentation will be available from September 14 to October 14, 2020.

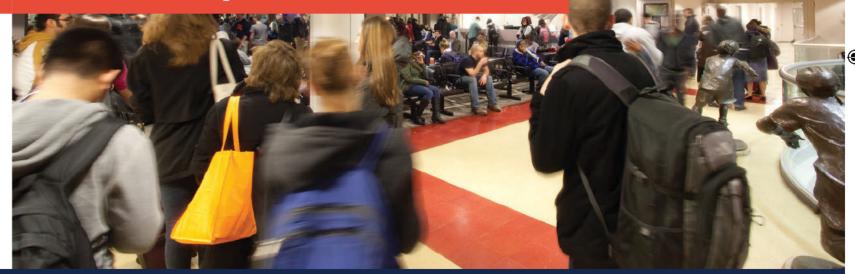
Please send us your questions and comments by:

Email: Info@ITETheYards.com

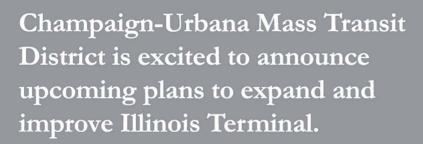
Online comment form: ITETheYards.com

Mail: Champaign-Urbana MTD 1101 E. University Ave. Urbana. Illinois 61802

Telephone: 217-384-8188



Responses to questions will be posted on the project website. For more information follow Illinois Terminal at facebook.com/ITattheYards or visit ITETheYards.com. If you do not have Internet access to view the Virtual Meeting, please visit the help desk at the Illinois Terminal or call 217-384-8188.



The project will improve passenger safety and accessibility, and provide more platforms, passenger waiting areas, parking, and leasable space. Expansion of Illinois Terminal will provide greater access to opportunities throughout the region and advance local economic development goals, supporting our community to help it thrive.

To learn more, visit:
ITETheYards.com or
facebook.com/
ITattheYards

Due to COVID-19, we are taking action to keep you and our staff safe and healthy. Rather than in-person open houses, we're providing community members with virtual engagement opportunities to learn more about the project and provide input on the project.



C/O HDR 9450 W Bryn Mawr Suite 400 Rosemont, IL 60018







Illinois Terminal Expansion at The Yards Mailing LIst September 14, 2020

First	Last	Full Name	Salutation	Organization	Title	Address	City	State	Zip
Tammy	Duckworth	Senator Tammy Duckworth	The Honorable	U.S. Senate	Senator	524 Hart Senate Office Building	Washington	D.C.	20510
Richard	Durbin	Senator Richard Durbin	The Honorable	U.S. Senate	Senator	711 Hart Senate Building	Washington	D.C.	20510
Rodney	Davis	Representative Rodney Davis	The Honorable	U.S. House of Representatives	Representative	1740 Longworth House Office Building	Washington	D.C.	20510
Scott	Bennet	State Senator Scott Bennet	The Honorable	Illinois Senate	State Senator	311C Capitol Building	Springfield	IL	62706
Carol	Ammons	State Representative Carol Ammons	The Honorable	Illinois House of Representatives	State Representative	288-S Stratton Office Building	Springfield	IL	62706
Stephanie	Fortado	Board Member Stephanie Fortado	The Honorable	Champaign County	Board Member	305 W. Columbia	Champaign	IL	61820
Giraldo	Rosales	Board Member Giraldo Rosales	The Honorable	Champaign County	Board Member	618 W. Hill St.	Champaign	IL	61820
Greg	Stock	Councilor Greg Stock	The Honorable	City of Champaign	Councilor	102 N. Neil St.	Champaign	IL	61820
Tom	Bruno	Deputy Mayor Tom Bruno	The Honorable	City of Champaign	Deputy Mayor	102 N. Neil St.	Champaign	IL	61820
Matthew	Gladney	Councilor Matthew Gladney	The Honorable	City of Champaign	Councilor	102 N. Neil St.	Champaign	IL	61820
Will	Kyles	Councilor Will Kyles	The Honorable	City of Champaign	Councilor	102 N. Neil St.	Champaign	IL	61820
Deborah	Frank Feinen	Mayor Deborah Frank Feinen	The Honorable	City of Champaign	Mayor	102 N. Neil St.	Champaign	IL	61820
				Trust #2086		44 E Main St STE 515	Champaign	IL	61820
				BUBIN PROPERTIES LLC		3102 Glenhill Pl	Champaign	IL	61822
				KWC LLC		1806 Maynard Dr	Champaign	IL	61822
				MAIN STREET RAIL LLC		44 E Main St STE 515	Champaign	IL	61820
				SULLIVAN, KENWOOD & LAUREL TRUSTEES		3262 GREENWOOD DR	Dewey	IL	61840
Carlos	Nieto	Carlos Nieto				6 E Taylor St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Dandelion Vinatage & Used		100 N Chestnut St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Maize at the Station		100 N Chestnut St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Exile on Main Street		100 N Chestnut St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Jon's Pipe Shop		44 E University Ave	Champaign		61820
				Pour Bros. Craft Taproom		40 E University Ave	Champaign	IL	61820
				Seven Saints		32 E Chester St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Kane & Co		41 E University Ave	Champaign	IL	61820
				Stephens & Stull, P.C. Certified Public Accountants	S	41 E University Ave #3D	Champaign	IL	61820
Carolyn	Crawford	Carolyn Crawford		Inman Place		17 E University Ave	Champaign	IL	61820
				H&H Restaurant Equipment Supply		51 E Chester St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Brainstorm Escapes		61 E University Ave	Champaign	IL	61820
				Flatland Tattoo Studio		209 S Water St	Champaign	IL	61820
Laura	Weis	Laura Weis, President and CEO		Champaign County Chamber of Commerce	President and CEO	303 W Kirby Ave	Champaign	IL	61820
Darius	White	Darius White, Executive Director		Urbana Business Association	Executive Director	111 W Main St	Urbana	IL	61801
Xander	Hazel	Xander Hazel, Executive Director		Champaign Center Partnership	Executive Director	301 N Neil St Suite 400	Champaign	IL	61820
				Women's Business Council of Champaign County		PO Box 3323	Champaign	IL	61826
Don	Elmore	Don Elmore, Director		Small Business Development Center	Director	1817 S Neil St Suite 100	Champaign	IL	61820
Carly	McCory	Carly McCory, Executive Director		Champaign County Economic Development Corpo	or Executive Director	1817 S Neil St Suite 100	Champaign	IL	61820
				Champaign County Regional Planning Commission	1	1776 E Washington St	Urbana	IL	61802
				Urbana Economic Development Division		400 S Vine St	Urbana	IL	61801
				Angels of Praise of Salem Baptist Church		500 E Park St	Champaign	IL	
				Berean Covenant Church		602 W Church St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Mt Calvary Missionary Baptist Church		1601 W Bloomington Rd	Champaign	IL	61821
				Living Faith Ministries		PO Box 3752	Champaign	IL	61826
				New Free Will Baptist Church		601 E Grove St	Champaign		61820
				Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church		1310 N 6th St	Champaign		61820
				•					

Illinois Terminal Expansion at The Yards PMailing LIst September 14, 2020

First	Last	Full Name	Salutation	Organization	Title	Address	City	State	e Zip
				CU Church		107 S Webber St	Urbana	IL	61802
				Meadowbrook Community Church		1902 S Duncan Rd	Champaign	IL	61822
				First Christian Church		3601 S Staley Rd	Champaign	IL	61822
				Redeemer Church		202 W Illinois St	Urbana	IL	61801
				Champaign Church of Christ		1509 W John St	Champaign	IL	61821
				Champaign Unit 4 School District		502 W Windsor Rd	Champaign	IL	61820
				Country Side School		4301 W Kirby Ave	Champaign	IL	61822
				Academy High		2302 Fox Dr	Champaign	IL	61820
				Holy Cross School		410 W White St	Champaign	IL	61820
				University Primary School		51 Gerty Dr	Champaign	IL	61820
				Next Generation School		2521 Galen Dr	Champaign	IL	61821
				St. Matthew School		1307 Lincolnshire Dr	Champaign	IL	61821
				Judah Christian School		908 N Prospect Ave	Champaign	IL	61820
				St. John Lutheran School		509 S Mattis Ave	Champaign	IL	61821
				University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign; Offic	e of Public Affairs	507 E Green St	Champaign	IL	61820
				Champaign County Black Chamber of Comme	rce	408 Taylor Thomas Ln	Champaign	IL	61801
				Champaign Community Coalition		102 N Neil St	Champaign	IL	61820
				City of Champaign; Office of Equity, Communi	ty and Human Rights	102 N Neil St	Champaign	IL	61820
				City of Champaign; Neighborhood Services Department		102 N Neil St	Champaign	IL	61820
				NAACP Champaign County		PO Box 403	Champaign	IL	61824
				Greyhound Lines, Inc.		45 E University Ave., 1st Floor	Champaign	IL	61820
				Burlington Trailways		906 Broadway Street	West Burlin	g IA	52655
Lisa	Beith	Lisa Beith, Director		Danville Mass Transit	Director	101 N. Jackson	Danville	IL	61832
				Central Illinois Public Transit	CIPT Program Director/Program Manager	1805 S. Banker Street PO Box 928	Effingham	IL	62401
				Piatt County Public Transportation (PIATTRAN	1)	1925 North Market Street	Monticello	IL	61856
William	Winkler	William Winkler, President and Owner		Peoria Charter	President and Owner	2600 NE Adams St.	Peoria	IL	61603
Nick	Burwell	Nick Burwell, Manager Public Works, IA, I	IL	Canadian National Railways	Manager Public Works, IA, IL	1006 East Fourth Street	Waterloo	IA	50703
				Amtrak		45 E University Ave., 2nd Floor	Champaign	IL	61820
				Subway Sandwich Shop		45 E University Ave., 1st Floor	Champaign	IL	61820
Liza	Thomas	Liza Thomas, Director		R.E.A.D.Y. Program	Director	45 E University Ave., 3rd Floor	Champaign	IL	61820
				CityView Event and Meeting Center		45 E University Ave., 4th Floor	Champaign	IL	61820
				DISH Passionate Cuisine		45 E University Ave., 4th Floor	Champaign	IL	61820
				Visit Champaign County		17 E Taylor St.	Champaign	IL	61820



Illinois Terminal Expansion Project

On-Demand Virtual Public Information Meeting

September 14 through October 14, 2020

Hello and thank you for joining this Virtual Public Meeting for the Illinois Terminal Expansion Project.

The format for this meeting is a pre-recorded presentation available for review at your convenience. We value your feedback as we kick-off this exciting project, but we also value your health and safety. That's why, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project team has elected to host this virtually. This meeting will be available now through October 14th and will feature all of the same materials that would have been available at an in-person meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to present conceptual plans for the expansion of Illinois Terminal and receive your comments and questions about the project. Your input will help us identify potential impacts of the project and considerations for the project design. Responses to your questions will be posted on this site following the close of the public comment period on October 14.

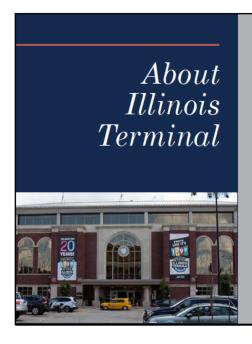
At the end of the presentation we will provide more details on how to submit questions and comments.

Purpose of the Meeting Project History Project Team Why is expansion needed? Project Overview What will the Project provide? What are the Project elements? Project Process What will be studied? How do you submit comments? Next Steps

During this virtual public meeting, we will review the Project History and provide an overview of the plans, including what the project will provide, why expansion is needed, and a description of the work to be done. We will discuss the environmental studies underway and how your comments will be used by the design team. We will also discuss the timeline for the project and when construction is expected to begin. But first, let's meet the project team.

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) Karl Gnadt, CEO/Managing Director Jane Sullivan, Grants & Governmental Affairs Director Federal Transit Administration Core Spaces Jonathan Kubow, Senior Vice President of Development Environmental Consultant Janice Reid, HDR

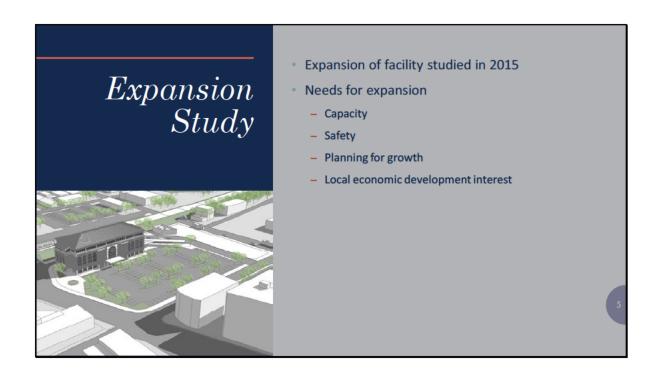
The Federal Transit Administration awarded the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District, or MTD, a competitive Bus and Bus Facilities Grant for improvements to Illinois Terminal. The FTA is the lead federal agency on the project team. MTD, as owner and operator of Illinois Terminal, is the local project sponsor. Core Spaces has partnered with MTD as part of a joint development initiative, which we will discuss in more detail later. Consultant HDR is assisting MTD and Core with the environmental studies.



- Opened in 1999
- Primary intermodal transportation hub for region
 - MTD service 10 local routes
 - Intercity bus service
 - Amtrak station
- Fully leased since opening
 - CityView event center
 - Dish Passionate Cuisine
 - READY School Program
 - Office space
 - Subway Sandwich Shop

Located in the heart of downtown Champaign, Illinois Terminal recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. Since its opening in 1999, the Terminal has been the primary community transportation hub for the region. It serves 10 local routes for MTD, as well as intercity bus service for 5 rural transit agencies and 2 intercity routes. As a true multi-modal facility, Illinois Terminal is also home to Champaign's Amtrak station and is heavily utilized by transit users, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Illinois Terminal's office and commercial space has been fully leased since opening, and houses the CityView Events and Meeting Center, Dish Passionate Cuisine Catering Services, READY School Program, an alternative school serving the community, Subway sandwich shop, and other office tenants.



MTD began formally exploring the feasibility of expanding Illinois Terminal in 2015. A study identified four main needs for expansion: capacity, safety, planning for growth, and economic development interest.



Facility Capacity

- Up to 18 buses navigate and use 11 platforms
- Some buses have to load in the parking lot or in double-parked locations
- Illinois Terminal will need to accommodate up to 23 buses over the next 20 years
- Overcrowding in passenger waiting areas on weekends
- Building is fully leased with no room for growth

Today, Illinois Terminal operates at or above its capacity. Since the Terminal opened in 1999, total routes serving the facility have increased by 30% and peak utilization has grown by 50%. The facility currently has 11 bus platforms but must accommodate up to 18 buses at a time, which causes traffic congestion both on the Terminal property and on the surrounding streets. Passenger boarding often takes place in the parking lot or in double-parked platform locations. Boarding in non-platform locations affects on-time performance and doesn't provide a protected area for passengers to board. Service growth projections indicate the facility will need to accommodate up to 23 buses at a time over the next 20 years.

Passenger waiting areas are also overcrowded, especially on weekend evenings while the University of Illinois is in session. The Amtrak waiting area often sees up to 300 train passengers in a waiting area designed for 100 people.

Also, READY School is in need of additional space for its growing program. No on-site space has been available to accommodate the needs of the school or allow other office tenants to expand.



Safety

- Passenger safety is MTD's priority
- Passengers often cross unmarked parking areas and driveways to board buses in non-platform areas
- Congested areas could raise the potential for crashes

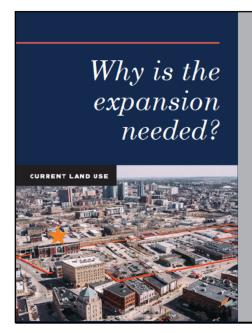
Safety of passengers and visitors to Illinois Terminal is MTD's top priority. With increased congestion in the platform areas and parking lot, the potential for crashes also increases. MTD staff occasionally escort passengers to cross unmarked areas and driveways to assist with safe boarding in non-platform areas. Expansion of the Terminal offers an opportunity to increase safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicles in the area.



Planning for Sustainable Growth

- Champaign County population is projected to increase 15% by 2040
- 15.9% of the Champaign-Urbana population is transit-dependent
- MTD bus routes at Illinois Terminal serve:
 - 85% of employment centers in Champaign-Urbana
 - 20 medical facilities
 - 16 parks
 - Community resources such as educational and training centers, and social security offices
- MTD ridership is projected to grow 4.2% by 2036

With the facility already at capacity, plans must be made to accommodate sustainable growth. The population in Champaign County is projected to increase 15% by 2040 and 15.9% of the population is transit-dependent. MTD routes at Illinois Terminal serve 85% of the employment centers in Champaign-Urbana, including the University of Illinois, 20 medical facilities, 16 parks, and community resources such as educational and training centers and social security offices. Taking into account the projected population increases and area of service, MTD ridership is forecasted to grow 4.2% by 2036 and the Illinois Terminal facility needs to expand to meet this demand.

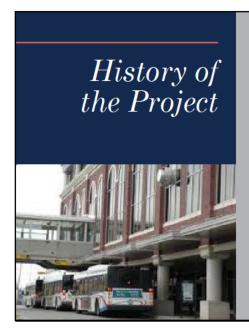


Local Economic Development Interest

- Downtown Tax Increment Finance District
- Six federal Opportunity Zones within 1.2 miles
- Regional Comprehensive Plan identifies growing demand for downtown retail, office space, and access to multi-modal transportation
- Properties surrounding Illinois Terminal are underutilized as surface parking lots

Local plans, including the regional comprehensive plan, identify a growing demand for downtown retail and residential spaces, and access to multi-modal transportation. The Terminal is located within the Downtown Fringe Tax Increment Finance District, or TIF, which is intended to encourage infill and redevelopment of the area and mixed use development. Ensuring continued safe operation of the Terminal, and growth in ridership to the downtown area, would not only support private investment in the TIF District, but also within six federally-identified opportunity zones that are within the Illinois Terminal vicinity.

Properties surrounding Illinois Terminal are currently underutilized as surface parking lots. The surface lots offer the opportunity for strong place-making elements that reflect the character and features of the existing neighborhood, provide a cohesive urban connection between the downtown and midtown areas, and expand economic activity with shops, restaurants, local businesses, civic and public institutions.



- 2015 Expansion Study Recommendations
- Discussions with local developer in 2017
 - Partnered, Joint Development, approach will maximize resources and benefits for the community
 - Expansion of Illinois Terminal is proposed even if private development does not occur
- FTA Bus and Bus Facilities Section 5339 Grant awarded in 2019
- Project team coordinating with City of Champaign during project development

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Based on the identified needs for expansion, the 2015 study developed viable options that would optimize transit services and facility use. The study outlined financing strategies to increase the value of the MTD property and recommended an implementation strategy.

In 2017, MTD began discussions with a local developer and the City of Champaign about ways to coordinate the facility improvements at Illinois Terminal and planned private investment in this area. The parties agreed that a partnership, such as a joint development agreement, would best maximize the planned investments and provide MTD the opportunity to seek federal funding for its planned facility expansion using the private investment funds as part of its required local funding match.

With this partnered approach, MTD was awarded an FTA Bus and Bus Facilities grant of \$17.275 million dollars for the renovation and expansion of Illinois Terminal. Expansion of Illinois Terminal is proposed even if private development south of Logan Street does not occur.

What is Joint Development?

- Joint development projects involve:
 - Integrated transit and transit-supportive improvements
 - Public and private investments that improve land either owned by a transit agency or related to a transit improvement
 - Costs and benefits shared between public and private parties
- Benefits of Joint Development
 - MTD captures economic value created by the Illinois Terminal Expansion and its services
 - Revenues from sources like leased spaces in the expanded facility contribute to MTD operating expenses

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So what is joint development?

Joint development projects involve: Integrated transit and transit-supportive improvements, such as retail and residential, public and private investments that improve land either owned by a transit agency or related to a transit improvement. Costs and benefits are shared between public and private parties.

Benefits of the Joint Development include capturing the economic value created by the Terminal expansion and increased revenues from sources like leased spaces within the expanded facility that will contribute to MTD operating expenses.

The Illinois Terminal Expansion is estimated to be a \$71 million dollar project with \$20.5 million in funding from the FTA. The funding from FTA includes a Bus and Bus Facilities grant and formula funds. The remainder will come from MTD local capital reserves, Core Spaces, TIF revenue, and other local funding sources.



The scope of the Illinois Terminal Expansion Project is focused on the area generally bounded by University Avenue to the north, the railroad tracks to the east, Logan Street to the south, and Walnut Street to the west. The Yards private development, south of Logan Street is a separate, privately funded project.

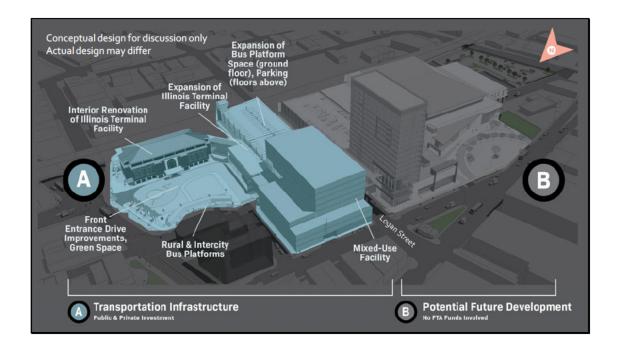


The Project components will increase the capacity of bus platform space, expand passenger waiting areas, and provide additional leasable space.

The Project will also improve safety and accessibility for passengers by reducing platform congestion, controlling access to the bus platforms, separating transportation modes, and increasing pedestrian visibility.

Quality of life will be increased by meeting demand for improved connectivity to the community and enhancing access to job and educational opportunities and community resources.

Leveraging the private investment, the project will also advance local economic development goals by continuing to grow the use of transit, providing parking, and implementing efficient land use that would attract new visitors, businesses, and development to the downtown area.

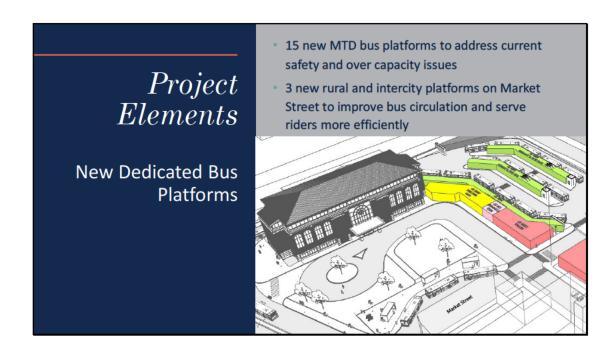


The four components of the Terminal Expansion Project are shown in blue. We will discuss each component in detail, including construction of a new mixed-use facility, new platforms, pedestrian improvements, and renovation of the Illinois Terminal Building. This graphic illustrates where the mixed use structure and project components will be located but is for discussion only, and does not represent the final design or finishes of the development. The area shown in gray and labeled as B, illustrates potential future private development known as The Yards, which would be completed as a separate project.

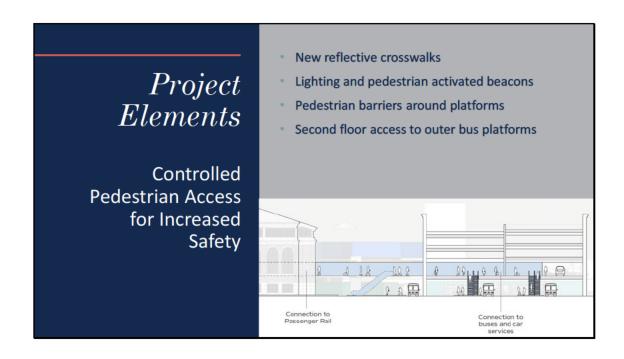


The new mixed-use facility will be constructed on the existing surface parking lots that are present along Logan Street, between the CN railroad tracks and Walnut Street. The new structure will include bus platforms, waiting areas, expanded area for the READY school program, leasable space for retail, residential units, and a parking garage that supports these uses.

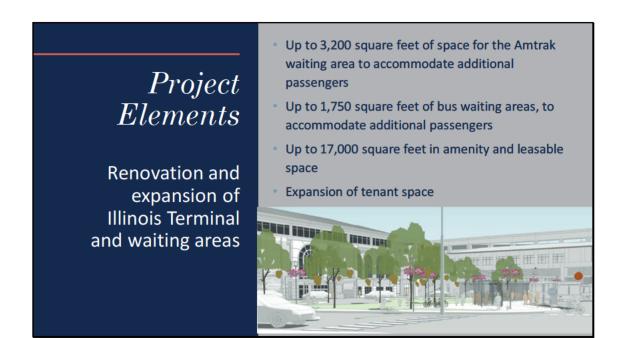
While funding for the Illinois Terminal Expansion Project will be used to construct the mixed-use space, the interior build-out of the residential units and tenant space will be privately funded.



New bus platforms will be constructed, with dedicated rural and intercity bus platforms located along Market Street. New MTD-dedicated platforms, shown in green, will be built on the ground level of the new mixed-use structure that will connect to the existing Terminal building. Expanded passenger waiting areas, shown in yellow, and retail areas shown in pink would also be on the first floor. Taxi and rideshare pickup and drop-off locations will be moved to a dedicated area on the second floor of the parking garage.



Each component of the project will include safety measures to control pedestrian access and increase visibility. New reflective crosswalks will be installed with lighting and pedestrian activated beacons. Pedestrian barriers will be installed around bus platforms to provide safe and orderly access. A pedestrian walkway on the second floor will provide grade separated connections to outer bus platforms and car services. New vertical circulation elements such as stairs, escalators, or elevators will provide access to and from the bus platform level.



The existing Illinois Terminal building will undergo a renovation to expand passenger waiting areas, add amenities, and increase commercial space. The front entrance will be improved with a circular drive and green space. The tenant space will be expanded as well.

What will be studied?

FTA and MTD are preparing an Environmental **Assessment** under National Environmental Policy Act. Project impacts on the following key areas will be evaluated:

- Aesthetics
- Biological Resources
 Social and Economic
- Construction
- Historic Properties
- Hazardous Materials
 Water Quality
- Impacts to traditionally underserved populations
- Land Use
- Noise and Vibration
- Public Services

Displacements

Impacts

Traffic and parking

Your input will help inform the evaluation and guide the elements of the project design.

FTA and MTD are completing a federally-mandated environmental review of the project under the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. The NEPA process is a framework required for infrastructure projects to ensure all environmental considerations are evaluated and the public has input into the decision-making process. The NEPA process allows the project team to learn as much as possible about the community in order to reach a decision that meets the needs of the project and minimizes or avoids impacts.

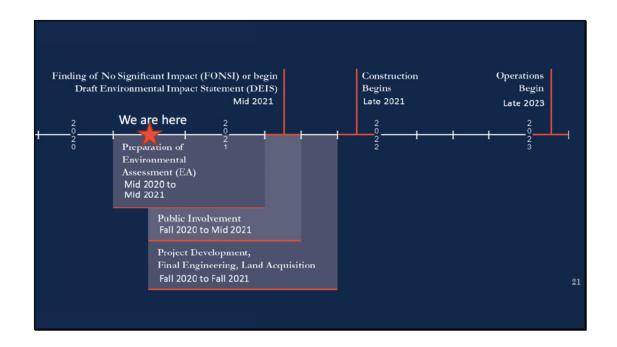
Among the resource areas being evaluated for impacts, key issues include aesthetics, biological resources, historic properties, hazardous materials, impacts to traditionally underserved populations, land use, noise and vibration, public services, displacements, social and economic impacts, traffic and parking, and water quality.

We would like to hear your feedback about the Illinois Terminal Expansion plans. What are your initial reactions? What are you excited to see; or not excited to see? The input you provide today will be reviewed by the project team and will help to inform them about potential impacts to be mitigated and guide the project design.



Comments and questions submitted during the formal comment period, will be incorporated into the Environmental Assessment. Responses to all questions will posted to the project website following the close of the formal comment period.

You can submit comments through email to info@ITETheYards.com, online at ITETheYards.com, or by mail, to Champaign-Urbana MTD. You may also call MTD at 217.384.8188.

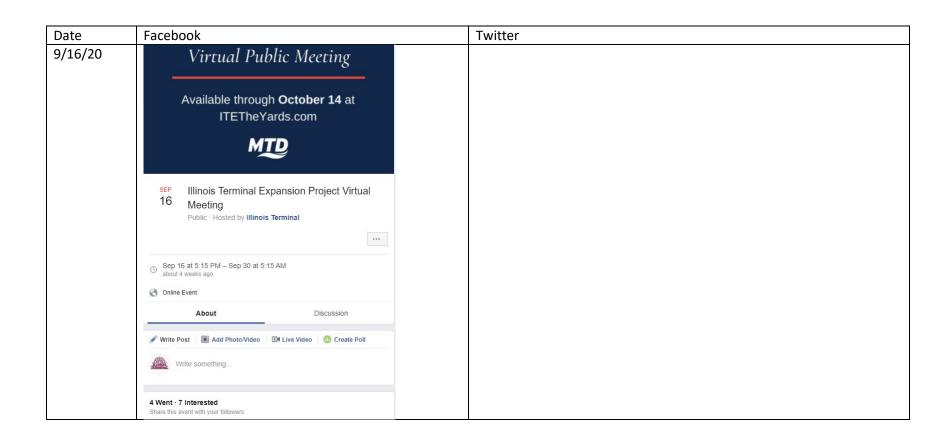


The next steps in the process are to complete the draft Environmental Assessment and collect your input. Design and engineering is anticipated to begin in the second half of 2021. The Environmental Assessment will be published for public review and comment in early January 2021. If a Finding of No Significant Impact is issued by the FTA, construction is expected to begin in late 2021 and complete in early 2023.

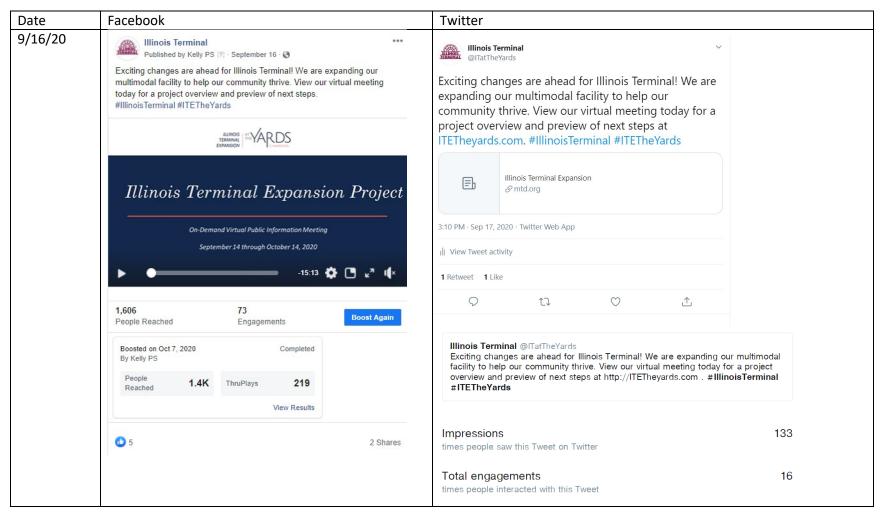


Thank you for your time. To stay informed about the project, visit the project website at ITETheYards.com, find us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter.

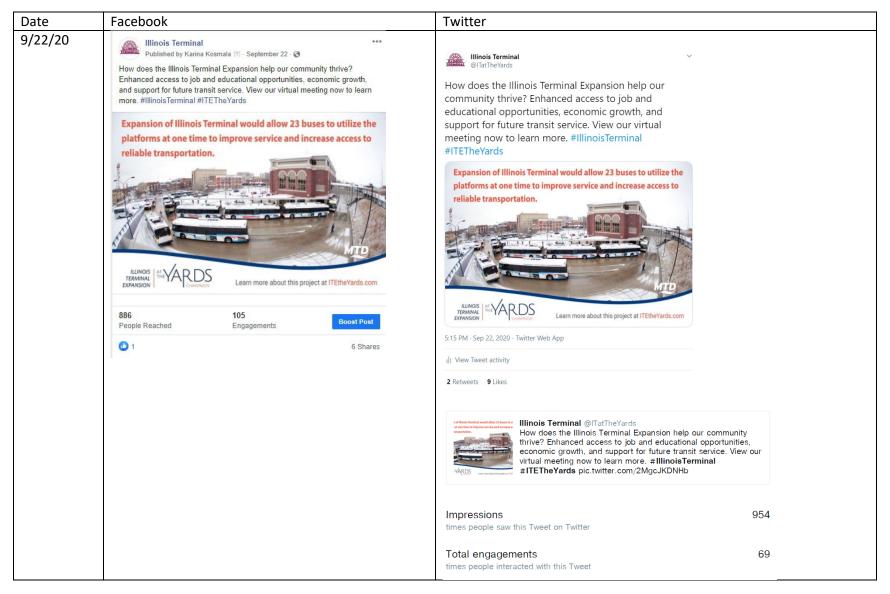




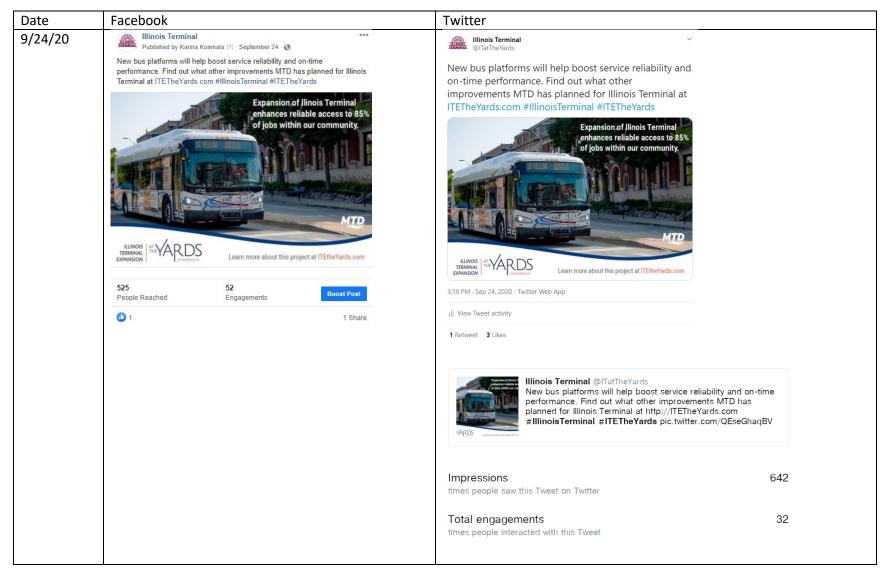




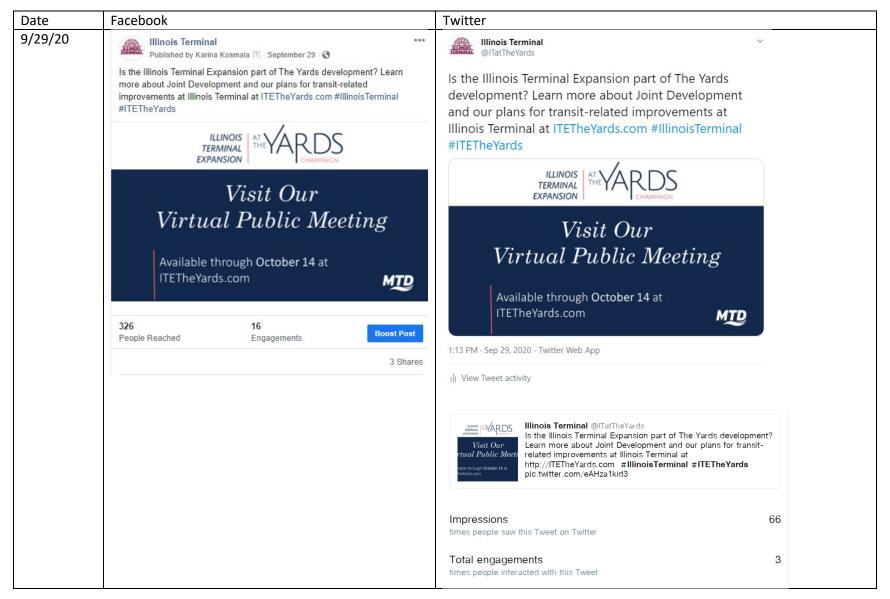




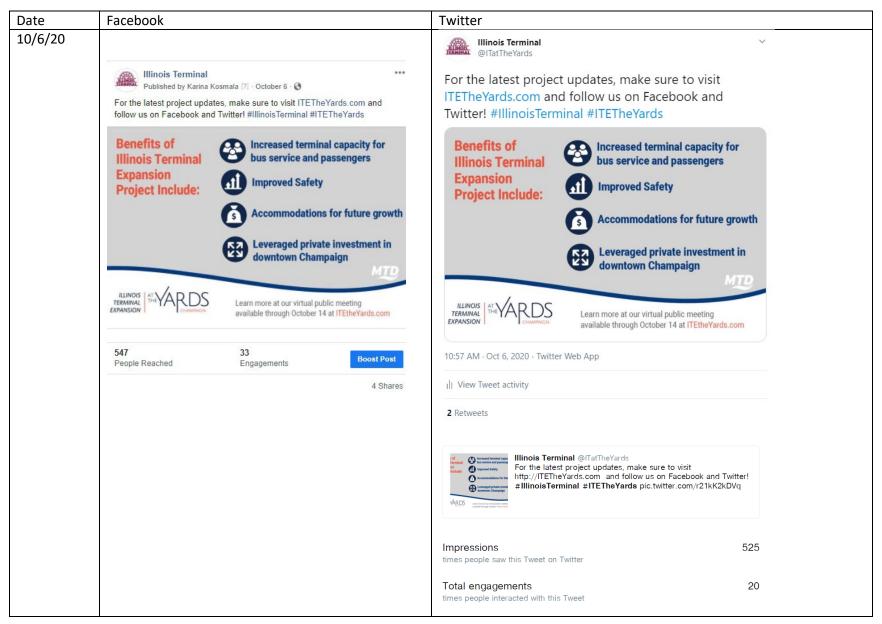




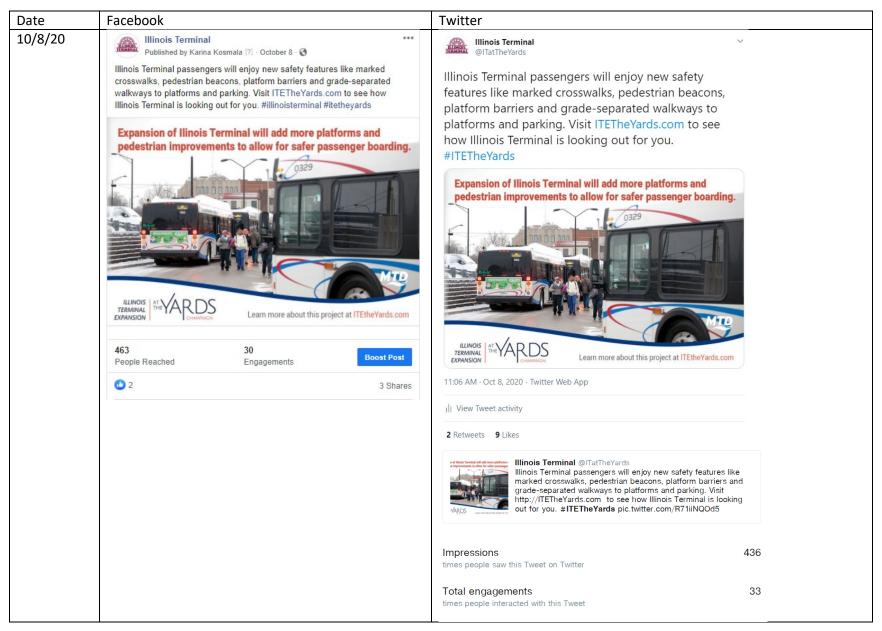




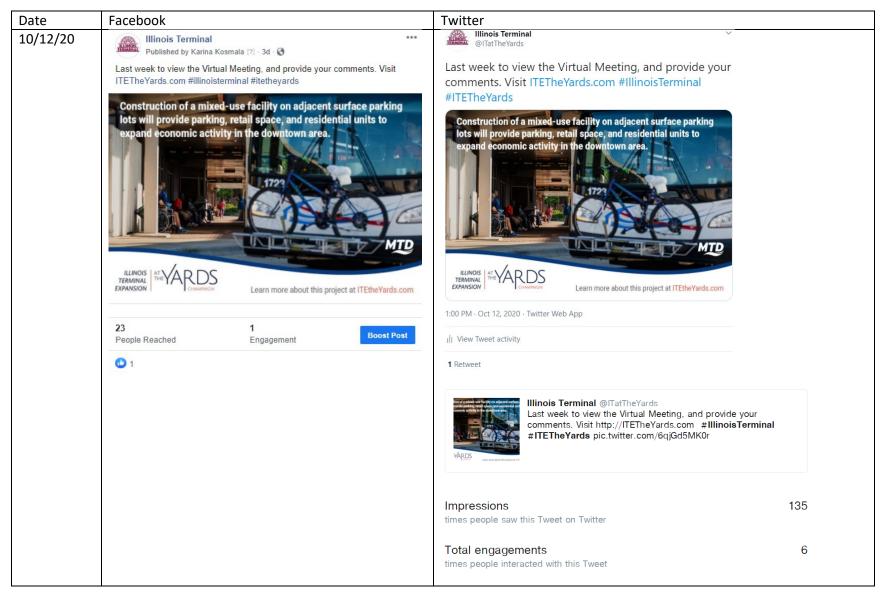




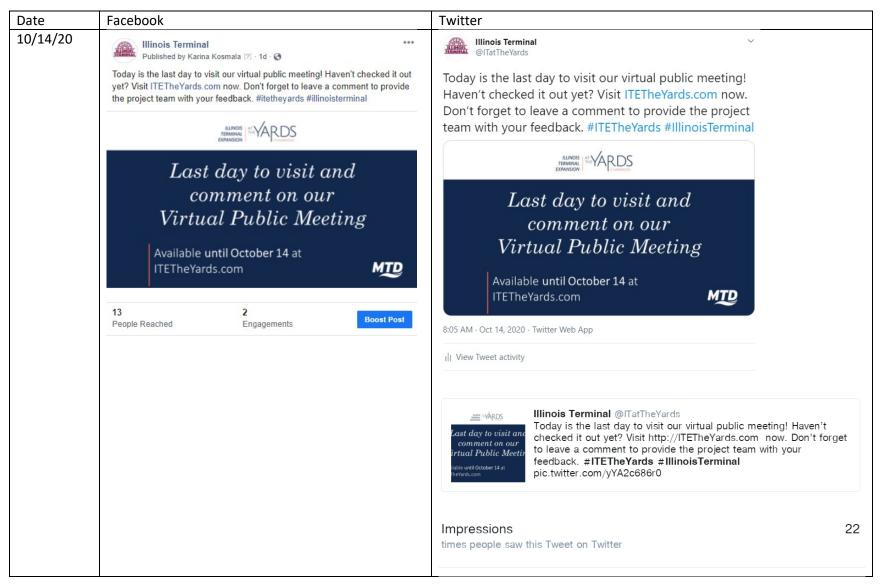












1101 E. University Avenue, Urbana, IL, 61802 US

217 384 8188

From: MTD no Reply Mailer <mailer@mtd.org>
Sent: Sunday, October 11, 2020 4:08 AM
To: Jane Sullivan; Illinois Terminal Feedback
Subject: Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

CAUTION: [EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

Given Name

Christopher kostro

Family Name

Bearden

Zip Code

61801

Email



I can't wait to see it when it's finished as ultimately the project will spawn more support for public transportation thus helping the environment by cutting down the need for a vehicle.

> Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District 1101 E. University Avenue, Urbana, IL, 61802 US

> > 217.384.8188

From: MTD no Reply Mailer <mailer@mtd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Jane Sullivan; Illinois Terminal Feedback
Subject: Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

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Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

Given Name

Chris

Family Name

Copeland

Zip Code

61821

Email

Comment

Only an architectural comment: hopefully the design will complement or mirror the existing terminal, which is a nice looking building.

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District 1101 E. University Avenue, Urbana, IL, 61802 US

217 384 8188

From: MTD no Reply Mailer <mailer@mtd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 9:06 AM
To: Jane Sullivan; Illinois Terminal Feedback
Subject: Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

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Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

Given Name

Michael

Family Name

Lokshin

Zip Code

61821

Email



Looks like a great idea all around. Hope it goes through!

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District 1101 E. University Avenue, Urbana, IL, 61802 US

217 384 8188

From: MTD no Reply Mailer <mailer@mtd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 7:52 AM
To: Jane Sullivan; Illinois Terminal Feedback
Subject: Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

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Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

Given Name

Philip

Family Name

Brewer

Zip Code

61874

Email



Your website should have an RSS feed, so that people can easily follow every update (rather than seeing only those updates that they happen to spot on Twitter, or that Facebook chooses to show them).

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District 1101 E. University Avenue, Urbana, IL, 61802 US

217.384.8188

From: MTD no Reply Mailer <mailer@mtd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 6:57 AM
To: Jane Sullivan; Illinois Terminal Feedback
Subject: Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

CAUTION: [EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Illinois Terminal Expansion Feedback

Given Name

Andrea

Family Name

Antulov

Organization

Vocal local

Zip Code

61802

Email

Comment

The Cincinnati Coalitions for the homeless gives a tour that points out in detail how the new architecture features of the city are designed to control the behavior and location of the homeless, semi homeless, poor and non tourists. It went so far as to call it racist by intent.

As someone who has looked into the eyes of hundreds of people displaced by "development" in Chicago, Saint Louis, Indianapolis that have arrived here, I remember their stories of plight.

I have have seen also those arriving from the small communities without opportunity completely lost and without hope.

Does our terminal and will the new version welcome not only tourists and academic tourism but our entire citizenry? The poor, the uneducated, the destitute by definition to use of this project, do they matter? Is their space set aside to welcome, direct, and assist or is a bigger security budget planned? By refusing to address this complexity is a bigger problem being created? Will the downtown be the next target of the disenfranchised? Will the impact on the African American community be one of embracing community "leaders" on payroll or others but not those terrified of getting to work on time? One can address many social issues without presenting a "flea market" or "needy" atmosphere. Staff trained to assist, not "move along" and designated areas behind a facade can provide and not detract from an "upscale" competitive appearance. Ensuring people are not desperate,

disenfranchised is the best long term security plan for an area as recent riots have illuminated.

This has been put on the website but what other measures have been taken to ensure there are no surprises at a late stage of development? Have there been phone banks, surveys to social agencies, charettes at the UI school of social work, urban planning, communications, consult to other cities coalitions of help agencies? Farmers markets and food truck distribution, public and private growth markets been included? Has the need for complete restrooms with rentable or mobile showers been discussed or dismissed without data? Have employees been given a chance to participate anonymously? (This would be important as there are company clauses that could define unwanted opinion as harassments of vendors and there is no union protection.) Or has the minimal needed been met for the path of least resistance? If its the latter I would ask NEPA to take a closer look. I don't see the recent riots as singular but one many that has occurred. These where just impossible to cover up. The last thing I want to see is downtown or campus business affected by the unheard, desperate and angry as Market Place was or worse as the shootings become daily. Other copies exist of this text elsewhere, please include according to guidelines. I sincerely hope we are already on the path to peace and these concern moot.

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District

From: Maggie McGuire

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:30 PM

To: info@ITETheYards.com

Subject: Illinois Terminal Expansion Project -

CAUTION: [EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

Our design team at Stocks is very excited to see the plans to improve and expand the Illinois terminal. As our community grows, the new facility will be a welcomed addition for Champaign. We're especially interested in the emphasis on connecting Downtown, Midtown and the U of I campus. The new plan alleviates the congestion of the current terminal parking space.

As a local small business, Stocks is eager for the chance this represents to help further that growth and support MTD's overall strategic plan. Will there be an opportunity to participate in design of the office furniture for the project? Stocks can assist in furniture specification with solutions specific to your needs.

Best regards,
Maggie McGuire
President
Stocks Office Furniture
602 S. Country Fair Drive
Champaign IL 61821

From: Anna Muller

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 10:33 AM

To: info@itetheyards.com

Subject: Public Comment on Virtual Meeting

CAUTION: [EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Thank you for hosting a virtual meeting and for keeping the comment period open for a month. I remember when the Terminal opened, and having utilized it most recently as a resident picking up an Amtrak passenger, I can definitely see the need for expansion. Looking at this presentation, I am nervous it is still going to be a clusterf**k with passengers being dropped off/picked up with Amtrak, will the pickup spot on the second floor only be for taxis and rideshares, or will it be open to anyone? The recent construction improvements to the intersections at Logan and Walnut and White seem to encourage traffic to head south in ways that were inconvenient before the addition of the new stoplights, and it seems like this project would build over at least one or two of those intersections. I love the addition of the green space, but it also doesn't seem big enough, like could there be trees along the sidewalks?

Also, is this a peerage project from the MTD administration expansion? Will the MTD have enough funds for both? Is the federal and private funding really secure in this time of COVID-19? And is this timeline still feasible considering the increased operating costs to continue services locally during this global pandemic? Would a smaller expansion be possible? My mom rides the bus to work on campus, and so I have heard stories about how hairy it can be transferring at the terminal sometimes, so I deeply appreciate the focus on safety for passengers in this plan.

Thank you, MTD! Take care. Anna Muller

From: Robert Wilbur

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 2:35 PM

To: Info@itetheyards.com

CAUTION: [EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Stop the solicitation, the thugs, those causing all kinds of crime, it is a dangerous place ,it is scary to go within a block of the bus depot.

Subject: FW: The Yards

From: Allison Haines <ahaines@mtd.org> Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 1:23 PM

To: 'bowednotbeaten@yahoo.com' <bowednotbeaten@yahoo.com>

Subject: RE: The Yards

Good Afternoon Tim,

Thank you for contacting MTD this morning to ask about our Illinois Terminal Expansion project at The Yards. We opened the public feedback period for this project on Wednesday, September 16, and are taking comments until Wednesday, October 14. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in person meetings regarding this project are not taking place.

However, you are invited to review information online about the planned project and provide feedback. You can <u>read</u> <u>our recent article</u> about The Yards project on our website, view an on-demand video presentation, and provide feedback via our online form. If you do not have Internet access to view the Virtual Meeting, please visit the Customer Service Counter at Illinois Terminal or call 217-384-8188.

For more information you can also follow Illinois Terminal on Facebook, Twitter, or visit ITETheYards.com

Please let me know if I can answer any additional questions.

Thank you for taking the time to email, and thank you for your interest in MTD.

Best Wishes.

Allison Haines
Customer Support Specialist
Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD)
1101 E. University Avenue
Urbana, IL 61802
217.384.8188
mtd.org

----Original Message-----

From: bowednotbeaten@yahoo.com <bowednotbeaten@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 10:24 AM

To: MTDweb < mtdweb@mtd.org >

Subject: The Yards

Are there any upcoming meetings on The Yards project, that are open to the public? I'd be interested in attending one.

Thanks, Tim Urbana