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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SOUTH SHORE LINE ANNOUNCES THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION WILL TODAY  
RELEASE THE COMBINED FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/RECORD OF DECISION  
AND SECTION 4 (f) EVALUATION FOR THE PROPOSED WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT**

CHESTERTON, Indiana - March 2, 2018 – The Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD), operator of the South Shore Line, announced that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will today release the combined Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)/Record of Decision (ROD) and Section 4(f) Evaluation for the West Lake Corridor Project. This evaluation was prepared in cooperation with NICTD, the FTA, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The FEIS/ROD has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The purpose of the combined FEIS/ROD is to present updates to the Project that have occurred since the completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and to respond to comments received during the DEIS public comment period. The ROD states FTA's decision, identifies the alternatives considered in reaching this decision, and describes the means to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts. Mitigation plans, including enforcement and monitoring commitments, are included in the ROD. Michael Noland, NICTD President, stated "on behalf of the NICTD team, I appreciate the tremendous effort, input and support received from our public stakeholders, local organizations, and legislative leaders who have worked with us in advancing the project to this important milestone."

The combined FEIS/ROD is available for review on the project website at [www.nictdwestlake.com/resources/](http://www.nictdwestlake.com/resources/). Hard copies have been distributed to the following local locations: Munster Branch of the Lake County Public Library (8701 Calumet Avenue, Munster,

IN 46321), Hammond Public Library (564 State St., Hammond IN 46320), Dyer – Schererville Branch of the Lake County Public Library (1001 W. Lincoln Hwy., Schererville, IN 46375) and NICTD Administrative Office (33 East U.S. Highway 12, Chesterton, IN 46304).

For additional information regarding this project, we invite you to visit the project website at [www.nictdwestlake.com](http://www.nictdwestlake.com).

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