Lincolnwood Ad-Hoc Mass Transit Committee
August 30, 2017
Board Conference Room
6900 N. Lincoln Ave.
7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes

3. Old Business

4. New Business
   a. Letter from Mayor Bass and Chicago Officials
   b. August 15 Steering Committee
   c. Discussion of Potential Changes
      i. Elimination of Pace 210
      ii. Adjustment of Pace 215 through Lincolnwood
      iii. Elimination of CTA 54A
      iv. Addition of New Route from Jefferson Park to Old Orchard Mall

4. Comments from the Public

5. Adjournment

Date Posted: August 23, 2017       By: Charles Meyer, Assistant to the Village Manager
1. Call to Order
   a. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm

2. Approval of Minutes
   a. A motion was made by Member Siddiqui to approve the minutes of September 28, 2016. The motion was seconded by Member Kramer. The minutes were approved via a voice vote.

3. Old Business
   a. October 5, 2016 Pace / CTA Open House
      i. Staff Liaison Meyer provided feedback from the Pace / CTA Open Houses that were held in October, 2016. It was reported that the Village of Lincolnwood Open House was more attended than the other Open House in Rogers Park. Mr. Meyer reported that the consultants responsible for this project took feedback received from this Open House into consideration in preparing the Market Analysis.
   b. Meeting with Chicago Officials
      i. Mr. Meyer provided an update on the meeting between RTA, CTA, and Pace that occurred in the fall of 2016. The meeting was well attended and included Alderwomen Laurino and Silverstein who both expressed an interest in extending the CTA 155 route along Devon Avenue to the Edgebrook Metra Station and possibly to Jefferson Park.

4. New Business
   a. April 6 Steering Committee
      i. Mr. Meyer provided an overview of the April 6 Steering Committee meeting. Mr. Meyer explained that the Market Analysis was brought forward at the last meeting and Mr. Meyer went through some of the maps found in the Market Analysis.
      ii. Mr. Meyer provided an overview of the recommendations presented at the April 6 Meeting along with soliciting feedback from the Ad-Hoc Mass Transit Committee regarding potential changes that were presented in the next agenda item.
   b. Discussion of Potential Changes
      i. Crawford Avenue Route (From Skokie to the Blue Line)
         1. Mr. Meyer relayed the emphasis being brought forward to the Steering Committee of having a stronger “grid system” with more north/south and east/west routes. It was discussed that there were concerns presented by the Consultants regarding the low correlation between CTA bus ridership and Metra ridership leading to concerns about the potential route on Devon Avenue, but the Consultants presented the possibility of running a bus along Crawford / Pulaski Avenue from Skokie to Chicago.
         a. The Committee had questions about this route including the terminus at each end and the Committee wanted to see a
complete recommendation for the route before making a decision on the proposal.

2. The Committee reinforced their desire to have a route on Devon Avenue extended.

3. Member Siddiqui suggested the re-routing of the 210 Lincoln Avenue bus to continue on Lincoln Avenue from the north, then turn east on Touhy to the Lincolnwood Town Center, then south on McCormick Boulevard, then west on Devon and south on Lincoln Avenue to cover the majority of Lincolnwood.

ii. Service for Morning / Evening Rush Hour Only

1. Mr. Meyer relayed the Consultants’ findings that some routes only have high ridership during the morning and evening rush hours and the Consultants desire to save money / reallocate resources by only running certain buses during peak times.
   a. The Committee discussed this item and showed approval for reallocating resources as needed for routes where there is only usage during rush hours.

2. Mr. Rokach voiced his desire to have some route hours expanded, such as the CTA #11 running to the Lincolnwood Town Center earlier than 9:25 am to expand ridership.

iii. Discontinuation of Unproductive Routes

1. Mr. Meyer explained the possibility that some routes may be discontinued by Pace in the near future due to underperformance. Based on the data provided by Pace, it is possible that the 210 route may be discontinued.

2. Mr. Siddiqui voiced his concern about discontinuing this route and observed that part of the lower ridership for the 210 route may be a lack of signage in the area.

3. The Committee was generally supportive at looking at discontinuing a route provided that another route is implemented.

5. Comments from the Public

6. Adjournment

   a. Mr. Meyer stated that he would schedule the next Ad-Hoc Mass Transit Committee Meeting for a time after the next Steering Committee Meeting. The Committee Members asked if they could attend the next Steering Committee Meeting and Mr. Meyer stated that he would ask if that would be possible. Mr. Kramer made a motion to adjourn the Committee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rosenbush. The motion was approved via a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.
North Shore Coordination Plan Steering Committee  
c/o PACE Suburban Bus  
550 W. Algonquin Rd.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

July 26, 2017

Dear Steering Committee,

We are writing on behalf of our constituents to express the need to extend the CTA’s 155 Devon Avenue bus west to Lehigh Avenue, where it would connect with Metra’s Edgebrook Station. Currently, the line only goes as far west as Kedzie Avenue. This westward extension should be included in the final recommendations of the PACE/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan.

As detailed in our attached proposal, extending the 155 Devon bus west would:

- Serve a sizable, underserved, disproportionately elderly population.
- Improve connectivity with existing transit lines.
- Serve not only several existing demand generators, but also emerging demand generators.
- Serve as a major feeder to a new Crawford/Pulaski bus line, which is likely to be included in the PACE/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan.
- Extend a high-performing revenue generating lines, without competing with other lines.

The proposed route extension has a favorable environment in terms of traffic, street width, potential bus stop locations, and turnaround location.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working together to realize this proposal to improve transit service for our constituents and the North Shore as a whole.

Sincerely,

Ald. Margaret Laurino, Chicago 39th Ward
Ald. Debra Silverstein, Chicago 50th Ward
Ald. Anthony Napolitano, Chicago 41st Ward
Pres. Barry Bass, Village of Lincolnwood

Cc: Chairman Terry Peterson, President Dorval Carter, Jr., Commissioner Rebekah Sheinfeld, Luann Hamilton
The Pace/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan Steering Committee (“Steering Committee”) met on August 15, 2017 to discuss proposed changes as a result of the ongoing fact-finding process to improve the utilization of mass transit resources within the target area. The Steering Committee is comprised of staff and elected officials from the affected communities along with representatives of Pace and the CTA.

The goals of the Steering Committee include the realignment of resources to target reinforcement of the grid system and to address service areas in need. In terms of realignments that would affect Lincolnwood, the Steering Committee’s proposed changes include:

- Elimination of Pace 210: This is the route along Lincoln Avenue. In looking at the monthly reports that the Village receives from Pace, this route has underperformed for a number of years and is below internal targets for Pace to continue operation. The lead consultant for the study stated that there were only about 40 riders / day within Lincolnwood.

- Adjustment of Pace 215: This route currently runs north of Lincolnwood from Old Orchard Mall, then south on Crawford and then east on Howard. The Steering Committee is proposing that the route runs south past Howard on Crawford Avenue, through Lincolnwood, and then west on Foster Avenue to eventually connect with Jefferson Park (Jefferson Park has a Blue Line stop and a Metra stop for the Northwest Line). This would provide connections to Metra lines and the Blue Line for residents while providing a route to Old Orchard Mall. The staff of Pace and CTA mentioned that the Metra line at Jefferson park has more frequent trains than the Sauganash Line (North Line).

- Elimination of CTA 54A: This route is on Cicero and has very low ridership according to the Steering Committee staff. The stated reasons for the ridership issues were that the proximity to the Edens boxes the route in so there are large areas where only one side of
the route has potential users and the Edens serves as a barrier blocking people from the other side of the road from using the route.

- Creation of a New Route: A new route is proposed from Jefferson Park to Old Orchard Mall that would operate on the Edens Expressway in Lincolnwood and portions of Cicero Avenue.

The Steering Committee staff are not proposing the extension of CTA Route 155. Members of the Steering Committee voiced their support for the extension of the CTA Route 155 during the meeting. It was also discussed that the extension of CTA Route 155 was broadly supported by Mayor Bass and Chicago Aldermen Laurino, Napolitano, and Silverstein. The Steering Committee staff cited concerns about the viability of extending 155 and saw better value to extend the Pace 215 to go through Lincolnwood and then connect to Jefferson Park, which has CTA and Metra stops.

In terms of implementation, it was stated that the changes proposed in Lincolnwood would likely not be put into place until 2019 and 2020. There will be open houses on September 18 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Skokie Public Library and September 19 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Levy Senior Center in Evanston to discuss these changes.

The proposed map of changes in Lincolnwood along with the open house bulletin have been attached to this memorandum for informational purposes.
Open Houses

September 12, 2017  5:00-7:00 pm

Pulse Dempster Line

Des Plaines Public Library
1501 Ellinwood St.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Served by Pace routes 208, 226, 230, 234, 250 and Metra UP-Northwest Line
PaceBus.com/Pulse

Come learn about the Pulse Dempster Line and help refine initial station locations. The Pulse Dempster Line is part of Pace’s new rapid transit network which will provide enhanced express bus service using the latest technology and streamlined route design. It will operate along Dempster Street between Evanston and O’Hare Airport.

September 19, 2017  5:00-7:00 pm

Combined Open House!

Pulse Dempster Line

Des Plaines Public Library
1501 Ellinwood St.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Served by Pace routes 208, 226, 230, 234, 250 and Metra UP-Northwest Line
PaceBus.com/Pulse

Pulse Dempster Line

Des Plaines Public Library
1501 Ellinwood St.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Served by Pace routes 208, 226, 230, 234, 250 and Metra UP-Northwest Line
PaceBus.com/Pulse

September 18, 2017  5:00-7:00 pm

Pace/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan

Skokie Public Library
2nd Floor
5215 Oakton St.
Skokie, IL 60077
Served by Pace routes 210, 226; CTA route 97 and CTA Yellow Line via Oakton-Skokie station
Visit the project page in the Planning Initiatives section at PaceBus.com

Come learn about proposed updates and changes to routes in the North Shore area as a result of this study. The North Shore Coordination Plan is a joint Pace/CTA study to evaluate the existing transit in the study area and to identify ways to improve service and coordination between Pace and the CTA.

North Shore Coordination Plan

Pace/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan

One location!
Both projects!
Information about both the Pulse Dempster Line and the Pace/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan will be presented.

Pace/CTA North Shore Coordination Plan

Levy Senior Center
300 Dodge Ave.
Evanston, IL 60202
Served by CTA routes 93, 97
Pulse Dempster Line
Communities:
Chicago • Des Plaines
Evanston • Morton Grove • Niles
Park Ridge • Rosemont • Skokie

North Shore Coordination Plan
Communities:
Chicago • Evanston • Glencoe
Glencoe • Highland Park • Kenilworth
Lincolnwood • Morton Grove • Niles
Northbrook • Northfield • Skokie
Wilmette • Winnetka

All Open Houses will include the opportunity to:
- Learn more about the study/project
- Discuss and ask questions with project team
- Provide comments and feedback

All Open Houses will be accessible to people with disabilities. Anyone needing special assistance should contact Pace Customer Relations (847) 364-7223. Persons planning to attend who will need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify staff five (5) days prior to the Open House.