

The Northern Illinois Commuter Transportation Initiative

Alternatives Analysis

Welcome

The Northern Illinois Commuter Rail Initiative is now the Northern Illinois Commuter Transportation Initiative



Northern Illinois

Commuter Transportation Initiative

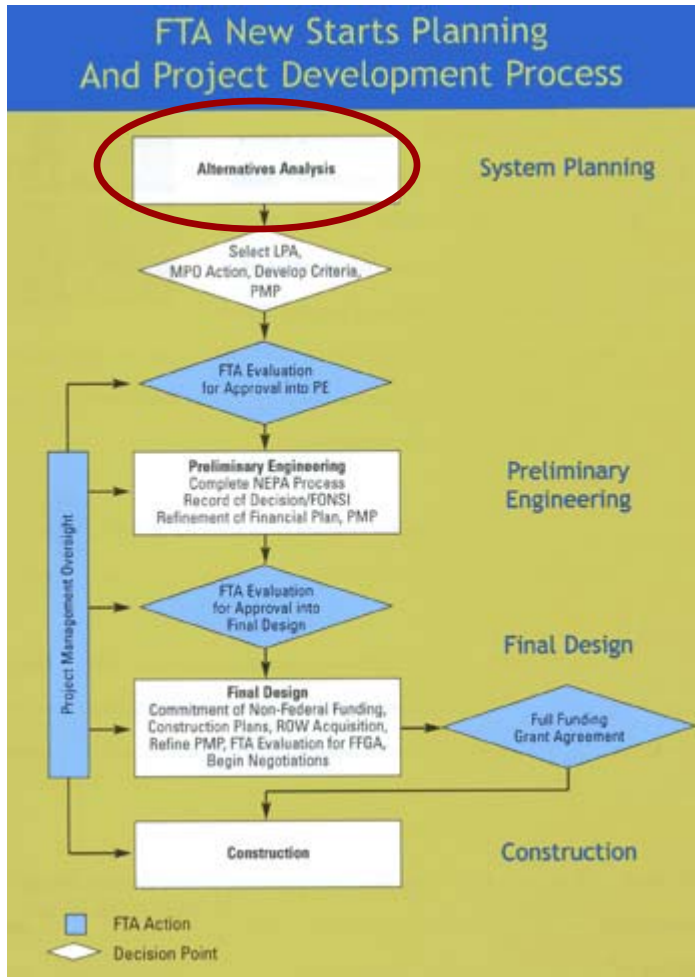
History: the Feasibility Study

- In November of 2004 the feasibility study evaluating the viability of commuter rail in the region was completed.
 - The consultant concluded that “the project was feasible and has the potential to become an effective and successful service to the area.”

Furthermore: The Feasibility Study concluded that the potential rail extension:

- has Community Support
- is Cost Effective
- is Operationally Acceptable
- has Minimal Capital Needs
- could potentially Guide Further Development in the Region

The Next Step:



- The Alternatives Analysis is the next step in the FTA's New Starts Planning And Project Development Process

Source: Federal Transit Administration

The Alternatives Analysis

- In Fiscal Year 2006 over \$1,000,000 of federal funds were earmarked for this Alternatives Analysis.
- A total of approximately \$3,000,000 worth of federal, state, and local funds will be utilized for the completion of this Alternatives Analysis.
- Currently, consultants are evaluating the Statement of Qualification (SOQ) and are preparing responses.

Progression of the Alternatives Analysis:

- During this time the consultant and local agencies will investigate all potentially feasible transportation alternatives for easing commuter congestion and strain within the Interstate 90 corridor.
 - Transportation goals and evaluation measures will be assessed and evaluated.
 - A Locally Preferred Alternative will be selected.
 - A Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared.

To Date:

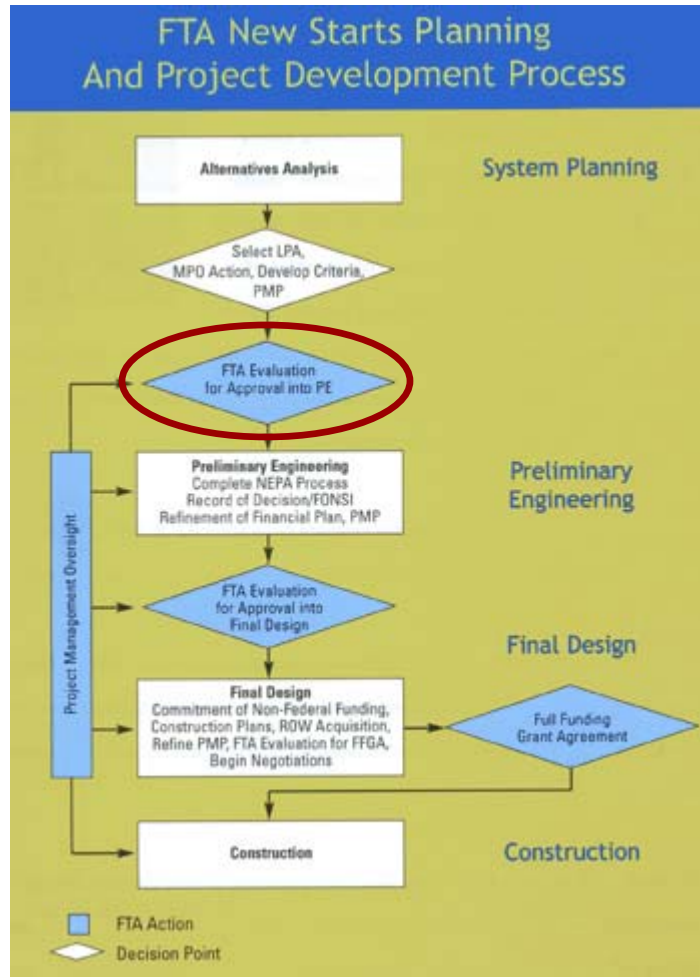
- The Executive Committee of NICTI and the Rockford Area Transportation Study have hosted a Pre-Submittal conference to answer any consultant questions concerning the RFQ.
- Currently, consultants are evaluating the Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) and are preparing responses.
- These responses are due on April 28th.

Upcoming Important Dates:

- April 28, 2006 – Statements of Qualifications are due.
- May 3 and 4, 2006 – Public open houses hosted by the Rockford Area Transportation Study will be held to discuss the project and answer inquiries from the general public.
- July 2006 – Approximate date for selection of a consultant.

Outcome of the Alternatives Analysis

Analysis:



- The process of completing an Alternatives Analysis and Draft Environmental Impact Statement will satisfy the FTA requirement for completion of the Alternatives Analysis step.

Source: Federal Transit Administration

Call to Action

NICTI needs your support!

- Local Staff Support
 - Collection of Data
 - Land Use Plans
 - Comprehensive Plans
 - Residents may be surveyed
 - Our consultant may be contacting your staffers
- Community Support
 - Resolutions of Support
 - Giving thanks to our Senators and Congressmen

**With your help, we can all
grow together.**

Thank you



*Northern Illinois
Commuter Transportation Initiative*