



February 27, 2017

John Yonan, P.E., Superintendent
Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
69 W. Washington St.
24th Floor
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Mr. Yonan,

Please consider the following input for your 2016-2020 Transportation Program modernization project of Kedzie Avenue from Flossmoor to 159th, slated for construction in 2019.

At present, Kedzie Avenue has five lanes, a 40-45 MPH speed limit, and 14,400 to 22,700 vehicles per day, resulting in a [Bicycle Level of Service](#) (BLOS) of low-D - a very uncomfortable level even for bicyclists who are more traffic tolerant. As seen on labs.strava.com/heatmap, this stretch of Kedzie already has appreciable bike traffic - and because Strava is self-reported data typically submitted through a smartphone app, that is likely an underrepresentation of true usage in this area. Pedestrian accommodations are rather poor, with a sidewalk only on one side, alternating several times through the project area. There is a Pace bus stop (at 177th) with no pedestrian connectivity other than an unmarked crosswalk with no signals to cross five lanes of traffic.

From the documentation posted on the Cook County website, we understand this project is scoped to consist of pavement patching and pavement resurfacing. We request that the scope be expanded to *include a sidepath that runs consistently on a single side of the street* through the project area. Such accommodation will serve a broad spectrum of non-motorized users. Dedicated on-street accommodations (such as buffered bike lanes) would also suffice, but would likely require a full reconstruction and widening.

We would be glad to discuss these and other project design issues. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael C. Gorman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michael Gorman
Ride Illinois

Working Statewide for Better Bicycling

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