Appendix H10. Written Public Comments Received on DEIS
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Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Thu 1/26/2017 6:22 PM

questions_comments: I am against the connecting of seminary drive directly to the train station. There is no outlet behind our development. Traffic is extremely heavy. Can't get to main road without crossing a railroad track. We have 3 railroad crossing now. Two crossing have no railroad Gates looking for a accident to happen because of the heavy train traffic.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 20
realname: Ronald Albrecht
address1: 816 blue jay way
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-779-5699
email: Grandparon1946@gmail.com.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 2/2/2017
questions/comments: As a property owner whose land is currently against the tracks on the west side, I would prefer the new tracks be built on the East side of the existing tracks.

In regards to the parking lot at Main Street: I would love if Margo Lane went through to Main Street so we had access to that lot. However, I am STRONGLY opposed to Margo being the only road coming from the North to get to that lot. Ideally, there would be another larger, thru street with access from the north to get to the parking lot there.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 
realname: Brandon Albright
address1: 408 Carnaby Place
date2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 815-735-0158
email: brandona81@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 2/2/2017

questions_comments: As a property owner whose land is currently against the tracks on the west side in West Lakes (Munster), I would much prefer that we do not lose our property to this project and have the new tracks be built on the East side of the existing tracks.

Secondary, I am not sure if this is relevant for this forum, but I want to state my opinion on the parking lot for the Main Street (Munster/Dyer) station. I am all for there being a station in that location with an associated parking lot. I would love if Margo Lane went through to Main Street so we had access to that lot. However, I am STRONGLY opposed to Margo being the only road coming from the North to get to that lot, thereby making Margo a raceway for traffic to speed down when people are late for their trains. Please keep in mind, Margo was built as a NEIGHBORHOOD road and was not intended for this purpose. Ideally, Wentworth Avenue in IL would go through to Main Street also with access to the parking lot there.

Thank you for your consideration.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Nicole Albright
address1: 408 Carnaby Place
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-688-2598
email: nalbrightod@yahoo.com
I love this project and I plan to use this from all the time, I can't wait.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017 4:54 PM

questions comments: I am a big supporter of the Southshore extension. I grew up in Dyer and watched my father drive to Hazel Crest each day for 40 years. I moved to St. John with my husband in 2013. We both work in Chicago. My husband is from Arlington Heights, and it took some convincing for him to move to NWI knowing he’s committing himself to an average of 3 hours commuting via car each day. 3 years have past and the commute is taking a toll but we want to try to make it to 2022 for the train station. Our friends from North Chicago who all have successful careers downtown love NWI but they admitted they would never consider moving here due simply to the lack of transit. I feel the future of our town depends greatly on this train line extension. Thank you.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes

length_of_time:
realName: Amanda Alesi
address1: 9430 Grasselli Avenue
address2:
city: Saint John
state: IN
zip_code: 46373
phone: 2197139060
email: Amanda.alesi@gmail.com
Name: Deb Alexander
Address: 1003 Stratford Terrace
City: Valparaiso
State: IN
Zip Code: 46383
E-Mail: daobrnc@gmail.com
Phone Number: 219-928-16254

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:
Major artery in NW Indiana
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 3:59 PM
questions_comments: I am 100% in favor of adding a line with some new stations. I think this would greatly benefit the area in terms of access to the city. I think it would encourage local growth as well. (I'm sorry that I could not make the meetings. I have been out of town and a bust now.)
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 6 years
realname: William Allegrezza
address1: 9748 Redbud Rd
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: wallegrezza@gmail.com
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017
No number
Ron Alrick
816 Blue Jay Way, Dyer, IN
I am opposed to this project there is already too much traffic in our subdivision and we do not need any additional traffic problems
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 9:28 PM

questions_comments: I support the train, but am opposed to the increase danger within our subdivision by Margo Lane being opened on the south end. Only someone not living on Margo Lane would not understand the significance of this decision.

Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 6 years
realname: Manuel Amezcua
address1: 9809 Margo Lane
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 3129524023
email: Mamezcua@financialguide.com
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 4:20 PM

questions_comments: I am absolutely opposed to Margo Lane being opened up as a through street. This poses an incredible danger for our families and children as speedy is an issue already. We are not in favor of this and only support the train if Margo Lane doesn't open up.

Homeowner: yes
Business Owner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Samantha
address1: 9809 Margo Lane
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: Samantha_amezcua@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 01/18/2017 9:32 AM
questions_comments: Thank you for the informational meeting last night in Dyer. One of the NICTD representatives that I spoke with last night confirmed that there is a planned round-about that would allow the main parking lot to exit into the Meadows sub-division in Dyer via Seminary Street. Being a resident of the Meadows I am against the parking lot feeding into my sub-division. The Meadows is full of young families with children, and the entrance into the Meadows would quickly become a "cut-through" for train riders coming/going from the South or Illinois. Thank you.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
realname: Edward Andrzejewski
address1: 864 Robin Court
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 2198035086
email: eda@fletch.com
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017
From: 219-865-3706
Barbara Anitec
I live on Seminary Dr and I am against and opposed to connecting this project to our subdivision.
Name: Edith Appelhans

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line’s West Lake Corridor Project:

Need more handicap spots - lots of parking needed. More space needed in the depot. Have a golf cart to take people to the final parking space and change a seasonal fee. Good on very cold or rainy/snowy days.
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017 8:58 PM

questions comments: I live in the Crown Point area and have ridden the South Shore for 20+ years. This area is booming - all the way from CP to Cedar Lake. All the new homes (and there are a lot of them) are up-scale, and the best paying jobs are in Chicago. It would be a great service to connect this economically upward area to better jobs. Right now, it's a pain for us to drive to the SS train. We do it for the jobs, but many people I know have given up because the commute is just too hard (esp. in the winter). The new corridor would solve this problem. L J A

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 
realname: L J Armstrong
address1: 5511 W 86th Terrace
address2: 
city: Crown Point
state: IN
zip_code: 46307
phone: xxxxx
email: extrinsicart@aol.com
Name: ASHRITA

Address: 

City: HAMMOND
State: 
Zip Code: 

E-Mail: ashu.sanagiri@gmail.com
Phone Number: 

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

This is definitely a very good idea. Commute would be easy. For students like me this is a good thing.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 11:51 PM

questions_comments: 1st End project in Munster. Dyer needs help with road work on 213th and Sheffield for this project. We have 20 million worth of subdivision work. Also no entry into the meadows subdivision from parking lot a barrier of landscaping needs to be in that area. On Main street you need to push road north to widen on Munster side. No station or parking on East side in Dyer.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 26 years
realname: Debbie Astor
address1: 945 Hanover Ln
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311-1216
phone: 2198640919
email: astor07softball@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 2:30 AM

questions_comments: I would prefer the train stay all in Munster. But if it is to be in Dyer all on east side of tracks. The meadows residents do not want it on the west side of tracks.

Interested_Stakeholder: yes
length_of_time: 28

realname: Debbie Astor
address1: 945 Hanover
address2: Dyer
city: Ind
state: State
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: Astor07softball@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017 1:23 PM
questions_comments: I grew up in Highland. My mom took the SS to Chicago for a better job from the East Chicago Station. This Chicago job provided income to help raise 4 boys. I am the first in our family to get a college education. The SS changed our lives.
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
length_of_time: 22 years in Highland
realname: Don Babcock
address1: 801 East 86th Ave
address2: 
city: Merrillville
state: IN
zip_code: 46410
phone: 
email: dlbabcock@nisource.com
Name: Kate Babusiak
Address: 1445 Deer Creek Dr.
City: Dyer
State: IN
Zip Code: 46311
E-Mail: Kate.babusiak@gmail.com
Phone Number: 803-479-8444

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

In support of project!
Comment ID No. 0059

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COMMENT CARD

Name: Kevin Bobwik
Address: 1445 Deer Creek Dr.
City: Dyer
State: IN
Zip Code: 46331
E-Mail: kevin.bobwik@wjml.org
Phone Number: 219.614.7241

☑ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

In Support!

When referencing to taxes... will neighboring towns' property taxes be raised or will property values be increased? Both? This...

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COMMENT CARD

Name: Debbie Bachman
Address: 7018 Knickerbocker Pkwy
City: Hammond
State: IN
Zip Code: 46323
E-Mail: bachmannjd@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 219-616-7932

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I fully support the South Shore Line’s West Lake Corridor project. I was first introduced to the project through leadership Northwest IN.

www.facebook.com/oneregionwi
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Mon 1/30/17
From:
Dean Baker
965 Sunflower Lane
Dyer, IN 46311
Opposed to any plan that connects to the Meadows subdivision.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 4:22 PM
questions_comments: I am against any plan that would connect a parking lot to Seminary Drive or any other street in the west lake subdivision. We don't want the increased traffic from your business in our quiet subdivision.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 18 yrs
realname: Gene Bakker
address1: 965 Sunflower Lane
address2: 
city: Dyer/IN
state: State
zip_code: 46311
phone: 865-1974
email: g.bakker@juno.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 10:55 AM
questions_comments: Option C & D are not options at all. Using subdivision streets as main roads to enter and exit what you say will be a very busy station is unbelievable. It makes no sense on any level. Have you been there? It just doesn't work for the train user and especially for the home owners. Ask the police their facts on increased crime, beside the danger to the many children and elderly and pets in that subdivision.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 18.5 years
realname: Patricia Bakker
address1: 965 Sunflower Ln
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: g.bakker1@juno.com
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

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COMMENT CARD

Name: Gabriel Barrett
Address: 8317 Fairbanks St.
City: Crown Point
State: IN
Zip Code: 46307
E-Mail: gbarrett1@enw.edu
Phone Number: 219-256-3645

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Great idea, fully supported!

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www.facebook.com/one-region-nwi
I live at 8509 Garfield Avenue in Munster and I am opposed to the train station being located at Harrison Avenue and Ridge Road, Munster! Here are a few reasons at the top of my list: 1. There has been no referendum/choice! Why are tax payers denied input?! Why do we get no choice or say in this matter?
2. Why are we, as residents of the town of Munster, not told what is happening? Why are we not informed about what the plans are for our home/neighborhood we love? Why all the differing facts between the town and the NICTD?
3. The cost of this project is outrageous, in many of our opinions. From what we understand, why is the construction cost of this project almost $1B for less than 8 miles of tracking?!!
4. Why should the taxes need to increase for us over something there was no referendum about?? I’m upset over this! The project estimates a ridership of 2,227 new riders/passengers. This is around $400,000 per new rider. I can’t see how this can make sense.
5. PEOPLE WILL LOSE THEIR HOMES!!!! This is only supposed to be done as a last resort! This project is not a last resort! I don’t see why the train can’t just run through Munster without a station. I don’t see why there can’t be a different place to put this station so that people don’t have to be displaced! I am against the fact that neighbors still don’t know what’s going on when they’re homeowners who are said to be losing their homes! I know for a fact that even the 4 homeowners on South Street have yet to be told that they’re losing their homes for this said parking lot!!! This is infuriating!!
The Ridge Road station is 2.7 miles from the Hammond station and we find it unnecessary to spend so much money and tax dollars for a station/parking lot/TOD that will be so close to the existing and new Gateway stations in Hammond. This goes for the Dyer/Main Street, station as well. It’s in such close proximity to Ridge Road. Why do we need one at Ridge Road?
6. As a homeowner at the end of Garfield Avenue, I am SO concerned about my home value dropping, my home being so close to a parking lot/whatever TOD plans there will be, so close to the train itself and its effects on us OR LOSING MY HOME ALTOGETHER! I feel deceived by the town of Munster and the NICTD! Homeowners need a say! This is just wrong!
7. We attend Saint Paul’s Church/School on Harrison Avenue. This train and parking will effect the traffic patterns, the noise level, safety, etc. I am very concerned about all of these things! The church also has no say! It's just not right! These are all just the immediate thoughts/comments that are going through my mind. There are of course more. I am part of the neighborhood group of concerned residents, here, in town. I am tired of feeling as though we don’t matter, our homes don’t matter, our children’s future here doesn’t matter!
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 23 years Harrison Ave. 15 months Garfield Ave.
realname: Laura Barrett
address1: 8509 Garfield Avenue
address2:
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 7:26 PM
questions_comments: I live on Garfield Avenue and am opposed to the train station being at the corner of Ridge and Harrison/Manor in Munster. I mainly am opposed to it because of the cost for such few expected riders. It just seems like a waste to take any homes and spend so much money for this project. The project seems like a waste to have so many stations so close to one another at the start. It also doesn't make sense to me that you would build parking lots with so many spots. If I knew this was going to happen I would have never moved to this home.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 15 months
realname: Michael Barrett
address1: 8509 Garfield Avenue
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199512688
email: mike_barrett83@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 10:09 PM

Questions_Comments: How will this plan effect the homes on Frederick Ave in Munster? As well as the tunnel walkway connecting to bike path? What safety measures will be put in place, if the homes remain, to ensure kids or animals are safe?

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
Length_of_time: 8 years
Realname: Monica Barrientez
Address1: 8000 Frederick Ave
Address2: 
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip_code: 46331
Phone: 2194886737
Email: Mbarrientez@att.net
Name: Viannyn Baum

Address: 233 N Diggins

City: Griffith

State: IN

Zip Code: 46319

E-Mail: kbaum1458@gmail.com

Phone Number: 2199203371

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

This seems like a great idea.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/07/2017 4:09 PM
questions_comments: Please don't let a tiny, but vocal minority wreck this project that will benefit thousands every day for decades.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 50 years
realname: Jon Benchik
address1: 9032 Revere Court
address2: 
city: Munster, In
state: State
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: jonfb@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 1:11 PM

questions/comments: I am very much against the West Lake expansion. It does not increase jobs. It damages existing homes. No amount of noise or vibration mitigation will cure it, other than not to build. You are just trading East Chicago parking lots for Munster and Dyer lots. Many studies show jobs not growing in Chicago. Many who do work in Chicago also live there, meaning no commute. Many of the condos impacted by the proposed line in Munster are over 55 age group and they are retiring, not going into Chicago.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 25 years
realname: Connie Bernardi
address1: P.O.Box 457
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: connielbernardi@gmail.com
I am very much in support of this project! It will bring young families with high paying jobs into NW IN and will encourage development near the stations. We should get much more out of this than we put in. The economic and environmental positives are great. Easing congestion along the highways between IN and Chicago is another plus!
Direct Email Submission
Debi Boer
7461 Binyon
Cedar Lake, IN 46303

Very exciting, looks promising! Concern – if Illinois is bleeding (population and taxes) will business in Chicago also jump ship and move to tax friendly states? This is reducing need for transport to Chicago.
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com

Date Received: Sat 01/21/2017 9:22 PM

To whom this may concern, My mother lives at 11 Brunswick St Hammond, IN, which has been her address for over 30 years. She doesn’t drive therefore she walks to work which is located across from her house (Delocks). We were unable to attend the meeting this week due to schedule conflicts however she has been losing sleep over hearing the plans of this project. Can you please tell me if the project is approved, will her address be part of the acquisition? I need more than a year to figure out her next move since it would not only be a resident change but also a job change. I am sure you are extremely busy answering calls or responding to emails but I truly hope you can find time to respond to this email. Thank you so much for your time.

April Bolling
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 8:18 PM
questions_comments: I would like the parking lot for the West Lake Corridor Project Munster/Dyer Train Station to remain on the east side of the tracks. I live in the Meadows subdivision and if the parking lot is on the west side of the tracks that means people will have access through my subdivision to the station. I do not want all of that traffic coming through my subdivision. I think the station is a great idea but just not accessible from my subdivision. Thank you for your consideration.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Judy Bowers
address1: 665 Blue Jay Way
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-680-9385
email: rbabjkb@sbcglobal.net
We desperately need to better connect our communities in Munster and Dyer to Chicago. This is going to open up so many excellent opportunities for our area, economically and otherwise.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 4 years
realname: Carly Brandenburg
address1: 8245 Oakwood Ave
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 7739712529
email: cbrandenburg@eichhorn-law.com
Name: Carly & Steve Brandenburg
Address: 8245 Oakwood Ave
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip Code: 46301
E-Mail: OBrandenburg@echhorn-law.com
Phone Number: 773-971-2529 / 312-730-4204

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

We are all for the train. Good luck defeating the nimby's.

We need this economically & environmentally.
Hello, my name is Heriberto Bravo. I am a resident of The Meadows Subdivision in Dyer. My address is 507 Seminary Drive. I am 34 years old, my wife and I have two daughters ages 6 and 4. We have worked very hard to achieve to live in this nice and quiet neighborhood where our daughters can freely walk and play with their little friends outside. Our house is located at the dead end of Seminary Drive, and if this street gets connected to the proposed parking lot for the Munster/Dyer station it would completely take away our privacy, our children’s safety, our so well maintained front yards. We do not want our street to be a high transited pathway, with commuters speeding in front of our house, commuters interfering with our driveways, strangers occupying our street parking, unwanted people wondering our property. I am opposing to the connection of Seminary Drive to the south shore - Munster/Dyer train station. Please do not ruin our lives.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 3.5 years
realname: Heriberto Bravo
address1: 507 Seminary Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: lermainc@hotmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 8:32 AM
questions_comments: I know the study has looked at noise and the plan is to install directional horns at grade crossings, however, I am still concerned about train horn noise. Are there any other alternatives planned if the direction horns do not work?
Down the road, is there anything in place to limit additional trains on this extension?
Traffic along Ridge Rd is already heavy and congested. Will the boarding platform at the Ridge Rd station be positioned to allow the crossing gates to stay up and traffic to continue to flow during boarding?
As a user of the trails along the proposed extension, will trail usage be limited during the construction period?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 2 yrs
realname: Jennifer Brennan
address1: 246 Belden Pl
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 8159544657
email: jenbren328@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Ian Brewe
706 E Rodgers Ave
Beverly Shores, IN 46360

I fully support the development of the West Lake project and modernization of the South Shore Line.
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017
Rodney Brohart
Please put train station on the east side of tracks. No traffic through subdivision to station. Subdivisions are not made for this kind of traffic.
Direct Email Submission
Ursula Buchnat
8841 Morse Street
Crown Point, IN 46307

Will this project impact local real estate taxes and by what percentages?
This project should improve to increase the population of Northwest Indiana.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 3:21 PM
questions_comments: I am a resident in West Lakes as well as a business owner with residential rental properties and land in Munster. I am currently concerned with the possibility of the train parking being attached to our subdivision and the severe safety hazards that poses to my children, family and neighborhood. I oppose anything being on our side of the tracks or attached to West Lakes sub, period. Most importantly the safety of our children is at stake! We all know how fast late commuters can drive and clearly this would pose a danger to all of us in West Lakes! Additionally, opening up Margo to more than one exit point would most likely introduce more crime with easy exits for criminals. Traffic wise, we also already have extremely high traffic due to the Family Christian Center which causes extreme delays to our residents with horrible traffic backups all throughout the week. It's a nightmare already, how someone could even think to add additional traffic to Margo is unexplainable. In addition Margo is one lane each way and when cars are parked there it's difficult for regular subdivision flow, again let alone more traffic. I have also heard rumors about the possibility of section 8 housing going nearby this train area, in which if that would be the case I completely oppose the train all together! I certainly hope these rumors aren't true and that all of the items I discussed are clearly evaluated by those in control of this plan. Thank you.
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 1 year
realname: Michelle Budeselich
address1: 340 Norwich Court
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: Mkisil@comcast.net
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 5:25 PM
I have just received an e-mail about the latest plans for the station. Similar to what I have seen before at the informational meetings except the connection of Seminary Dr. to Main St. I have been to several meetings over the years about Main St. and now the train station. One thing we have been PROMISED BY OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS IN DYER IS THAT NO STREETS IN THE MEADOWS SUBDIVISION WOULD BE TIED TOGETHER WITH MAIN ST. AGAIN LET ME REPEAT MYSELF, OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS IN DYER HAVE PROMISED THE RESIDENTS IN THE MEADOWS SUBDIVISION THAT NO STREETS WOULD BE TIED TOGETHER WITH MAIN ST. THESE STATEMENTS WERE MADE AT THOSE MEETINGS. Now I see a plans doing such? Is nobody listening to us or is it just nobody cares what we want. I have been wrong many times in my life but in my opinion I can almost guarantee not one person involved in this project lives in the meadows or the subdivision to the north in Munster. With the connection of those streets to Main St. it would bring unwanted cut thru traffic, totally unsafe for children and residents. That traffic would need to be controlled, and the Meadows subdivision and Westlake in Munster is not the way to do it. But for those people who are involved in this and are actually considering doing that to the two subdivisions must have the intent on wrecking them. Because in the long range outlook that will happen. But hey what’s the old saying for the people making these decisions, “looks good from my house”. In other words, I do not live there, I does not affect me, and I do not, care what they think. I ask that you prove me wrong. Brian Burbach
doubleb16@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Sat 01/21/2017 12:47 PM

There is talk going around about receiving federal funds for this project called Greenway initiatives. Along with receiving federal funds their also would have to be affordable housing built near the train station, that’s part of the deal for taking federal funds. What I understand about affordable housing is considered individuals who make less than 50% less than the area’s annual income? Is their any truth to this at all, that is why I’m asking to hear it straight from you NICTD.

Brian Burbach
doubleb16@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Wed 02/01/17
At one of the meetings, their was a statement made about doing this project, with the goal of making this like the Naperville area in Illinois. Please do not wreck this area over the lure of money. If this is going to be done, do it right. No shortcuts. Many of us have lived here for a long time and want to keep it that way. Please don’t force us to move because our standard of living would be decreased. Please do not decrease our property values because of this project. Most of us moved here form Illinois for one reason or another. I tell people in Illinois to move here. Please don’t make it where I’m telling them to stay away. We made this area the way it is because we care about our families, children, neighbors, the town we live in, etc. Install a decorative wall between the parking lot and the Meadows Subdivision. Listen to what we have to say. Show us that you do care and will listen to us. Please dont jam it down our throats and say “see you, wouldn’t want to be you.” Be responsible.
Brian Burbach
doubleb16@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Wende Burbridge
7603 W. Mill Court
Hobart, IN 46342

Bravo! It’s about time! I am confident that this will be a great opportunity for all counties in the region. Looking forward to more transportation option through and from Valparaiso and all population centers.
Direct Email Submission
Mercedes Burgos
7129 Van Buren Ave
Hammond, IN 46324

I believe this a great project that will grow Northwest Indiana’s potential in many areas.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 2/1/2017

questions_comments: I want to express that I have not been pleased with how this project has been handled. While I do see some benefits to train access, I am not in favor of the large expense for low projected # of users. I don't support having 3 stations in such a short distance from the other. As a home owner who will look out her backyard and face a new parking lot, I really disapprove of the location of the ridge road station. I don't understand why the town council or RDA or NICTD couldn't have reached out to the homeowners of the immediately impacted station locations early in the process, met with us, discussed the vision and heard our concerns early on. I want strong assurances I won't lose my property value if you don't take my home and if you do take my home I need a promise it will be bought above fair market replacement value allowing to buy a home in the same community and not have to pull my kids out of their school or pay tuition to keep them in Munster. If I am forced to move you are creating turmoil in my life, finding a new home, packing, potential increase in my mortgage rate, the expense of moving and my extra time and effort to do something I am not doing by choice. I don't agree with the vision of apartments and clustered retail buildings, I don't live here so that I can feel like I live in the city. I like my large backyard and the fox that runs through it and convenience of the grocery store and target without the traffic of Schaumberg or oak park or park ridge etc... This project will cause Munster to lose some of it's appeal in my opinion. I'm disappointed at your failure to hold a referendum for citizens to vote earlier in the project process. I support the Concerned Families of the West Lake Corridor Project resolution being proposed to the Munster Town Council and I hope all of you in a position to arbitrarily disrupt the lives of some at a huge expense for uncertain guarantees of benefit to the majority, take these issues seriously. Thank you.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Amy Burian
address1:
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: valpo92@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/20/2017 4:05 PM
questions_comments: tell us who is "for" this so we can place a half-way house next door to them.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Rich & Mary Byrne
address1: 541 Seminary Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-865-2511
email: dickbyrne9@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 1:02 PM
questions_comments: Can a road be built from the Midwest Seminary parking lot to connect with Main Street through the farm land instead of making a round about at Seminary and Main.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Mary Byrne
address1: 541 Seminary Dr
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 708-927-2511
email: ricmarbyrne@aol.com
I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL, AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I wholeheartedly support the West Lake Corridor Expansion. Providing opportunities in mass transit and walkable corridors oriented development will be a gamechanger for the region of Northwest Indiana. We must continue to seize every opportunity to reduce traffic when commuting into Chicago, whether it be for work or play. Frankly, in embarking on this we must already accomplished 20 years ago. We need it now.
Direct Email Submission
Margaret Cannon
2005 Nethercliffe Way
Long Beach, IN 46360

- The idea of connectivity is so appealing to all generations, especially younger people like myself
- Getting the word out to young people in multiple ways is important
- Future looks bright, thank you! Excited to a part of it.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/28/2017 12:13 PM
questions_comments: The residents of the Meadows subdivision already were promised that the main street extension into Illinois project would not connect to the streets of our subdivision thru meetings with Dyer town council and that project team. Now comes this project. The parking lots of the Munster/Dyer station have no need to connect to Seminary Lane or any other streets of our subdivision. If Main Street is extended, those parking lots can connect to that road but not our subdivision streets. Please do not send that traffic thru our subdivision. Thank You.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 19 years
realname: Rich Carlson
address1: 848 Sunflower Lane
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: racster@att.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 11:53 AM
questions_comments: I 100% OPPOSED to the Expansion and TOD in Munster. by Ridge Road and Manor and also the one further South. Further more I find it rude that there are these INFORMATIONAL meetings where we are not allowed to voice our negative feelings towards theses project. I hope that this is at least recorded some how.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 20 years
realname: M Casas
address1: 8556 Hohman Ave
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: marifdezdecasas@hotmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Donna Case
935 E Joliet St
Schererville, IN 46375

I want to see it happen!
Direct Email Submission
India Castaneda
1306 Fitzgerald Dr.
Munster, IN 46321

Can’t wait to ride the rails
Name: Chih-Hsuan Chang
Address: 6749 Huron Ave., P
City: Hammond, State: IN, Zip Code: 46323
E-Mail: chang469@pnw.edu
Phone Number: 219-318-6570

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor project:
It's cool, makes people get connected.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 9:02 PM

questions_comments: I really don't like to move, gutted and did a complete remodel on my main level and basement ... New garage built for my antique cars and boat. will not find what I have unless I move 30 miles south. adding travel time to my commute to Chicago. dislike. compensate will not justified my time n labor.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 14 years
realname: mike ciupa
address1: 536 sheffield
address2: 
city: dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: m1ciupa@yahoo.com
As a resident of West Lakes, it is imperative that streets linked to the train station NOT feed into the streets of West Lakes, particularly Margo Lane. Children are actively crossing and waiting on corners for school buses at the same times as trains arrive and board. This would increase danger and reduce safety of our children. Accessing a public station via a small community comprised of side streets as opposed to utilizing major thoroughfares does a disservice to the community but most importantly it puts children at increased risk. There is no greater good than safety of children.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 4 years
realname: Kim Clark
address1: 10217 New Devon
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: nykko2012@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 8:36 AM
questions_comments: I am concerned with the noise levels around my house. We will be within 1/4 mile of the proposed Ridge Road station, and will have the parking lot adjacent to my backyard. How is NICTD planning to mitigate the severe noise impact this station and parking lot will cause?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 35 years
realname: Amy Colwell
address1: 8422 Garfield Ct
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: alstugis@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 1:01 PM
questions_comments: Per Chapter 4 page 33 (4-33), "Parking for the Munster Ridge Road Station would require acquisition of a cluster of 18 single-family homes at the end of Garfield Avenue, which would have a direct but limited effect on neighborhood cohesion due to the abundance of homes in the neighborhood. Station parking would create localized noise, traffic, safety, light, and glare impacts, which would affect nearby housing". What measures will be taken to ensure Resident property is protected from the noise, traffic and safety issues created by having the parking adjacent to residential homes?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 11 years
realname: Brian Colwell
address1: 8422 Garfield Ct
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: brian.colwell@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 5:30 PM

questions_comments: I do not understand why the Federal government would want to add to urban sprawl and the destruction of farmland in the implementation of the S Shore Westlake Corridor. I do not believe the \"convenience\" justifies the destruction of farmland and existing homes and businesses, and the enormous tax burden that will come with it. For 12 years I drove the 5 miles from my Munster home to the Hammond station to take the train downtown and considered the drive only a minor inconvenience. It is unconscionable to saddle us taxpayers with an enormous financial burden for the benefit of small group of riders, especially with the shortfall both locally and statewide. Munster is already crying poor mouth and wants an additional school referendum in addition to an increase in water rates from Hammond. Indiana does not have enough money to fix roads and plans to implement a wheel tax. It is even worse to expect the present residents to yield their homes for these few riders and the politically-connected consultants and developers who look to cash in BIG TIME on this project. It seems to me that this whole scheme (including and especially the TOD) is designed for their enrichment, and the actual rail line is merely a means to that end. I live approximately 1/2 mile from the proposed Ridge Road station, and I am angered and terrified by the prospect of being forced from my home of 30 years shortly before retirement in order to build TOD condos or apartments which DO NOT fit into our town's or neighborhood's character and will bring congestion and could quickly deteriorate into a transient crime-ridden area as has happened in Orland Park, Illinois.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 30 years
realname: Janet Cooper
address1: 8612 Moraine Ave
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-836-0576
email: hwrdcp@sbcglobal.net
I am a bit surprised that the new rail system will not be based on new technology. If we are going to build a new rail system, it should be able to run so-called "Bullet trains" or high speed rail. This would of course reduce the commute time. Other advantages are that high speed rail can be made available to travel outside the commute area to other parts of the country from these new tracks. Finally, if we make this system high speed capable now as we are building it, we will not have to circle back later to "upgrade" the system at more cost. This can help push the country forward to realizing the dream of high speed rail which is now enjoyed in many parts of the European Union.
Name: Suzanne S. Crismar
Address: 1134 Tulip Dr
City: Munster
E-Mail: Ubnurse76@sbcglobal.net
Phone Number: 219-805-0039

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

Much needed project. Munster/Dyer/South Hammond would certainly benefit from being more conveniently connected to Chicago for jobs, recreation and healthcare. People in Chicago think Indiana is a far distant land. Our presence needs to be known. I support this project!

One Region
Improving the Quality of Life in Northwest Indiana

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Direct Email Submission
Caryn Crist
613 South Park Ave
Crown Point, IN 46307

This is the progress we need to develop Northwest Indiana, adding value to our communities, property values, along with new business to raise household incomes here in Northwest Indiana.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 2:11 PM

questions_comments: Indiana need to update their infrastructure we need to support the West Lake Corridor Project to attract more business, increase home values, increase wages for our residents. This project will also bring in new home buyers who currently live in Illinois, for reasons: Solvent State, lower taxes, Great communities & Schools, lower crime rates.

Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
length_of_time: 30 yrs.
realname: Caryn Crist
address1: 613 South Park Ave
address2: 
city: Crown Point
state: IN
zip_code: 46307
phone: 2198088714
email: ccrist2014@gmail.com
To whom it may concern; Please understand that this project will be taking away people's homes, schools and churches if you decide to proceed with the plan that is in place. I understand that it will create jobs but it's not fair to force people out of their homes and to have to force children to find new schools and basically uproot their lives. Please reconsider the route you are choosing for this expansion. Thank you,
Julie Crotty
juliemcrotty@yahoo.com
I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor project:

In full support!
Name: Stephanie Czapka
Address: 209 Mayfair Way
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip Code: 46321
E Mail: stephanieczapka@gmail.com
Phone Number: 708-466-4198

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Supportive of train station.

Very concerned about opening Margo Lane on South end of West Lake. We do not want Margo to be open to train parking.
I am in favor of the train, but have concerns about the parking at the Lyman Ave lot and DO NOT want a maintenance yard at or near that location. That neighborhood "Southmore" is landlocked and has to access Lyman to enter and exist their neighborhood. It would create undue and unneeded stress and noise is simply too close to residences. Additionally, I would like to see only entrances and exits for the parking to be on 173rd st and 165th street. We most certainly do not want multiple car access off of Lyman which would cause excess cars on the east west streets which are extremely narrow.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 20 years
realname: Laurie Czulno
address1: 7142 Forest Ave
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone: 2199373057
email: lczulno@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 11:19 AM
questions/comments: I have heard various stories about the project funding and remain unclear. One rumor is that additional local taxes and an increased Lake County income tax are required. I would like to learn more about the funding sources and which taxes (if any) are to be raised for this project. I worry that the reason many people move to the region is for lower taxes and growth will be stunted if they are raised too much (especially if the costs are similar to living in IL).
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 4+ years
realname: Jared Damico
address1: 9732 Banbury Pl
address2:
city: Munster
state: IL
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: jareddamico@hotmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 9:55 PM

questions_comments: My concern is about the safety of the children that will be involved using the option that connects Seminary Dr. in the Dyer corridor. From the looks of it there is an option that allows for a people to enter and exit the station from Main St. There is already a stoplight at this location. Using Seminary Dr. is not the best option in terms of safety. Put numerous children and adults in harms way due to increased unnecessary traffic is not a viable option. I believe that using the East option for this project is the safest and best option. My wife and I have just moved to our location 2 years ago and had I known at the time that our subdivision was going to be used and an entry and exit option for this project we would have thought otherwise about our decision.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 2 years
realname: James Davis
address1: 756 Sunflower Ln
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46322
phone:
email: Jw-davis@live.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 9:46 PM

questions_comments: The train will bring more congestion to ridge road. There also will be minimal economic growth due to the fact the area is already built up.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
length_of_time:

realname: Ryan Dean
address1: 8222 white oak Ave.
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:

email: r_dog017@yahoo.com
Direct Email Submission
Don Deerwester
PO BOX 296
Lake Village, IN 46345
Wondering when expansion to St. John and Lowell would be considered.
Direct Email Submission
Evan Devine
311 North Colorado St
Hobart, IN 46342

Excited to see the new opportunity coming to the region. The rail line is certainly needed and will be a great addition to the growth of this state. As a realtor I am behind you all the way. Thanks!
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 3:29 PM
As a resident of the Meadows of Dyer I do not like either option that has a parking lot entrance inside our subdivision. We have a quiet and peaceful subdivision answer we do not need traffics especially near our park.
Please stay option A or B as those both would be good options
Anne-Marie Docter
717 Rosebush In
Dyer
219-865-8065
amdocter@gmail.com
Comment ID No. 00117

One Region
Improving the Quality of Life in Northwest Indiana

Comment Card

Name: Mary jane Dopp
Address: Mill Stratford Ln
City: Schererville
State: IN
Zip Code: 46375
E-Mail: dopp@pnw.edu
Phone Number:

☐ I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail. Already signed up!

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

This is a great project -
Beneficial to citizens, business and the University!

Do it!
Hi. We don't know why the train would have to come to Dyer and Munster. We just go to E. Chicago now when we need it. Many people feel Chicago is too dangerous right now anyway. Can you please see about a train going to Indianapolis, at least with more decent times of arrival and departure. Thank you.

Ken Drenne
minus22h@yahoo.com
Name: AARON DUDER
Address: 1581 HEARTSTONE CT.
City: Dyer
State: IN
Zip Code: 46331
E-Mail: aaronduder33@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 260-674-4864

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:
IN SUPPORT.
Name: Jayne Dudek
Address: 1581 Hearthstone Ct
City: Dyer
State: IN
Zip Code: 46311
E-Mail: jayndudek@gmail.com
Phone Number: 219-699-9020

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor project:

In support
Direct Email Submission
Donna Dunn
2837 171st St
Hammond, IN 46323

The same people that promised jobs and economic development with the airport are now promising the same thing with this train! What happened to our airport development? If TOD is so wonderful why not develop our current stations? South Shore ridership is down year over year – how does lower ridership justify spending all this money? The current Gary station had no platform and is about 1 mile from airport- is this going to change? It current takes 44 minutes to get to Chicago from Hammond – but to get from Dyer to Chicago in 47 minutes!?? How is that possible!??
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/02/2017 10:56 AM
questions_comments: I like the Fisher location for the Munster station better then the Ridge location. I don't want a train station in my back yard. If the station is going in on Ridge I hope the houses on Harrison Ave will be bought out. The Fisher location would not displace any residences.
length_of_time: 12 years
realname: Pam Eanes
address1: 8416 Harrison Ave
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-513-0714
email: pamccfd@sbcglobal.net
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Mon 01/02/2017 10:58 AM
I would like to know if my property is in the proposed by out section?
8416 Harrison Ave
Munster, IN 46321
Pam Eanes
pamccfd@sbcglobal.net
I am concerned about the parking lot for the train station being in my back yard. On Page 4-33 of the DEIS you state “Parking for the Munster Ridge Road Station would require acquisition of a cluster of 18 single-family homes at the end of Garfield Avenue, which would have a direct but limited effect on neighborhood cohesion due the abundance of homes in the neighborhood. Station parking would create localized noise, traffic, safety, light, and glare impacts, which would affect nearby housing.” Due to the fact that NICTD already is aware of the direct adverse conditions and hardships placed on the 18 homes that surround the parking lot. Noise, traffic, safety, light and glare impacts on my property. This will lower my property values and diminish my quality of life. I want to know how you are correcting the adverse conditions being placed on my person and property. If the adverse conditions cannot be corrected I demand NICTD acquire my property.

We never were contacted or had any opportunity to have the train station relocated. Once we found out it was going to be in our backyards we were told it’s a done deal. Nobody from the Town of Munster or NICTD contacted us by phone or mail, and we are in close proximity to the proposed station. Other areas were represented in strategic planning but not ours. Other areas had town resolutions stating their desired locations but not ours. NICTD has told us the Town of Munster wants the station at Ridge and Harrison. The Town of Munster tells us it’s NICTD that wants the station on Ridge Rd. Everybody is pointing the finger but we are the ones getting the station shoved down our throats. We are the only ones having a station being put in the middle of a neighborhood.

Pam Eanes & Dawn Carver
8416 Harrison Ave
Munster, IN 46321
pamccfd@sbcglobal.net
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 11 years
realname: Pam Eanes
address1: 8416 Harrison Ave
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 291-513-0714
email: pamccfd@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/28/2017 3:05 PM

questions_comments: We are strongly in support of this critical infrastructure project to link NWI with Chicago by rail. This will lead to much needed commercial development and will boost our home values as we improve accessibility to Munster, Dyer and surrounding communities to people who work in Chicago. When we moved here four years ago, one of the major factors that influenced us was the West Lake Rail project. We moved here from the far northwest suburbs of Chicago (Bartlett), illustrating the point that this rail project will attract more higher income residents to this area.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 4 years
realname: Mike and Sharon Englert
address1: 113 Beverly Place
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 630-661-1774
email: sharon.l.englert@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017 9:36 AM

Questions_Comments: This is a great project and long overdue. We look forward to better connectivity with the city of Chicago and the opportunity that will bring for the region.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Length_of_time:

Realname: Heather Ennis
Address1: 6100 Southport Road
Address2:
City: Portage
State: IN
Zip_code: 46368
Phone: 2197636303
Email: hennis@nwiforum.org
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 5:28 PM
questions comments: Please DON'T exit the parking lot south into Dyer. As depicted on the map, using a round about, a large portion of traffic would head south on Seminary Drive into established local streets with neighborhood homes. This is particularly destructive to the homeowners along Seminary Drive and thru all the homes with kids. Traffic will jam up where Seminary intersects Sheffield Ave. People will find creative ways to bypass the traffic at the Main St intersection. Please don't destroy our neighborhood. The noise and mess will be bad enough.
Thank you
Judith Erickson
jerickson1483@yahoo.com
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 19 years
realname: Judith Erickson
address1: 308 Swan Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 2198647984
email: jerickson1483@yahoo.com
I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Support public transportation; much needed.
I was more in favor of this project when I assumed that the tracks would simply use the tracks already in existence. I now learn that a whole lot of property owners are in jeopardy of losing some or all of their property. This whole plan seems to be very very expensive for only 8 miles. If someone wants to use the train, driving 8 miles further does not seem to be a major setback. Building a large multi-level parking facility next to the current stations for a lot less money to hold more vehicles would increase ridership without disrupting so many property owners. The towns where this proposed route is planned are already grown. Again people drive more than 8 miles to shop, to go to church, to eat, to do many things. This is another example of government waste.

James Fies. 544 Hickory Lane. Munster, In. 46321
famcollect@aol.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Mon 01/16/2017 12:54 PM
Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the study findings and proposals. I have read through the recommendations and information posted online. As a resident directly east of the proposed south Hammond station, my main concern continues to be noise even though the study is indicating that the noise impact could be minimal if all the sound negating options are used. I would like to voice my opinion that we DO want the special situation opt out horn exemptions to be requested or at a minimum the crossing horns where the sound is directed just to the traffic at the crossings at 173rd and 165th St. since the study indicated a 1/4 mile sound radius for the regular train horns. If that is an option for trains entering and leaving the platform behind our house that would be desired as well if they sound horns on arrival and departure. We are in favor of the walls to reduce neighborhood noise.
Thanks, Jodi Flanagan 7022 Harrison Ave, Hammond Indiana 46324
jodicellonotes@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 10:30 AM
questions_comments: As a resident of the Meadows subdivision in Dyer, I recognize the importance of a transit system, but I do not feel that our subdivision should be surrounded by a parking lot and a layover yard to make this happen. My preference is that the train station should be constructed East of the existing train line and that the layover/welfare facility not convert our community entrance into an industrial tract. Also, there should be NO curb cutting into our subdivision for access to the proposed parking lot and the visibility of the station from our homes should be minimized.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 16 years
realname: Anna Flores
address1: 133 Eagle CT
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
email: a_flores_martell@hotmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 3:56 PM

questions_comments: Purchased home in Dyer, IN knowing there was no train. Moved from a heavily
taxed area with public transportation - trains/buses produced IN THE RED $ results. Our town will not
be able to bear the burden without increasing our taxes, adding additional fees, our county increasing
COIT percentage take, or levying impact fees (PAGE 18 - STIF). The DEIS (Reference THREE (3) and
Tables) Traffic Sec. 3.5-1, 3.5-2, 3.5-3, 3.5.5 shows possible (your guess) reconfiguration of roadways,
adding traffic control lights near the NorthGate subdivision. These folks will suffer the consequences
of their quiet subdivision being used as a route to the train. I feel their quality of life will be
diminished. The taking of 11 homes is wrong. Their homes being taken should NEVER have been an
option for this project. In my opinion, the Meadows Subdivision and the subdivision in Munster just
north of the Meadows will also suffer displacement, quality of life issues due to noise, increased
traffic, etc. Safety is also my major concern. With proposed (your guess) influx of commuters/autos,
on our already congested roads will become a nightmare. For Fire, Ambulance, and Police
SECONDS/MINUTES COUNT! I feel my town’s safety will be compromised by this project. Road repair
due to increased traffic will be another burden of the Town of Dyer and its taxpayers. The Taking of 11
homes for this eventual BOONDOGGLE MONEY SUCKER is wrong for our town. Our Town Council
Members, in my opinion, did not make a responsible decision when voting to give 15% of our COIT
money to this project without being able to know the impact. In my opinion, the method used to
convince them to contribute borders on extortion or coercion. Next we were confronted with the
TOD. In my opinion, a TOD does not FIT with our town image or a train layover area. Most residents
own homes with yards - that’s the draw to Dyer - no cluttered, multi-use, stacked housing. Should the
train actually happen, I and many others will be moving. You will have a new ”transformed” DYER.
The amount of money being spent for so few and such a short distance is ridiculous, considering we
are on an ANTIQUATED LINE (THE SOUTH SHORE), and you will be adding OLD refurbished cars. What
a Joke! Foreign countries have bullet trains ... this is what we get for MILLIONS OF OUR TAX DOLLARS?
No thanks, this is not a good deal for Dyer.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 23 years
realname: Deborah Lynn Fritz
address1: 111 Park Manor Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: thepatriotdeb@sbcglobal.net
Direct Email Submission
Mitch Gaffigan
1560 Hogan Ave
Chesterton, IN 46304

Great Project – I believe. Want to help from what a bank can do.
Name: Vanessa Caldbear
Address: 1431 W 55th Ave
City: Merrillville
E-Mail: Vanessa Regan 0407@Mail.com

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Would be a plus for everyone using public transportation.
Easier access for students to get to Chicago.
Name: Kaylyn Galka
Address: 942 Harrison Ave.
City: Dyer
E-Mail: Klgalka92@gmail.com
Phone Number: 919-781-1811

◻ I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line’s West Lake Corridor Project:

I live near where the extension is going to be. How big is the station going to be? Will this cause more traffic? Looking forward to it being closer!
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

One REGION

COMMENT CARD

Name: Isabel Garcia
Address: 1513 Tulip Lane
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip Code: 46321
E-Mail: garcia00@purdue.edu
Phone Number: 219-1082-7304

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Very convenient location for me. A lot closer to my house.

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www.facebook.com/oneregionnw
Direct Email Submission
Victoria Garcia
2948 100th Street
Highland, IN 46322

I support Hammond Option 2. I believe this project will have a positive impact on Lake County.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 2:50 PM
questions_comments: I am opposed to a train station at Manor and Ridge Rd
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 6 years
realname: Gabrina Garza
address1: 8235 Highland Pl
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: Gabrina@gmail.com
I am not sure whether I support the train extension or not. There has not been much information provided to the public yet which is my greatest concern. I am against demolishing existing homes and neighborhoods to build the train and the TOD. I am also against any TOD that doesn't fit in naturally with its surroundings. I think a TOD which would provide a nice downtown area with local shops and restaurants would be best. No large chains or hotels should be a part of the area. A housing component would be ok, but I am against any high rise rental unit or development. I think owned townhomes would be the appropriate way to go given the neighborhoods surrounding these areas. It would be great to see more information on the project sooner rather than later.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 7 years
realname: Katherine Garza
address1: 1430 St. Andrews Dr.
address2: 
city: Schererville
state: IN
zip_code: 46375
phone: 574-850-6843
email: katherine.j.garza@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 8:26 AM
questions_comments: Reason I bought here because quiet & access for residents One way in & out. Would ruin the safe quiet neighborhood. SAD
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 7yrs
realname: Patty Gescheidler
address1: 540 blue jay way
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 12193221990
email: Pakig@sbcglobal.net
Direct Email Submission
Cynthia Vander Gessen
8946 Highland St.
Hammond, IN 46308

Except for college I've lived in a 1 ½ mile radius in Highland, IN! We need this!
Name: CAROL GOLDMAN
Address: 8236 BARING AV
City: MUNSTER
State: IN
Zip Code: 46301
E-Mail: bubba.goldman@att.net
Phone Number: 219-765-7618

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I am very pleased with the West Lake Project. My only concern is what the impact on Ridge Road would be. Would the train while loading "be Closing Ridge Rd.?"
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 1/31/2017
questions_comments: I may not be able to attend the upcoming meeting. Will there be architectural renderings at to what the new station would look like and the exact location of each station. I live 1 1/2 blocks from current station in Hammond, was told NICTD has plans to move the new station across from the old one to Sheffield & Goslin. I live on 143rd & Sheffield. It would be nice to see architects drawings online
length_of_time:
realname: Robin Goldman
address1: 4342 Sheffield Avenue
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46327
phone: 
email: rgoldman14@yahoo.com
Hello. My name is David Gonzalez and I live at 109 Cardinal Ct. in Dyer, IN. I live in the Meadows subdivision. I recently received your flyer asking of my concerns or opposition to plans connecting my subdivision (specifically Seminary Dr.), to any of the proposed train station parking lots.

I am strongly opposed to any plans to connect Seminary Dr., or any other street in my subdivision, to the proposed plans. As a matter of fact, I am opposed to the train station period!

I do have a question. A neighbor said that by having a Dyer train station at the proposed locations, there would have to be low income housing in the area. Is that true? If so, what are the specifics regarding this requirement?

Thank you, and I look forward to your response either by email or I can be reached at (219) 712-3645.

David Gonzalez
davidgonzalez288@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 01/20/17
My home of 30 years will be 50-100 feet from the tracks. Noise, vibration, decreased property value. Of course I'm opposed. Lots of people and families with little ones use the Monon bike trail between 165th & 173rd, and although it will still be there, being 10 ft. from a train will certainly lower its appeal. I also doubt that ridership will increase enough to warrant the cost. Most riders from south of Hammond will be happy for the convenience, but would likely be riders whether they boarded at Dyer or drove to Hammond or E. Chgo. Also, please tell how many trains will go past my home per day. Your brochure shows 12 trips for weekday peak. I live at Fernwood (1 block N of 169th) and Lyman. 6 southbound trains and 6 northbound, or 12 S/B and 12 N/B? Also, some 20 yrs. Ago I created and maintain a large garden next to the bike path. Passers-by regularly tell me how much they enjoy it, and several times I have seen families use it as a backdrop for their photos. Can I arrange for the garden to be protected?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor:
length_of_time:
realname: Terry Graham
address1: 267 Fernwood Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone: 219-775-4013
email: tmg1917@yahoo.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Mon 01/28/17 8:28 pm
What was your project ridership in 2000 for 2016?
Peggy Gross
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 1/26/2017
questions_comments: I am not in favor of bringing traffic into my subdivision. Seminary drive is not an option for use to enter a parking lot. Protect the children and the neighborhood.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Joe Grubish
address1: 612 Blue Jay Way
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: joedee3677@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 7:41 AM
questions_comments: East or East1 is acceptable, anything that does not involve Seminary Dr. Hammond and Cal City had battles over Stateline. They built a wall! At the very least, speed bumps should be put in. What % of money will Dyer or Munster receive?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 16 years
realname: Terry Hanas
address1: 625 Rose Bush Ln.
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: terryhanas@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017 10:00 PM  
questions_comments: I live in the West Lakes subdivision where there is talk of making Margo Ln a thru street for the upcoming station. In all the time I have lived here I have always wanted Margo to go thru or to at least have more than one way in and out of the subdivision.  
Homeowner: yes  
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes  
length_of_time: 14 years  
realname: Kelly Hand  
address1: 9940 New Devon St  
address2:  
city: Munster  
state: IN  
zip_code: 46321-9142  
phone: 2199220136  
email: kjhhand@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 6:34 AM
questions_comments:
Homeowner: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Cathi Hansen
address1: 8636 Harrison Avenue
address2: 
city: Munster
state: State
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: linde749@hotmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 1:26 PM
questions_comments: My family and I will never use the trains, we do not want them in our community!!!!!!!!!
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 12 years
realname: Jaclyn haro
address1: 8611 hohman avenue
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: jaclynharo@yahoo.com
[Note: This same comment submitted three times.]
Name: Dani Haydell
Address: 110 Cottage Camp Dr.
City: Michigan City
E-Mail: dhaydell@purdue.edu
Phone Number: 219-229-5251

State: IN Zip Code: 46360

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

I think this is such a wonderful opportunity for Northwest Indiana!
Name: Mikayla Hayes
Address: 8332 Gordon Br.
City: Highland
State: IN
Zip Code: 46323
E-Mail: hayes1WEPcnw.edu
Phone Number: (219) 781-1234

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Why isn't there going to be a track in Highland?
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 01/20/2017 10:53 AM

questions_comments: quit talking, start laying track....I have waited for this since the 70's.....it is embarrassing that it takes an implausible amount of time for a government project to begin let alone complete.

Homeowner: yes

length_of_time: lifetime

realname: Kevin Heggi

address1: 2142 North Delaware Parkway

address2:

city: Munster

state: IN

zip_code: 46321

phone: 2195124078

email: kevinaheggi@gmail.com
To whom it may concern,

I am very much in favor of the south shore expansion to Dyer and honestly I don't understand why anyone would be against it since ultimately it will bring a lot of money to northwest Indiana. I am a police officer in northwest Indiana and do not believe the train will bring any added crime or problems to the area, instead, it will allow people an easier commute to Chicago to make Chicago wages they will spend here in NWI! Beyond that, it will attract businesses and force NWI wages to go up to retain employees who may now be tempted to commute to Chicago. I'm closing, I hope the Dyer rail happens.

Thanks,
Shane Hendron
shane.hendron@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 4:47 PM  
questions_comments: I am against this extension for many reasons. The plan is to have 32 trains a day running through my back yard. What kind of damage will that do to our physical homes? Our property values will drop approximately 20% due to this intrusion. Many seniors live along the affected area, and we will lose money and not be able to sell our homes. The traffic is already extremely bad, and this will make it nearly impossible to exit our street during your rush hours. We already have people speeding down our street using it as a shortcut; how much worse will it get with 500 cars a day racing to leave the area? Ridge Road will be completely blocked. The drainage in my backyard is already bad, because you have not maintained the property. How much worse will it be? What are you planning to do about the possums and raccoons (and who knows what else) that are living there? They will end up trying to invade our homes when they are driven out of the wooded area.

What about crime? You already have problems in Hammond and East Chicago; are you going to have security at the lots and our neighborhood 24/7? There is no reason to put a large train station in a 100% residential neighborhood, let alone one that is only a few miles from the next one. The station you will be building in Munster will be used by Illinois residents, not Munster residents. The cost is not justified. $600 million to build and $14 million a year to run 7 miles for what you say will be 7,000 weekly riders in 20 years (which I equate to 3,500 people round trip, 700 a day). To bring in the crime and the destruction of our peace for that small number of riders is not sensible. Munster officials seem to think this will bring business into the area; speaking as a person who commuted for 20 years, I can tell you that that is not true. A commuter gets off the train, gets in their car, and gets out as quick as they can. You don’t hand around the town shopping.

This will be a horrible idea for Munster and I oppose it completely.

Homeowner: yes  
length_of_time: 27 years  
realmame: Kathleen Hernandez  
address1: 8733 Manor Avenue  
address2:  
city: Munster  
state: IN  
zip_code: 46321  
phone:  
email: momanddogs@sbcglobal.net
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017 10:56 PM
I am a resident of the Meadows subdivision in Dyer, IN. I oppose any option for the Munster/Dyer train station that would connect Seminary Drive to the train parking lots or any of the other train facilities.
Tova Heymann
th1875@gmail.com
I do not support the opening of Margo lane to the train parking that is proposed at the end of West Lakes subdivision. The through traffic will be hazardous to children in the neighborhood on a road that is already travelled on at dangerous speeds. In addition, the traffic and congestion will hinder residents' ability to enter and exit the subdivision as there is already significant construction without the neighborhood being open to through traffic. I oppose the opening of West Lakes subdivision to train parking/through traffic.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 18 years
realname: Melissa Higgason
address1: 200 Glastonbury St
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: melhiggason@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 4:38 PM

questions comments: We believe that the project is much too intrusive on the Town of Munster. The vast amount of homes that are "proposed" to be "repurchased" is terribly destructive. A large portion of the homes to be taken are in the newest parts of Munster, some of the only areas that are available for new construction. The overhead lines, rail yard and huge parking lot will completely destroy the neighborhood feel of the Town as well and ruin the aesthetics. Basically, this will turn Munster into an extension of Hammond. It will bring a transient presence to neighborhoods that are primarily family residential. Further, 47 minutes to downtown is not an improvement on the drive, especially if you work on the west side of the city. TERRIBLE IDEA for Munster residents.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 11
realname: Christy & William Hoopq
address1: 341 Carnaby Place
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-934-9897
email: hoophouse@comcast.net
Direct Email Submission
Brenda Huerter
8740 Carolina
Highland, IN 46322

I'm excited to see it happen!
Direct Email Submission
Cy Huerter
Highland, IN 46322

Trains were state of the art, 150 years ago. By the time you plan to run the first train, car and trucks will be driving themselves! Use your money planned for the train to build and improve more roads. For example, extend Cline Ave. from the Borman South to the proposed I-65 by pass.
January 29, 2016

(1) The Hammond Alternative is much to be preferred. I agree with SSL CEO Andrew Fox and Hammond Mayor Thomas McDermott. The presence of the Hammond Gateway station would make intra-Indiana travel from Dyer and Munster to the Dunes and points east more attractive. Inclusion of an elevated crossing of 45th Avenue and the CSX tracks is strongly preferred. The DEIS effectively presents the case for this option.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
January 29, 2016

(2) The Hammond Alternative will build the railroad through an old part of the City of Hammond known to be contaminated by over a century of industrial use, including many toxic and carcinogenic materials. In particular the Manufactured Gas Plant owned by NIPSCO is presently under remediation. The Hammond Department of Environmental Management is well aware of this site and many others. Excavation for supporting structures must proceed carefully and be prepared to encounter these wastes. This will in all probability elevate costs and extend the time required for construction. An unusually generous contingency budget item and time schedule should be included in anticipation of these events.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 1:27 PM

questions/comments: West Lake Expansion DEIS Comments

(3) The presence of an old family farm along the east side of the Monon right-of-way and south of South Street was overlooked by the DEIS. The Munster Historical society has been eager to preserve this farm. The DEIS shows the property will be needed for a parking area for the Munster station. If this location is vital to the project an effort should be made to preserve and possibly relocate the buildings to the extent feasible.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 1:27 PM
questions_comments: West Lake Expansion DEIS Comments
(4) Many public officials on both sides of the State Line have long desired to connect Main Street in Dyer and Munster with Joe Orr Road in Lynwood. Option 2 of the Hammond Alternative would include a new tunnel under the CSX railroad connecting only to a parking lot. This would make a road connection to Illinois easier. In addition, the citizens of Lansing, Lynwood and other Illinois communities will undoubtedly become customers of NICTD. In the absence of such a connection the Project will contribute to the already substantial traffic on US 30 in Dyer and Ridge Road in Munster.
Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
realtname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 1:27 PM
questions_comments: West Lake Expansion DEIS Comments.
(5) The mention of the small tunnel under the railroad at Belden Place in Munster is noted with approval. Built long ago it is used by school children and the occasional adult cyclist. A suitable replacement is strongly encouraged. Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
re: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 1:27 PM
questions_comments: West Lake Expansion DEIS Comments

(6) The DEIS shows a possible parking area north of Ridge Road in Munster. If this is selected a pedestrian overpass is strongly encouraged. This feature is commonly included at other commuter rail stations, industrial parking lots and even schools. It should be enclosed to protect users from rain, wind and ice.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
There is at present an on-demand traffic signal for cyclists at Ridge Road for the Monon Trail. Presumably a similar system will be included if the trail is relocated. The signal should be tied in to the signals for the railroad crossing so that bicyclists will clearly be able to cross Ridge Road while traffic is stopped for the trains. Although there is no such signal presently at 173rd Street it is recommended that a similar coordinated signal be installed at this crossing as well.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 1:27 PM

questions_comments: West Lake Expansion DEIS Comments

(8) The DEIS calls for the Monon Trail bridge over the Little Calumet River to be relocated. The bridge should be moved to the north side of the Borman Expressway. The original plans for the Little Calumet River flood control project authorized in 1976 included a trail complete to Hohman Avenue, which cannot be accomplished by the present location of the Monon Trail bridge. That authorization, called “Plan 3A” in the law, is still in effect as the authorization for the flood project. If the bridge is placed on the north side of the Borman the Little Calumet River Trail can be completed. The Monon Trail can then be connected to Munster by building a trail under the Borman Expressway on the west side of the river. A similar approach was used by the City of Hammond to build a bike trail along 112th Street under the Indiana Toll Road and it is quite successful.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years

realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 1:27 PM

questions_comments: West Lake Expansion DEIS Comments

(9) The IHB Alternative includes a railroad bridge over the CSX railroad at the same location that a bridge going north and south over State Street and the railroads north of State Street is planned for the Burnham Greenway. The DEIS suggests the bike trail bridge be “located over the elevated track for the Project service.” That would place such a bridge at a preposterously high elevation, greatly increasing the length of the ramps and the costs of the structure. It could very well place the structure, and its users, in an unsafe proximity to the Commonwealth Edison transmission lines.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years

realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 1:27 PM
questions_comments: West Lake Expansion DEIS Comments

(10) The DEIS notes that the proposed railroad intersects the future route of the Pennsy Greenway and a “bridge or culvert” would be installed at this juncture. As a longtime cycling enthusiast and supporter of the Pennsy Greenway I was pleased to see this. However, after giving this some thought I have decided that personally I would rather not have a separated grade crossing. While a case could be made for a bridge or a tunnel I don’t think the cost is justified by the minimal amount of time that the crossing would be blocked by the trains. The trail would be blocked for one or two minutes 5 or 6 times a day in each direction. We can wait that long. In summer I frequently ride down Johnson Ave in Hammond, and occasionally I am stopped by a South Shore Train. By the time I take a couple of drinks of water the train is gone. I don’t find it to be much of an inconvenience. The DEIS shows an elevated section going almost all the way to Fisher Street, almost 2000 feet from the CSX tracks. The ramp does not need to be that long. The SSL tracks are elevated at Ash Street in Hammond and are back to grade one block east of Calumet Avenue, only 1000 feet from Ash Street. The Pennsy Greenway crossing is 1300 feet north of the CSX. Even if the railroad were a few feet above grade at this point it would make more sense to elevate the trail than build a tunnel. This area is historically wet and a tunnel would require a drainage system, pump and a discharge line to some lower ditch, all of which would require maintenance.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 44 Years
realname: Robert Huffman
address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199244881
email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
Schererville plans to build their section of the Pennsy Greenway within the next year or two. The crossing at Main Street is expected to be challenging due to the present volume of traffic on this street. The increased traffic caused by the West Lake Corridor will degrade this crossing from challenging to dangerous. The presence of a partially elevated street and a nearby drainage ditch far below grade makes a tunnel for the bike trail feasible at this location. Funds proposed for a tunnel for the bike trail at the railroad would be better spent at this location.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on this project.

Homeowner: yes
Interested Stakeholder: yes
Resident Project Corridor: yes
Email Notifications: yes
Length of Time: 44 Years
Realname: Robert Huffman
Address1: 9607 Dogwood Dr
Email: huffmun@sbcglobal.net
I would like to see the railroad move forward. The time traveling down Calumet Ave and Indianapolis Blvd to the Hammond or East Chicago Stations has increased with traffic congestion. As travel time to/from the train station has increased coupled with poor parking options, it has limited the viability of the train as a transportation alternative.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 8 years
realname: Kevin Hunt
address1: 10222 St. James Place
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: kevin.vail.hunt@gmail.com
Storm water management will be needed all along and within the corridor. Please consider sub-surface storage (under parking lots for example) with very low release rates for the Munster Dyer segment of the corridor. Use the minimum of properties required for acquisition as flood water management by sub-surface storage. Flooding issues remain a problem in these communities. Water quantity and quality should be considered. Silva cells use throughout the corridor may be advantageous both for storm water quantity and quality management.

Homeowner: yes
Email Notifications: yes
length_of_time: Live in the community for over 50 years
realname: Ronald Hunter
address1: 940 Royal Dublin
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: Beamer940@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/28/2017 5:42 PM

questions_comments: The people in my neighborhood called The Meadows of Dyer currently enjoy a quiet, peaceful neighborhood. We don't have through streets going through the neighborhood. We don't want our neighborhood connecting to a train station parking lot or Main Street. That would make our neighborhood noisy, less safe, and clogged with traffic. I paid extra for my lot so that I could enjoy a private home that borders a field with no neighbors behind me. Your proposal is to park trains behind my home. I don't want trains parked behind my home for many reasons: increased noise, decreased privacy, instead of looking out our backyard on a field I would be looking at trains, and most importantly my home value would drastically decrease. People would much rather buy a home on a field than a home with a bunch of trains parked behind it. My home is my biggest investment and you would be taking money out of my pocket in addition to raising my taxes to help pay for something that is going to be detrimental to me.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 18 years
realname: Jeanne Iwema
address1: 217 Oriole Court
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: Djiwema@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 2:17 PM
questions_comments: I feel there is no need for a train station at Ridge Rd in Munster. Traffic is so congested in Town the way it is now, not to add 300-400 more cars. Make the Dyer station adequate to handle all of the commuters and keep the traffic away from that area.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 40 yrs
realname: DENNIS JABLONSKI
address1: 8737 Monroe Ave.
address2:
city: MUNSTER
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219 836 2215
email: jablonskid@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 2:42 PM
questions_comments: I am not in favor of train. It will bring too much congestion at am & pm rush hours. Already too congested! There will be more noise to a nice quiet neighborhood. Munster train station terrible idea!
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 35 years
realname: Maureen Jablonski
address1: 8737 Monroe
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: mdjablonski@icloud.com
I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:
Will you make sure that local union workers are on job sites and have community workers that are qualified have jobs.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/24/2017 9:28 AM

questions_comments:
1. SOURCE - EPA DOC 3PA-420-F-14-044 - NEAR ROADWAY AIR POLLUTION
   SOURCE - EPA - 100-R-15-001 BEST PRACTICES FOR REDUCING NEAR-ROAD POLLUTION EXPOSURE AT SCHOOLS.
   SOURCE - EPA-456/F-14-002 AIR QUALITY INDEX
2. SAFETY OF OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC
3. NOISE POLLUTION -
   NOISE EFFECTS HANDBOOK EPA 500-9-82-106
   A DESK REFERENCE TO HEALTH & WELFARE EFFECTS OF NOISE
   What is the most pervasive environmental noise source and how many people are exposed to it?
   Urban traffic is by far the most pervasive outdoor residential noise source, although aircraft noise is a significant source as well. Over 96 million persons are estimated to be exposed, in and around their homes, to undesirably high traffic noise levels exceeding Ldn > 55 dB.
4. INCREASE OF WATER POLLUTION & FLOODING
   SOURCE EPA-841-F-03-003 Protecting Water Quality from Urban Runoff. Clean water is everybody’s business
5. DISPLACEMENT OF HOUSES AND PROPERTY RIGHTS OF RESIDENTS
6. PROPERTY TAXES AND OTHER TAXES WILL GO UP. ALSO OTHER COSTS GO HAVE GONE UP AS A RESULT. Young families already struggle with, recently assessed Wheel Tax, and water, sanitary and stormwater Rates being raised dramatically.
7. VISUAL POLLUTION WITH A TRAIN MAINTENANCE FACILITY IN A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD - SOURCE - INDIANA CITIZEN PLANNERS MANUAL
8. VIBRATION POLLUTION TO NEIGHBORING RESIDENTIAL HOUSING AND NURSING HOME. SOURCE THE DEIS, DRAFT OF ENVIRONMENT IMPACT STUDY Can cause stress and sleep disturbances to residents sleeping in close proximity.

length_of_time: 18 YEARS
realna me: Paula Johns
address1: 1024 Royal Dublin Lane
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-616-9933
email: pjohns1024@gmail.com
Name: Ned Jovanovich
Address: 1820 Redwood Lane
City: Munster
E-Mail: ned@1authorities.com
Phone Number: 312-912-2970

[ ] I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

As a current south shore rider I am really excited about the south shore extension. As a homeowner in Munster I am also looking forward to the increase in property values. The south shore extension will make Munster more attractive to prospective homebuyers. For the TDO in Munster, I would like a new Malnati's pizza at the stop!
I fully support the West Lakes South Shore extension as it is critical to the economic development of Northwest Indiana and it is positive for the environment. With recent movement of large suburban employers (such as McDonalds) to downtown Chicago, providing strong access to downtown Chicago is critical for Indiana residents to be able to access these types of corporate high-paying jobs. This is the right thing to do for economy and environment!
Overall, I feel strongly that the extension of the South Shore to Munster/Dyer will help the local community with mobility and access to high-paying jobs. One of strong value premise of the project is that workers from downtown Chicago will be willing to live in areas of Indiana such as Munster and Dyer which currently have relatively poor train access. This premise will only hold true if the schools in places like Munster remain very good. We are told there is a TOD development portion that will be introduced as part of the West Lakes extension, however, prior to the expiration of the public comment period we have not been given any concrete information on the number of multi-family units which will come along with TOD at each of the proposed stations. We have not been told what the targeted unit sizes, unit mix, rent or sell-out prices will be. Therefore, as a community we are not able to properly analyze and comment on the impact the addition of new high- or medium-density residential development will have on our schools. We are unable to ascertain if the added population will be a burden on the school systems. We are unable to ascertain or comment if the socio-economic impacts of a proposed development will likely impact school performance in the future. The introduction of the train and/or high- or medium-density development should not come at the expense of negatively impacting school performance. If the strength of the schools decline, the overall economic health of the community will go with it.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 2+ yrs
realname: Roz Jovanovich
address1: 1820 REDWOOD LN
address2:
city: MUNSTER
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: rosalynn789@hotmail.com
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017
Patricia Kalka
Opposed to train station and they are concerned about their building being torn down. They are 85 years old and don’t want to have to deal with this at their advanced age.
8445 Mare Avenue #102
Hammond alternative #2 makes most sense. Do not support maintenance yard in south (near 173rd) Hammond – would diminish this higher value area of Hammond. I think weekend service is critical and quick travel time is also critical so alternative #2 achieves this best.
Name: Sang Kang

Address: 2324 Robinhood Blvd.

City: Schererville

State: IN

Zip Code: 46375

E-Mail:

Phone Number:

☐ I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line’s West Lake Corridor Project:

I support this expansion. I hope this will alleviate some of the congestion on US 41, US 30.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 1:41 PM
questions_comments: I am not opposed to the project but I am CERTAINLY opposed with the idea of Margo and the subdivision of Westlakes being a corridor to the entry of the parking lot. Many of us purchased homes here because it is secluded and safe for the MANY children that live here!
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 12 years
realname: Mary Kate
address1: 209 Glastonbury St
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2196780051
email: bmkteske@att.net
Name: Judy Katz & Rick Katz
Address: 1208 W. 124th Pl
City: Crown Point
State: IN
Zip Code: 46307
E-Mail: judyakatz@gmail.com
Phone Number: 219-776-0147

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

Liked what I heard today.

Like 2 lines - east & Gary.

Definitely like the West Lake plan. Great website!

Need more trains and 2 Chicago in the evening.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/22/2017 10:49 PM
questions_comments: I am for the West Lake Corridor. I live in Munster and believe the extension of the South Shore will bring much to NWI. My wife works downtown and this would save almost 45 minutes on her commute every day. I hope that the right precautions will be taken to accommodate the houses that back up to the train line. I also feel very strongly that there should not be an open thoroughfare from a potential parking lot in the Dyer station into the West Lakes community in Munster. People will use Margo Lane as a shortcut and there are too many families that live along that route. I do not like in this neighborhood. Also, I heard there was some reconsidering about having a storage facility at the Dyer location and that the trains may just come down from Hammond in the morning. Obviously if this is a cost effective option it should be considered. Thank you
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 3.5 years
realname: Adam Keefner
address1: 1110 Tulip Ln
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321-3023
phone: 3122184495
email: akeefner@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Shawn Kelly
336 S. California Place
Hobart, IN 46342

Get it done. It will only improve the quality of life in NWI and strengthen our communities.
Direct Email Submission
John Kennedy
2809 Highway Ave, Suite B
Highland, IN 46323

Great project that promotes “regionalism.”
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 10:37 AM

questions_comments: This is a very worthy project. The impact of this project is significant to the future of Lake County and the residents of the corridor. My general sense is that this will have a very positive impact on areas that we know will be turning over housing from an aging population to the next generation. As this occurs, it will help keep property values high as interested parties will easily be able to commute to work. Additionally, the traffic flow, which currently is over stressed, could be lightened or could be reduced as the population demographics change. An excellent project.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 5.5 years

realname: Thomas L. Kean
address1: 7035 Knickerbocker Pkwy
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46323

phone:
email: tlk0911@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 8:05 AM
questions_comments: Do NOT let margo be used as a through street or access road for the train station. That would ruin a great kid friendly neighborhood.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 1.5 yrs
realname: Josh Kolar
address1: Exeter Rd
address2: 
city: Munster
state: State
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: Joshkolar@hotmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
DateReceived: Mon 01/30/2017 2:13 PM
questions_comments: As a resident in West Lakes Subdivision with a growing family, I am opposed to Margo Lane being opened up to connect to the parking lot of the munster/dyer station. This would bring an increased traffic flow, majority from from IL. I do not want to worry about my children riding their bikes in the neighborhood. I am willing to pay extra to maintain a gated access for West Lakes residents only.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Rachel Kolar
address1: 124 Exeter DR
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 7738654638
email: maryracheljohnson@gmail.com
As a West Lakes resident, my main concern is direct access for Margo to the train station. I am in strong support of the train but not of having El residents use our subdivision to cut through to the train station. I would like to a gated access, I am willing to pay for it.
As a native of Gary, Indiana (Lake County), a business owner in Portage, IN (Porter County), and a homeowner in Michigan City, IN (LaPorte County). The West Lake Corridor Project and Double Tracking is a no brainer corridor to Chicago. It will bring people – people build communities – communities bring tax base and business – that brings growth – Growth is the Future. “Build it and they will come”
Direct Email Submission
Sue Konrady
3530 Manitou Trail
Michigan City, IN 46360

I fully support the West Lake Corridor Project to help increase the opportunity to commute and travel throughout the region east and west. I also believe this region would fully compete with the Chicago suburbs and enhance the quality of life throughout Northwest Indiana.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 6:10 PM
questions_comments: Retain as much green space as possible at the new Hammond station. Double deck the parking lot instead of much larger footprint with single level parking lot.
Have you considered fast-track bus service servicing the NWI-Chgoland corridor? Road infrastructure already in place to accommodate this method of travel. In addition it's much cheaper and less impactful on the environment.
In regards to the paying for the train, the pie chart diagram indicated that for the operation/maintenance, 35% would be paid by the users/ticketed passengers and 65% would be paid by the supporting communities. That doesn't seem like a good formula for success. Perhaps it could be the other way around. How come the train cannot be self-supporting? Depending on other sources of revenue for the O/M of the train is a disaster waiting to happen and it could put the train is a very untenable position. Shouldn't those who use the service pay the full freight? Just sayin' and that's my 2 cents.
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 30 yrs homeowner, 25 years business owner
realname: Chuck Kreisl
address1: 10350 Calumet Ave
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2197654641
e-mail: Chuck@CalumetHarley.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017 3:57 PM
questions_comments: I currently live and own a rental in the West Lake Corridor Project map. I believe the ease of access for my renters to access a train is invaluable to property value and security for future rental income. My personal home is exactly a mile away from the proposed Munster Ridge Road Station and I will become a new rider. My trip to the current stations are about 15 minutes plus parking and I might as well drive if I'm already investing that time. With having a train within walking distance or within a 5 minute car ride for my family and I, we will become new riders. Finish this extension as quickly as possible.
Homeowner: yes
Renter: yes
length_of_time: 11 years
realname: Thomas Kubon
address1: 2239 Ridgewood Street
address2: 
city: Highland
state: IN
zip_code: 46322
phone: 773-350-6058
email: tpkubon@gmail.com
One of the greatest movements in Northwest Indiana. This should have been started in the 1970's.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017 8:49 AM
questions_comments: I own a business and work out of my home. I live in West Lakes subdivision. I am very concerned that the extra traffic coming into West Lakes subdivision will destroy my business.
Thank you, Jeff Lambert
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Jeff Lambert
address1: 9849 Whitehall Garden
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-924-4414
email: Bodysculpting@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 12/29/2016 4:54 AM

questions_comments: I live in the West Lakes subdivision in Munster. My home of 17 years is directly along the tracks. I would like to know of any impacts the new train line will have on my property. Additionally, will there be a connection to the parking lot through the subdivision (Margo Lane)?

Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Jodi Lambert
address1: 9849 Whitehall Garden
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-384-4414
email: lambertjodi@outlook.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 4:19 PM
questions_comments: I am opposed to the proposed Dyer/Munster Train Station and Dyer Layover Facility. It will negatively affect the quality of life to the residents within the surrounding area. The proposed station and layover facility will be placed anywhere from approximately 100 ft to 1200 feet of residential homes, nursing homes, retirement villages and parks. These additions will not only bring the repercussions from the trains themselves but also from the enormous increase of vehicle traffic for the expected 3000+ daily ridership. This quiet location in the community, obvious by the developments within the area, is not a fitting location. The negative affect it would have on the quality of life for all those in proximity is as follows:
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 30 Year Dyer Resident
realname: Cathy Lareau
address1: 2337 Rolling Hill Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: lareau7@sbcglobal.net
1) Negative Effects on the Environment

A) Air Quality
The increased pollutants from grossly increased traffic and increased CO\textsuperscript{2} levels from the locomotives will affect the health of the residents. Studies prove that air pollution from traffic has been linked to many negative health effects, including:

- worsening asthma symptoms
- asthma development in children
- lung cancer
- reduced lung function
- heart disease
- increased risk of death from heart conditions

Air pollution may worsen symptoms for people with existing heart and lung conditions. Children and elderly are at greatest risk.

B) Noise Pollution
Noise pollution adversely affects the lives of millions of people. Studies have shown that there are direct links between noise and health. Problems related to noise include stress related illnesses, high blood pressure, speech interference, hearing loss, sleep disruption, and lost productivity. Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) is the most common and often discussed health effect, but research has shown that exposure to constant or high levels of noise can cause countless adverse health effects.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 30 Year Dyer Resident
realname: Cathy Lareau
address1: 2337 Rolling Hill Drive
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: lareau7@sbcglobal.net
B) Noise Pollution

Noise pollution adversely affects the lives of millions of people. Studies have shown that there are direct links between noise and health. Problems related to noise include stress related illnesses, high blood pressure, speech interference, hearing loss, sleep disruption, and lost productivity. Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) is the most common and often discussed health effect, but research has shown that exposure to constant or high levels of noise can cause countless adverse health effects.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 30 Year Dyer Resident
realname: Cathy Lareau
address1: 2337 Rolling Hill Drive
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: lareau7@sbcglobal.net
3) Safety Concerns

Drugs are brought in through commuter rails. U.S. Department of Justice / National Intelligence Drug Center put out a report "Lake County High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Drug Market Analysis 2010". It states:

- The Lake County HIDTA region—located in Northwest Indiana adjacent to the Chicago, Illinois, metropolitan area—serves principally as a distribution area for Chicago-based traffickers. (See Figure 1 on page 2.) Mexican drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) store large quantities of illicit drugs in the urban areas of East Chicago, Gary, and Hammond, Indiana, for regional distribution. In fact, Lake County is evolving into a regional storage area for commercial-grade Mexican marijuana.
- While some local gang leaders have discouraged members from committing violent acts to intimidate others or enforce territorial boundaries, violence often results from disputes among street gang members over drug distribution territories or during drug and money rip-offs by dealers or buyers. Street gang members increasingly seek firearms and ammunition capable of penetrating body armor and routinely carry handguns during retail drug distribution.
- Traffickers and abusers routinely use the commuter railway systems that connect Lake County and Chicago to buy and sell illicit drugs. These systems provide numerous daily departures and arrivals between Chicago and the Lake County HIDTA region. Gary's Metro Center Station, in particular, is frequently exploited by traffickers and abusers.

Homeowner: yes

length_of_time: 30 Year Dyer Resident

realname: Cathy Lareau

address1: 2337 Rolling Hill Drive

address2:

city: Dyer

state: IN

zip_code: 46311

phone:

e-mail: lareau7@sbcglobal.net
In conclusion, I believe that this Munster/Dyer plan has the high probability to negatively affect the quality of life to the residents of Dyer. It is a bedroom community that has achieved favorable statuses as the Top 100 Places to Live in the Country, the 9th Safest Place to Live in the State, and the 15th Best Place for Young Families. Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 30 Year Dyer Resident
realname: Cathy Lareau
address1: 2337 Rolling Hill Drive
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: lareau7@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 4:01 PM
questions_comments: Is there a map that shows what property will be affected (a taking) of individual parcels?
Homeowner: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 15 years
realname: Dennis Larson
address1: 108 Salisbury Drive
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198082750
email: dennis@divcommercial.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Sun 02/12/2017 12:07 PM
Is there a map available of private property residents that will be impacted as far as relocation is concerned that is available for viewing online?
Gabriella Lattanzi
glattanzi85@gmail.com
What efforts will be made to manage traffic along Broadmoor, especially near Eads School? On any given day, it is already difficult to back out of my driveway onto the street because of traffic. Many people currently disregard the stop sign at Jackson. While there is a crossing guard there for the elementary students, there is not for middle and high school students who catch the bus. I have grave concerns about the increased traffic the train will bring with a station right down the street. Will there be an increase in the number of police to manage the new amount of cars? What happened to the "green space" that was promised with the demolition of the Manor housing? Are we sure housing values will increase...Hammond, Michigan City, and East Chicago don't seem to support this claim. Where can I find an accurate drawing for the Ridge Road station that shows exactly what housing will be impacted? And finally, why does Munster need 2 stations? Why isn't the station by Margo, where minimal housing disruption is forecasted, enough for our town? Thank you for your time and the opportunity to ask questions.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: Our family has been here 45 years
realname: Melissa Lawson
address1: 8045 Van Buren Ave.
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-805-8741
email: Melissamax@sbcglobal.net
Hello, I was wondering if there will be any jobs available for this project as I am very interested in anything that may become available. Please let me know as I would like to get involved in some capacity. I live in the Schererville area, thank you.

Lazer Laz

lazerlaz@sbcglobal.net
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 2:29 PM
Dear NICTD West Lake representatives,
I am against the project, both adding a rail line down the abandoned Monon line, and adding a station at Ridge Road. As almost a life long resident of that area, my focus is the Munster residential area, from the Little Calumet River to Fisher, along Manor Avenue. It is clear that NICTD is putting my neighborhood in harm’s way, through the proposed West Lake Corridor project, and it is little surprise given the reputation of the operation and maintenance of the existing passenger service rail line. Nonetheless, it seems that the opinions from residents don’t matter at this point, since the Town of Munster is fully supporting the West Lake project, so I will just add my 2 cents for the record.
jim_levan@yahoo.com
Federal funding and EIS process:
There are many things wrong with this process and the analysis. To start, this particular EIS process appears to be used as just a small hurdle for Federal funding approval, instead of truly recognizing the impacts. Wasn’t a properly documented EIS process made a requirement after the un-checked expansion of the expressways in the 1950’s and 1960’s destroyed and segregated neighborhoods? This project will do exactly that, destroy and segregate a Munster neighborhood! As a Chicago suburb, Munster has maintained at least some isolation from the surrounding communities, because it is “not” a major hub or center of transportation. This has been a valuable asset to the residents. Destroying a Munster neighborhood for this project should be a last resort, however it seems that many levels of government are accepting this and funding this effort. It is clear that lobbyists for communities to the south of Munster have successfully pushed the Munster Board to support a project to destroy one of its historic and proud neighborhoods. This is a blatant misuse of the EIS process, and the residents of this Munster neighborhood will either suffer, or move.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 2:29 PM

TOD:

I have seen the term TOD (transit oriented development) used for this case, and again, misleading. That term should normally be used when there is at least active freight traffic, or active commuter traffic, but the existing rail traffic here is non-existent. If the rail traffic was part of the existing transportation system, then a plan may be developed to improve the area surrounding the station to be more commuter friendly. But again, in this case the area is historic and quiet, no trains, no commuters, so applying a TOD means a complete redevelopment, and in this case, destroying a stable Munster neighborhood for the profit of others. Terms like EIS and TOD are apparently being used to gain more federal dollars, while confusing the residents. If this project already a foregone conclusion, then why ask for resident's comments?

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Impacts to Residents:
The abandoned Monon rail line is not a good route to bring NICTD to the south to Dyer. The fright railroad has not been used since the 1980’s, and the rails were essentially converted to bike trails. Over the past 30 years, or an entire generation, residents have moved into and grown up around a quiet historic neighborhood. The Town’s education system is admirable, and the town police have kept the area quite safe. Many seniors, including my father, have built a life in the area, and planned to retire in that quiet neighborhood. The impacts of imposing in a commuter rail line, with the additional parking and traffic, are destructive and irreversible. It is absurd to imply that noise levels will not be mitigated by the short walls proposed along the tracks. The noise will increase, period, for nearby residents and others several blocks away. Using another residential area as an example of NICTD’s impacts, the area from the Hammond station to the Hegewisch station has basically looked like a garbage pit for years, and is only now being cleaned up as part of the buy-up for the relocated Hammond station. NICTD should be held responsible to all seniors who will have increased medical conditions over the proposed impacts, the construction impacts, the traffic impacts, and the ultimate decay and mismanagement that will follow. The town would never be the same, and for the worst.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Impacts to Pedestrians:

NICTD is also putting the residents in harm's way by simply adding live trains near the bike path, and on the school route. Part of the town's residents needs to cross the tracks to get to any school, (grade, middle, and high school), and adding live trains increases the risks to non-commuter pedestrians enormously. The "little" tunnel north of Broadmoor (the culvert) is mostly for children west of the tracks to get to Eads Elementary School east of the tracks. It is more-or-less, a safe route to school, which was made safer by the discontinuance of freight trains.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 2:29 PM

Impacts to Traffic:

As for traffic impacts, the traffic analysis in the EIS is insufficient. Under current conditions, Ridge Road is already gridlocked in peak hours from Calumet to Hohman Avenue, and NICTD is proposing adding a commuter parking lot right in the middle, at the traffic signal 'couple' at Harrison. Ridge Road is normally backed up in peak times every day now. Adding a active RR crossing and the NICTD parking lot is not feasible as shown, and needs to show further improvements. Given the multiple traffic signals on Ridge Road (from Hohman to Calumet), which are already at capacity, traffic exiting that station at a peak time would just gridlock. And if this is a true multi-modal "TOD" improvement, buses should be added, further blocking traffic.

Ridge Road is the major East-West route, with Broadmoor as a grade separated alternate route to the north. Broadmoor will be picking up additional overflow traffic, and should be analyzed at part of the overall traffic impacts. Unfortunately, the Broadmoor and Manor intersection has major geometric restrictions, and may have limitations for improvement. Possible parking is also noted on Manor, where the homes have been recently removed, so Manor may also see increased traffic.

The main traffic routes for First Responder vehicles in Munster are along Ridge Road and along Calumet, and both have EVP which may help with gridlocked traffic, but the proposed RR crossing will override the EVP! Broadmoor may become the alternate ambulance crossing to the north, since it is grade separated, but the hospital is to the south, so is out of the way. And Broadmoor may not have clearance for fire trucks. Fisher will have an at-grade crossing, so neither alternate route is ideal.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Impacts to Traffic Signals / Parking Lot:
Back in the 70’s or 80’s, when the Monon line was active, Manor Avenue was split at Ridge Road and did not have a traffic signal. There used to be Munster Lumber between Manor and the RR on the south side of Ridge Road. Once the Munster Lumber property was redeveloped, and Manor Avenue was lined up across Ridge Road, it did not take long for more through traffic to develop, and a traffic signal was added. This basically made a “third” traffic signal in a row, if you count the 2 at Harrison. There are 2 signals at Harrison since that intersection is split. The proposed NICTD parking lot is utilizing the traffic signal for the north leg of Harrison, but this may be a misuse of a split traffic signal. The north leg of Harrison has almost no traffic, most of the traffic comes from the gas station on the south leg, however, there are many access points, so traffic does not queue very much at that signal. The NICTD driveway is shown to have one access on Ridge Road, and Ridge Road as it is (with the many traffic signals) cannot handle that constrained flow of a high traffic generator. There is simply not enough capacity for traffic to dissipate quick enough. Traffic will hit Hohman Avenue to the west, and Calumet to the east, and gridlock. This may also cause queueing over the active rail crossing, increasing the likelihood of vehicle/train accidents.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Impacts to Traffic flow / Parking Lot:
The westbound stop-bar of the signalized intersection at Manor would have to move east over the proposed RR crossing, which does several things. One is that it requires longer yellow and red times to clear the crossing, which is lost time and causes lower LOS. Again, the corridor does not have that capacity. Another issue is the reduced traffic storage along Ridge Road. When the widening project was completed on Ridge Road (in 2000ish), the turn lane storage lengths were sub-standard, but they were accepted given the current developments. The left turning traffic for the proposed NICTD parking lot will exceed the storage lengths in the turning and through lanes, blocking effective movements. The effects of this parking lot are going to be felt from Hohman Avenue to Calumet, if not beyond. The intersection of Ridge Rd and Calumet (the main intersection in Munster), is already very under-designed and under-capacity.

As another location, south along Calumet Ave is another at-grade crossing which often blocks traffic making long queues. A grade separation has been proposed at that location for many years. If (or when) that grade separation is ever completed, traffic on Calumet will likely increase. Calumet also has an interchange with I-80/94, further adding to the existing congestion. With the addition of a NICTD parking lot(s), traffic calming (such as cutting off access, or making one way streets, etc.) would be necessary on some of the local street network to avoid NICTD commuter traffic cutting through residential areas. Unfortunately, such measures will remove some of the 'bypass' characteristics of the 'grid' network, ultimately making traffic worst.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 2:29 PM
Impacts to Utilities:
Note that in the NIPSCO utility corridor just south of Fisher (which is not marked on the plan), the pipelines have just been upgraded, which are believed to be 24” or so. The RR is shown adding fill on those pipelines, and not clear if that is acceptable. There are also high-tension towers, and the RR profile is going up, which may have clearance issues.

jim.levan@yahoo.com
Rebuilding the Infrastructure/ Rail-bed:
The retaining block walls along Broadmoor obviously will need to be removed, as they were not
designed to hold up rail traffic. Those were installed when the bike path was added. Those were
probably paid by a bike path grant, and are obviously on RR property, but hopefully can offer some
salvage value back to the Town. That aside, the existing track bed also does not account for the poles
and towers for the high voltage wires. There will need to be complete reconstruction of the track bed,
and clearing of all trees and brush, which now offer a buffer to the residents. The impacts of track,
bridge, and crossing construction will be enormous, and once in operation, the commuters will all be
looking right into the residents back yards. No proposed buffer will be able to mitigate the visual and
noise impacts to the adjacent residents.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Track design & maintenance:
NICTD has been showing some incompetence recently, with a reduced fleet due to maintenance issues, and a disrespect for passengers in regard to operations. The proposed track design of the West Lake route is incredibly un-defendable given the amount of proposed grade changes and horizontal curves from Hammond to Dyer. Having been stranded for 5 hours on a frozen line was unacceptable and deplorable, and was fully aware that the issue was directly due to the approach grade of the newly reconstructed Torrence Avenue bridge. There was nothing old about that track design, yet it took 3 attempts to cross the bridge with low power, after which the overcrowded train was totally stranded in icy conditions. In short, the hundreds of passengers were used as guinea pigs in this situation, as there is apparently no other process to check for track and wire conditions in hazardous weather conditions. In addition, NICTD recently had to take cars off of trains due to flat wheels, and some cars have not yet returned to the trains. Given all this, it can only be presumed that after the initial investment, that the Munster corridor will go into decay in 10 years, as funding for maintenance will have to compete with the rest of NICTD's capital equipment.
Alternate Rail Routes:
Back in 1998, when this same West Lake corridor study was proposed, (and dropped), the same route down to Dyer was also presented. But at that time, three alternate south & east extensions where also shown on the map. These were: 1) using a CSX line to Cedar Lake & Lowell, or 2) using a CR line to Crown Point, or 3) using a CN line to Valpo, north of Rte 30. It is assumed that those were not shown on this 2016 study on purpose, that they may alter the chance of federal funding. However, those proposed route extensions pose the same questions that were probably asked in 1998, namely: Is Dyer the final destination, or is it destinations further east? Why not investigate the NS RR line between Munster and Highland, just west of Kennedy? This route has MUCH less residential impacts, and if the ultimate destination is further east, then it makes MUCH more sense to show it. Has the NS already objected to this route? Why punish Munster residents, just to add a route to Dyer, then come back in the future and add destinations to the east. Given the additional alternates shown on the old study map, this current EIS may be an incomplete or misleading O/D study and should be denied by the Feds pending further investigation.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 2:29 PM
Thank you,
Jim LeVan
Home owner in the project area.
This opinion also supported by Arthur LeVan
An additional home owner in the project area.
2 votes for no.

jim_levan@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/10/2017 10:47 AM
questions_comments: How is this going to affect my property value?
How is this going to affect the amount of vehicle traffic on Margo?
How is this going to affect the crime rate? (auto thefts, burglaries, and criminal mischiefs)
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 9 years
realname: James Lietz
address1: 232 Knightbridge Pl.
address2:
city: MUNSTER
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198088963
email: jac687291@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/27/2017 12:32 PM

questions_comments: *In no way shape or form do I want any part of this project to have direct through access to Seminary Drive (the street I live on). Through access on Seminary Drive provides NO positive benefits to the residents of the Meadows subdivision.*

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 18 years
realname: Tim Lilek
address1: 664 Seminary drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: TLilek@flash.net
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017
From: 219-931-5277
Rick LoMally
4530 Sheffield
Question regarding proposed roundabouts. Please call.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 12/20/2016 10:24 AM
questions_comments: I absolutely in favor of this project. I live very close to the proposed stations in Munster and I see myself using the train very often, though I am not a commuter.
Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 5 years
realname: PHIL LOOS
address1: 531 Cedar Ct
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199470374
email: phillipaloos@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 7:42 PM

questions_comments: I am vehemently opposed to opening up Margo Lane in the West Lakes subdivision to train employee or passenger traffic. This is a quiet neighborhood with many children. The fact that there is only one outlet from this subdivision keeps traffic slow and light—precisely why many if not most of the families built here. The location can just as easily be accessed off of Seminary Drive and Blue Jay Way.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 13 years
realname: Patricia Lorenz
address1: 250 Norwich Court
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321-9102
phone:
email: paddikl@aol.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Wed 01/11/2017 11:45 AM
To Whom it may concern,
I recently saw your DEIS study and potential landing spot for the train station in north Munster and I am VERY upset. It looks like you want to plow right through our quiet neighborhood on Harrison Ave. including potentially my house.
Why would you purpose to run the train through the neighborhood as opposed to undeveloped lands east of Calumet Ave?
This is a terrible idea and the neighbors agree.
These are not just houses, these are peoples homes. These are peoples blood sweat and tears they poured into them. These are where people raise their families. This is where memories were made. Now you want to displace them because this was your best option???
St Paul Elementary school is right there where people will be leaving the station. Do you want one of them to get hurt or killed by someone flying out of the station?
That walking/Bicycle trail is very nice for our community and you will destroy it to put rail in. People walk their dogs and ride bikes with their kids here and that'll all be gone from this neighborhood. We are a family community and this rail line seeks to uproot those families.
This rail line will destroy the neighborhood and the town. Munster has been a nice quiet community for many years and this will completely turn it for the worse.
For the record I take the train from Hammond every day for work and a closer option sounds nice. However, if you plan to ruin peoples lives and destroy their homes for this - forget it. I am completely opposed to this project. I hope you will do the smart thing and re-consider your options and either cancel this project or find a more suitable place for the rail line where you won't destroy people lives.
Sincerely,
A concerned Munster resident - Jason Lukis
jason.lukis@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Wed 01/11/2017 11:52 AM

questions_comments: I'm completely opposed to this project. Can you explain to me why you are plowing through our quiet neighborhood in north Munster. Were there not better options? These are our homes not just pictures on a map. Also have you considered the purposed station would be right by a school? What happens if someone gets hit leaving the school because of all the excess traffic. This is a horrible Idea. You either need to cancel this project or find some undeveloped land. Also why is there a station in south Hammond around 173 then in Munster? That is completely excessive.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 6 years
realName: Jason Lukis
address1: 8410 Harrison Ave.
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: jason.lukis@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 12:24 PM
questions-comments: I am opposed to the line going through Munster IN it's current plan and asking people who love their homes to relocate for the sake of progress. Especially the under handed way people snuck this project in. My son lives in this area and what we like about this area is it's ambience. Better still, why not go through the golf course instead? I'm sure you wouldn't like having this happen to you and your neighborhood!
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 
realname: John Lukis
address1: 5220 W 54th st
address2: 
city: Chicago
state: IL
zip_code: 60638
phone: 
email: j_lukis@sbcglobal.net
I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

So no direct lines from Dyer to O'Hare? Plans to widen Sheffield/Columbia from U.S. 30 to Calumet Ave? Should have 5 lanes (includes center turn lane) & right turn lanes/shoulders entire length. Will the stations be far enough from grade crossings, not to block the street when loading/unloading?
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 6:32 PM  
questions_comments: I oppose any plan to connect the train station or its parking lots to the Meadows Subdivision in Dyer. When a taxpayer invests in a home and a neighborhood, they take into consideration many aspects before buying. The Region should not disrupt residences when there are other options. There are only 2 entrances/exits out of the subdivision which seems concerning if there were emergencies and traffic currently is already heavy on the only outlet of Sheffield Avenue. Thank you. D. Lundy  
Homeowner: yes  
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes  
length_of_time: 13 years  
realname: Debra Lundy  
address1: 625 Sunflower Lane  
address2:  
city: Dyer  
state: IN  
zip_code: 46311  
phone:  
email: deblun@comcast.net
65-69 Smith Street
Dear Mr. Smith

I am writing to express my
dissatisfaction with
the service provided
by the staff at the
store. The products were
of low quality and the
staff was unhelpful.

Please take into
consideration my
future visits.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Comment: ID No. 00218
Direct Email Submission
Kathy Luther
1703 Boca Lago
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Please consider parking lot configurations in final design and engineering. Vast parking lots surrounding stations are proven disincentives for successful TODs. They also generate increased stormwater runoff and heat island effects, consider parking incorporated into TOD or shared parking decks with less surface area.
This is an extension in Dyer, Indiana, right? My neighbor told me there would be a station in both Dyer & Munster? I WOULD LOVE THIS! Current commuter at the Hammond Station, where I live in Munster, IN. There's a total of 6 railroads, I have to cross in order to get to the Hammond one. Which it's common to get stuck behind anyone of them either going to the Hammond Station or leaving. This can result in being late or just simply wanting to go home after a long day. Plus Hammond Station is always overcrowded. Not just the train itself, but the parking lot and I catch the 2nd train that runs in the morning. Co-workers tells me there's no parking spots available for later trains. Then East Chicago is a dangerous station from break-ins to climbing the stairs in winter seasons. Just don't get wrong. I LOVE working in Chicago and honestly wouldn't have it any other way. Simply wanted to add my support and please let me know what I can do? A train station in Dyer, (or even better Munster) is just simply the icing on the cake!

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Justin Eric MacLean
address1: 9136 Chestnut Lane
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: justinericmaclean@sbcglobal.net
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017
No number
Herb and Fran Mahalic
We are residents of the Meadows Subdivision and are opposed to any option that connects Seminary Drive to this project.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 1:01 PM
questions_comments: Chicago has one of the highest crime rates in the country. This train would provide an avenue to bring drugs/crime into northwest Indiana. I will be waiting for your answer.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 10 years +
realName: Wanda Mamich
address1: 7930 frederick ave.
address2:
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198368327
email: mmamich@gmail.com
Since this directly effects my family, since we live less than about 80 feet from the rail, I have real concerns about the noise, even though you all kind of skim over and dismiss this concern. Noise, vibration, and just the general idea of 24 trains a day passing my property does not seem fair at all. This number also changed since the beginning.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 10 years +
realname: Wanda Mamich
address1: 7930 frederick ave.
address2:
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198368327
email: mmamich@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 1:01 PM
questions_comments: This project is irresponsible to resident safety. Children will be forced to walk within feet of the high speed rail, and under the (pedestrian) underpass, creating an unsafe environment for our children.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 10 years +
realname: Wanda Mamich
address1: 7930 frederick ave.
address2: 
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198368327
email: mmamich@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 1:01 PM
questions_comments: Two 500 space parking lots/at grade crossing on Ridge/Manor?? I think this insane as there is already too much traffic at this location. Fire/ambulance, police, need to be accessible, to all residents.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 10 years +
realname: Wanda Mamich
address1: 7930 frederick ave.
address2: 
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198368327
email: mmamich@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 1:01 PM

questions_comments: Where do you get your facts and figures, in relation to the job market for Chicago? Also, your ridership projections seem to be a bit far fetched, how did you arrive at these "projections"? Another question would be the amount of trains seems to change quite often.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 10 years +
realname: Wanda Mamich
address1: 7930 frederick ave.
address2:
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198368327
email: mmamich@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 1:01 PM
questions_comments: Why are we encouraging Indiana residents to seek employment in Illinois, and Illinois keeping the Income Tax on the earnings, since there is no reciprocal agreement between Illinois and Indiana on these wages, and funding the project through Indiana tax dollars??? Much of this project is the access to "high" paying Chicago jobs. Chicago's unemployment rate is higher than the national average and Illinois is bankrupt. Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 10 years +
realname: Wanda Mamich
address1: 7930 frederick ave.
address2: 
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198368327
email: mmamich@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/07/2017 2:44 PM
questions_comments: I think that this whole debacle is totally useless. There are more than enough trains in the general area for commuters who do not want to drive downtown for whatever reason. Exactly whose pocket is getting lined with this fiasco. I do not think that people need to be losing their homes for this. Why don't you just upgrade existing stations and leave everyone in peace? What if your ridership projection do not pan out as you plan? Who is going to make up this money? The taxpayers that is who. I sincerely hope that the federal funds are TURNED DOWN!!!
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 10 plus years
realname: Wanda Mamich
address1: 7930 frederick ave.
address2:
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198368327
email: mmamich@gmail.com
Comment ID No. 00223

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COMMENT CARD

Name_ Jamie Manahan
Address_ 11220 S. Maplewood
City_ Chicago
State_ IL Zip Code_ 60655
E-Mail_ jamie_manahan@att.net jmanahan@pnu.edu
Phone Number_ 708-420-9721

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

What a great project!!
As a Chicago resident all my life
I see the advantage for NWI to have
additional options to get to and from Chicago
As an employee of Purdue Northwest
I see even more if an advantage for our
Students, staff & faculty.

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Direct Email Submission
Rob Mangus
1324 Elliott Drive
Munster, IN 46321

This extension of the South Shore Line through Hammond south through Munster to Dyer will increase values of our homes and the value of our communities. Great project!
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:37 PM  

questions COMMENTS: In my opinion,  
The effort to move the south shore rail line south to south lake county via West lake corridor is being placed in the wrong spot and town in south lake county.  
I strongly feel that the corridor should go right down I65 from the Gary Station to I65 & U.S. 30 intersection. This would better drive the entire south lake county not just those communities along the Indiana/Illinois state.  
There is plenty of real estate near and around the I65 & U.S 30 area and it would connect to a major hub in Northwest Indiana including hotels, offices, restaurants, shopping, etc.
I refer to the St. Louis Metro Mono Rail line as a perfect example of how it can be done.  
It makes more sense that if communities throughout northwest Indiana are going to be chipping in then the rail line would be better served in a location that includes more communities. This option can also run near the airport and connect to the rail line in Gary or East Chicago.
I am a former SPEA graduate from Indiana University (School of Public and Environmental Affairs) and I have studied this option and it makes more sense and could also include more resources for funding. additionally it would give a boost to the I65 / U.S. 30 area which is northwest Indiana's downtown sector.
I know that upon reading this that those already affiliated with West Lake Corridor are already committed to this location but is it really our best option?  
If the rail corridor where to be placed along I65 & U.S 30 the rail system would draw more people from as far as Valparaiso, Hobart, Merrillville, Crown Point, St. John and Dyer. I know because I rode the South Shore from St. John to Chicago for nearly 10 year. In fact, I am the person that gave Congressman Visclosky the idea of moving the rail system south (back in 2002) because of all the obstacles I faced on my daily commute.  
We are getting one shot to build this and I feel this option is a much better and sensible option. Thank you for your time and I want this to be included in Public Comment.

Nick Mantis  
Schererville Resident  
Homeowner: yes 
Business_Owner: yes 
length_of_time: All my life 52 years Lake County resident 
realname: Nick Mantis 
address1:  
address2:  
city: Schererville 
state: State 
zip_code: 46375 
phone: 219 670-9687 
email: nickjmantis@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 3:08 PM
questions_comments: I'm concerned with "late to the train" riders that will use the "short streets" (between Hohman and Manor as dragstrips to avoid traffic signals at Hohman and Broadmoor and Holman and Ridge. I'd like to see Manor Avenue, for the overflow parking, to NOT have an exit or entrance at Broadmoor Avenue.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 62 years
realname: Therese Martin
address1: 224 Belmont Place
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: tmartin654@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/24/2017 11:08 PM

questions_comments: My family and I live in the Meadows subdivision very close to where Seminary street ends and a field begins. The West pictures of the proposed Munster/Dyer station show the parking lot, stations, and other facilities completely separated, and a good distance away from, the end of Seminary Street and our neighborhood.

The East pictures show Seminary Street connecting to the parking lots and other facilities. Connecting our neighborhood to any part of the station, lots, facilities would be disastrous for all of us living in that neighborhood. The commuters and cars would literally be at our front doorsteps. Lots and lots of young children live here and play here. School buses are constantly going through our area.

It would be terribly unsafe to connect Seminary street to any part of the lots/stations, especially when it is clear from the West pictures that it can be done another way.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 9 years
realname: Cori Mathis
address1: 132 Eagle Ct
address2:
city: Dyer, in
state: State
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: coriann77@att.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 01/25/2017 12:17 AM
questions_comments: I live in the Meadows subdivision in Dyer and I submitted a comment early today. I've studied the pictures and diagrams again. My comment remains the same except that I'm not sure that I correctly identified the east/west options.

So to clarify, as I commented before, connecting the Meadows subdivision to the train parking lots would be a disaster for those of us that live there. I live very close to the end of Seminary street, which shows in two of the proposed options to lead straight into the train parking lots. Young kids and school buses are very prevalent in our neighborhood. Connecting us to the train traffic and commuters would be unreasonable and unsafe.

Two other options that have been proposed do not connect Seminary Street in our subdivision to the train lots. Instead, they show the lots and facilities to the east. I've spoken to many of my neighbors and every single one feels that these are far superior options. The lots, stations, and other facilities can be built without sacrificing our neighborhood.

In fact, I have not found one resident of my neighborhood that wants our subdivision to be connected to the train parking lots or any other party of the train project. Thank you.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 9 years
realname: Cori Mathis
address1: 132 Eagle Ct
address2: 
city: Dyer, IN
state: State
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: coriann77@att.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/08/2017 9:08 AM
questions_comments: I am super opposed to the location of the South Hammond extension and station. I believe it will have an extremely negative effect on the neighborhood and destroying the little bit of nature (bike path) that we enjoy here. It is a quiet area with narrow streets and won't adjust well to the added traffic. Please consider other options!
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 2 yrs and 22 yrs previously
realname: Jenny Mayberry
address1: 237 Oakwood
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone: 2199330681
email: jennysuedogmom@gmail.com
It is with a great degree of sadness that I write this letter, knowing that it may have little or no effect on the outcome of the proposed construction of a new railroad station and parking lot on the property between 165th Street and 173rd Street adjacent to the bike path. For 50 years I have lived in this neighborhood and watched many changes that were positive, but think this will be a change for the negative.

For instance:

This property is higher than the bike path. The bike path and Lyman Avenue already have flooding issues when it rains. What is going to happen when that land is covered with paving and buildings? Where will the run-off go?

The bike trail was put in at a huge expense. Why would anyone consider putting the train in the same location? Apparently the plans for this bike path not properly researched as to future problems before it was constructed as no one would put something so heavily used by pedestrians next to a train track. It is well used by kids going to school, bike riders, racers, runners, walkers, people wanting a peaceful and environmentally responsible way to get from point A to point B. It offers a peaceful place to take kids for an evening walk in the summer. There are people in wheelchairs that get to enjoy a tranquil ride, alone or with family. I have even seen a gentleman practicing riding his unicycle down there. This calm, quiet area is a place for people to regain some relief from the stresses of their hectic lives. What you are proposing will end the quiet walks and most certainly will add to the environmental concerns of air and noise pollution.
Safety will become a real issue. The cars rushing to avoid downed gates will be a problem. Very few people driving the stretch from 165th Street to 173rd Street early in the morning heed the 25 mile per hour speed limit or stop at the stop signs now, and most certainly won't if they are trying to "beat the train" from one crossing to the other. 165th Street is a main passage between Indiana and Illinois. Downed gates will cause traffic tie ups, and impatient people will dart through side streets and make poor decisions. I remember this from past history when there were trains in this area.

I also remember not being able to open my windows in the summer because of the pollution, both air and noise, much from the trains. I certainly don't look forward to this again. What will happen to the value of my property? The politicians state that the value of my property will go up as young people will be attracted to our area. I argue that any young people thinking of moving into our area would be smart enough to see how far down our schools rank statewide, and would think twice if they planned on having children. Perhaps the huge amount of monies to be spent on this construction could be better used by focusing on the future of our state and worrying more about educating our children. We already have a railway station in Hammond.

Additionally, are you aware that the Bumble Bee (not to be confused with the Carpenter Bee which resembles it) is nearing extinction and has been put on the Endangered Species list? One of the reasons for this problem is the loss of habitat. Indiana is one of the only 13 states that still have a population of Bumble Bees. We have them in this immediate area partially because there is a wonderful expanse of wild flora on this stretch of land. There is an abundance of red clover (a favorite of theirs), giant mullein, smart weed, elderberries, and much more, all of which are great food sources for these bees, as well as birds and other wildlife. Have you consulted with environmental groups to find out how this construction will impact these poor creatures?

When I moved into my home on Humpfer Street 50 years ago there was a rail switch yard and through tracks, at the end of our block. Since then, the trains have gone and we have had this lovely field at our disposal. I realize that the bulk of this field is railroad property, but it has been used with enjoyment by close by residents. There was even a small wetland area and pond near 173rd Street which someone sadly filled a few years back. This has resulted in the loss of the marsh birds that used to visit that area. Children play soccer, practice football or baseball in this field. People take walks and enjoy the wild flowers and wild creatures that live there. There wild grapes, black raspberries, elderberries and mulberries available to feed the birds and animals that make their homes there. There are morel mushrooms and wild onions in the spring. There are native herbs and grasses, and some lovely old trees. The wildlife is always a pleasure to see. When walking my dog one morning, she stopped in her tracks. A mother deer and her little one ran right past us, not 15 feet away. I have seen woodchucks, rabbits, skunks (UGH), red foxes, coyotes, hawks, wild canaries, parrots, and, yes, Bumble Bees on these walks. When the bike trail was put in, it resulted in more frequent mowing of this field, causing the wildlife to have less and less of a habitat and less vegetation for feeding and safe hiding, all in the name of progress, but at least some of them have survived.
Most of the homes in this area are nearly 100 years old. It is such a wonderful area in which to live, one of the few remaining in Hammond. So many good tax paying neighbors are moving out of this area in great haste to avoid what you plan on doing. What purpose could this serve? Railroads everywhere are already struggling and having to increase fares regularly. Why spend billions of dollars on a project that will destroy our wildlife, create a safety concern and make a very expensive bike path virtually unusable? I live on a fixed income. Paying for anything more is not an option. I won't run away like other people not only because I can't afford that, but also because this is my home! I cannot see anything good coming out of this project for any of us that live in this area. I can only hope that you will at least read my letter and give it some consideration.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

(Mary) Sue Mayberry

cc: Mayor Tom McDermott
cc: National Wildlife Federation
Direct Email Submission
Jeff McCormick
1258 Elliston Court
Crown Point, IN 46307

The best thing that could happen to this area!!
As a realtor I am all for the project. This will only increase home values and bring more potential home buyers to the area.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017 6:20 PM
questions_comments: I have a spinal cord injury that requires me to use an electric wheelchair to get around. Public transportation options for someone with a disability are very limited. Having close access to commuter rail into Chicago would greatly enhance my quality of life! Easy access to entertainment and cultural events in Chicago while still being able to live and work in NW Indiana would be a wonderful thing!
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 33 years
realname: David McLees
address1: 9551 5th Street
address2: 
city: Highland
state: IN
zip_code: 46322
phone: 
email: mclees@pnw.edu
Name: Alex Metz
Address: 712 S. Washington St.
City: Hobart
State: IN
Zip Code: 46342

☑️ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

This is a great idea. Many workers live in these areas, work in Chicago so many of them can save money.
NICTD West Lake Corridor Project
33 East U.S. Highway 12
Chesterton, IN 46304

Re: South Shore Extension
Dyer Train Station/Layover Facility

Gentlemen:

I attended your recent hearing in Dyer, Indiana, and am quite concerned/upset like many others who attended.

When I moved to Dyer some years ago, I moved to a nice community of homes—not an industrial park!! I am quite concerned that my property value will plummet as will everyone else in the area.

The people that were answering questions at the hearing were apparently outside consultants that had been hired to “whitewash the issues”. The reason I know that they were consultants is that one of them let it slip when I was asking her questions. She stated that “she had been doing this for over 30 years”—obviously not someone who had the least interest in our concerns but only getting her consultant fees.

I live in the condos (Meadow Lake Condo Association) just south of your proposed expansion. When I bought my property, I was concerned about flooding because there is a pond right in the middle of our property. I called the Town of Dyer and spoke to a town official who told me that I “had nothing to worry about because our pond was connected to other streams/outlets and wetlands to the north of our property and going all the way to Munster”. THAT IS THE AREA THAT YOU WILL BE TAKING AWAY!!!! In your video presentation, you stated that measures would be taken to take care of these issues. However, the brochure that I picked up at the hearing had a graph that did admit that there would be some impact. We have all seen the news where areas are flooded when wetlands are paved. Like the old song says “pave paradise and put up a parking lot”.

There are 105 owners in my condo association, and you could potentially flood out 105 owners at one time. I’m sure that this could also be true of all the homes in our area.

One of your paid consultants stated that property values actually increase in an area 1/4 - 1 mile in proximity to these sorts of facilities. What a joke! Beside, our condo association is closer than the 1/4 mile range.

In addition to the flooding issues, the construction of a layover facility so close to this nice community would completely degrade the whole area.

I am sure that my comments along with many others that you will receive will do no good at all. However, the consultant stated that they “could have a positive impact”.

Instead of just thinking about the financial gains this project will reap, please consider the ramifications to the people of Dyer and Munster that live in this area who will be adversely affected. We are just average citizens who have worked hard for what we have and don’t want to lose it. We don’t have the deep pockets of the politicians that are backing this project.

Priscilla L. Meyers
201 Swan Drive
Dyer, IN 46311
MCTD West Lake Corridor Project
33 East U.S. Highway 12
Chatarra, IN 46304
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 12/21/2016 8:48 AM
questions_comments: I'm not selling
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 16 years
realname: JOHN MICELI
address1: 8536 HOHMAN AVE
address2: 
city: MUNSTER
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 7083726423
email: jmiceli46@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 01/18/2017 9:49 PM
questions_comments: Went to Tuesday meeting and saw the preferred layout. I am a resident of the Meadows Subdivision in Dyer. Our duplex is on the North End of Seminary Drive. A round about is proposed to include access to Seminary Drive as an exit/entrance to SS parking. That will create a problem and danger with all the additional traffic on our quiet street, going through most of the subdivision to exit. Many school age children live within this subdivision. It is my request to leave our street, Seminary Drive, a dead end as it is now.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Herbert Michalak
address1: 533 Seminary Drive
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-864-8197
email: herbfran@hotmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/12/2017 10:20 AM
questions_comments: While admirably removing congestion, I fear you will create more around the Munster/Dyer station, especially along Main St. Have you ever driven in that area? Hopefully there are plans to expand Main St. to 4 lanes from Calumet to Indianapolis Blvd.
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
length_of_time: Not a resident of corridor but grew up there.
realname: Susan Mihalo
address1: 8 Diana Rd.
address2: 
city: Ogden Dunes
state: IN
zip_code: 46368
phone: 
email: spsmodin@frontier.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/16/2017 6:49 PM
questions_comments: I am wanting to know how my home will be affected. I live on 520 northgate dr. Dyer Indiana. Can someone contact me and give me some info on the matter. I am concerned. I live 1/2 block from the Dyer station.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Craig Miller
address1: 520 northgate dr
address2: 
city: dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 2194778551
email: craigmiller.1134@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:52 PM

questions_comments: As I pay Federal Taxes and this project is using Federal Funds, I am requesting a ruling, on this project, it violating Title VI, of the Equal Rights Act of 1964. As minority citizens of Gary, Lake County, are going to be required to pay into this project, some projections showing for 30 years, this is not allowed. They have ZERO chance of usage, due to the placement location, they have ZERO ability, to walk to the stations, the vast majority having ZERO background and education, to get the higher paying jobs in Chicago, all involved are touting. Please get a ruling from the Justice Department, Civil Rights Division, and also those in the Transportation Department, and let me know their views on this subject. Sincerely, Dr. Jeffrey S. Miller

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 0
realname: Dr. Jeff Miller
address1: 3693 West Pawnee Drive
address2:
city: LaPorte
state: IN
zip_code: 46350
phone: 219-324-4829
email: jmillerr@csinet.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 12/21/2016 5:48 PM
questions_comments: How can I find out if my home is affected by this?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 22 years
realname: Robert Miszewski
address1: 240 173rd Place
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone:
email: bobmiszewski@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 9:08 AM
questions_comments: What is the point of 2 stations in each town?
When the train arrives at the ridge Rd station will the train block ridge Rd while passengers board and get off the train?
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 10 years
realname: Janis Mitchell
address1: 241 Lawndale Dr
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: Mitchelljl.24@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 12/23/2016 10:00 AM
questions_comments: This needs to happen! Commuter rail is an overall positive for the community, regardless of whether or how much a person uses it.
I have four questions:
1. What is the proposed construction timeline, should the project move forward?
2. How will the project be funded? Will there be a bond issuance?
3. Will the trains be Wi-Fi enabled?
4. For each option, are there more detailed plans available than what is shown on the website?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 6 years
realname: John Mitchell
address1: 2536 Ashley Avenue
address2:
city: Schererville
state: IN
zip_code: 46375
phone:
email: jadamsmitche ll@yahoo.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Wed 01/18/2017 11:39 AM
My concern would be the entrance/exit to the Parking if the depot is built. I am on the West corner of Harrison Ave. and South St. It would be very bad for myself and the other homes on South Street. Also, my Rental home at 8322 Harrison Ave. that can only get to the garage from the alley off South Street. Thank you,
Cora Moake
8334 Harrison Ave.
Munster, In. 46321
coramoake@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Masoud Mojtahed
1730 Thistle Lane
Munster, IN 46321

I fully support this project. Currently, I am driving back and forth to Chicago for work oriented meetings, visiting my relatives, shopping, and medical needs. The project will save me time on commuting to Chicago, will increase the value of my house, and will bring development to my neighborhood. This is an essential project for NWI for growth and development.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017 6:15 PM
questions_comments: I live in Munster and support the rail extension 100%. My question is what date can Region residents expect to board a train in Munster and travel to Millennium station? Thank you Grant Morton.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 14 years.
realname: Grant Morton
address1: 10330 sandy ln
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2194337717
email: gmorton88@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/12/2017 3:51 PM
questions_comments: The DEIS H1 Traffic Technical Report is seriously flawed. No mention is made of the delays to east-west traffic occurring on Ridge Road in Munster. Since the proposed station is to be adjacent to Ridge Road, the traffic delays when the train will stop to pickup/drop off passengers will be significant. I estimate conservatively at least 4 or 5 minutes at peak rush-hour times. This situation should be addressed in the Impact Statement before its acceptance is considered.
Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 6 years
realname: George Mrak
address1: 9826 Parkway Drive
address2: 
city: Highland
state: IN
zip_code: 46322
phone:
email: gfmrak@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 6:32 PM
questions_comments: I am whole-heartedly in favor of this SS train line expansion. As someone who has relied on the train to commute to work for 15 years, I welcome the convenience, business development and increase in property values it will bring. I also see this as an opportunity for my children to come back to Munster to raise their future families while having an easy commute to work in Chicago. This will KEEP tax dollars and disposable income in NWI. My husband uses the train daily as well. With a station located in Munster, we can actually reduce the number of cars we own because it will be so much more convenient to drop him off at the local station on days I don't have to commute. Instead of 40 minutes 2x a day driving to drop him off and pick him up, it will only be a maximum of 10 for the round trip. What a convenience. Another advantage is the environmental benefits from fewer folks driving to/from Chicago and/or dropping someone off at the stations in EC or Hammond. If you need a commuter and local resident to speak on behalf of this project, just holler.
I'm in. All in!
Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 25 years
realname: Liz Mudroncik
address1: 1729 Day Lily Lane
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-670-3704
e-mail: lizrm@att.net
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 01/27/2017 6:40 PM

questions_comments: as a resident of the meadows subdivision in dyer in. I would like to say that I am very apposed to any plans that would connect seminary dr. to train station parking lots. I believe this would adversely affect my property value. Also it would add a great deal of traffic to a quite and peaceful subdivision. There are also safety concerns with a dramatic uptick in traffic. Thank you from a concerned resident.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 plus years
realname: Lloyd Mulvihill
address1: 556 blue jay way
address2: 
city: dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: ldjc928@hotmail.com
Name: Jose Murcze
Address: 14422 Sheild Ave
City: Hammond
State: IN
Zip Code: 46357
E-Mail: mmurcz12960@gmail.com
Phone Number: (219) 378-3434

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

How much tax increase will affect current residents for funding for this project? Can I stay informed NTD?
Name: Shane Murphy
Address: 520 Glenn Dr
City: New Lenox
State: IL
Zip Code: 60451
E-Mail: murphy267@pnw.edu
Phone Number:

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

What are the environmental/ecological impacts of building this new track?
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I cannot express enough how excited my family and I are with this project! I look forward to the day where my husband's daily commute decreases by about 1 hr. due to a 47 min. train ride to the city. Just as importantly, I look forward to taking my young kids, their friends and my Girl Scout troop to the city without having to worry about driving to the city. Thank you to everyone involved in making this happen.
Comment ID No. 00253

One REGION
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

COMMENT CARD

Name: Michael Niehengarten
Address: 1032 Treadway Rd
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip Code: 46321
E-Mail: mniereqeng@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 219-742-9510

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I'm from Munster along with my wife and we moved from Chicago back home to Munster in hopes that this plan for the West Lake Corridor would come together. I work in Chicago and currently drive every day to the city. I will take the train from day 1 of its opening, PLEASE MAKE THE TRAIN COME TO THE AREA!

One REGION
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 11:10 PM
questions_comments: There is no need for 2 stations so close to each other, the one in South Hammond and the one on Ridge and Manor. Ridge and Manor is over kill. The TOD is unacceptable by making so many families up root and move, if you are looking for growth which means more people which means more kids that our school system cannot handle because of our debt and the inability to correct what is happening in our school buildings now.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 10 years
realname: Kim O'Banion
address1: 8816 Manor
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: Kymmy25@aol.com
I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL: No

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTHWEST SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Economic planning which assumes Lake County governmental entities will engage in strategic development in a process planning seems doomed to failure.
The following are the key milestones and schedule for the environmental review process, as well as the overall project:

a. **DEIS**: The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available for review and comment beginning December 16, 2016.

b. **FEIS/ROD**: Following the formal comment period on the DEIS, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) would be prepared by the FTA and NICTD to complete the environmental review process. The FTA would also issue a Record of Decision (ROD) that states the proposed action, environmental findings, and mitigation requirements. The combined FEIS/ROD would take about 6 months to complete, depending on the level of comments received on the DEIS.

c. **Engineering and Construction**: The environmental review process would then be followed by more detailed design, engineering, and construction from 2017 to 2022.

d. **Project Completion**: Service start-up for the NICTD West Lake Corridor Project is targeted for 2022.

This schedule reflects the standard process for NEPA review and FTA's New Starts funding program, but dates are subject to change.

Thanks,

Robert Y. Ochi

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM

Questions/Comments: Previous Comments from the Online Comment Form Submission Dated and Received: Mon 10/28/2014 4:42 PM. Questions/comments, still remain unanswered from 10/28/2014.

1. Per your 20 year Strategic Business Plan Summary, can you provide some additional details to the estimated 1,984 jobs the West Lake Extension project and South Shore capital improvement projects are projected to be added to the NWI economy? What percentage are construction/project related? What percentage of the 1,984 jobs will be permanent jobs? And of the permanent Jobs, what type of jobs are they projected to be? Service oriented, Professional/white collar, Technology based, Communications? Manufacturing or Advanced Manufacturing.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
Onlin e Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM
questions_comments: 2. Per your 20-year Strategic Business Plan Summary, Can you further define or expand on the statement, “Efficiencies are projected to generate $2.5 billion in Economic output and $1.3 billion in gross regional product.” What variables were used as a baseline for this assumed Market Study?
Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
3. What agreements or Memorandums of Understanding are in place with METRA in regards to infrastructure upgrades, track expansion and platform modifications at Millennium Station? Are they part of the current Draft Environmental Impact Study. At what phase in the process will this be confirmed?

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM

questions_comments: 4. With respect to the TOD, Where does NICTD see the best location of the proposed new stations to fully meet the expectations of a economy supporting a TOD (Transit Oriented Development). Does NICTD foresee the stations in Hammond, East Chicago or Gary as a viable (TOD).

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM

questions_comments: 5. Has the previous studies demonstrated the need for express trains from Dyer to Millennium Station? Is it Feasible or even realistic with the restriction of the METRA rail line?

Homeowner: yes  
Interested_Stakeholder: yes  
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes  
Email_Notifications: yes  
length_of_time: 17 years  
realname: Robert Ochi  
address1: 43 Highland Street  
address2:  
city: Hammond  
state: IN  
zip_code: 46320  
phone: 3127317072  
email: robert@raigroup.net
questions_comments: 6. Regarding the NICTD West Lake Corridor Study March 2011 report, of the estimated 5,600 people riding the West Lake trains, how many of those are new riders and how many are existing rider that are currently driving to the existing stations? How did you study derive at this 5,600 number.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM

questions_comments: 7. What type of contingencies are in place in the current estimated cost for market changes, environmental issues, escalation and site conditions.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2:  
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM

Questions_Comments: Comments and Questions relevant to the Issued Draft Environmental Impact Statement (December 2016)

1. With the information indicated in the past presentations and issued Draft Environmental Impact Statement, has the NICTD Major Investment Study (MIS) of 2000 met the ridership expectations that were projected 16 years ago and with the shift in population from north Lake County to the south and east to Porter County- are the ridership numbers still valid for the increase ridership for the West Lake Extension. (DEIS Section 4(f) Evaluation.)

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
2. In reviewing the current Draft Environmental Impact Statement, how will the termination at Dyer allow for the planned extension of the West Lake to St. John and points further to south Lake County? From the MIS (2000) and the 2011 NICTD Corridor Study, has there been any contingencies included in the planning for providing Double Tracking for the West Lake Corridor Extension in the future. (DEIS Section 4(f) Evaluation.)

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM

questions_comments: 3. With NICTD undertaking (2) major capital projects concurrently, has the previous MIS information and market studies indicated the net gain in ridership, meaning the projected boarding's at the Munster and Dyer stations and the anticipated loss of boarding's in East Chicago and Hammond stations. The Study does not provide any projected short-term ridership figures for the years after 2023 and 2040. Please confirm that the estimated $630 million cost strictly for the West Lake Expansion is for an increase in ridership of approximately 7,120 over the next 23 years. How many of that 7,120 are new riders and how many our existing riders, just using the new extension.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
With the culture of corporate business and the advancement of technology/communications, more of the workforce is working from home. How has the projected ridership and boarding numbers factored into the indicated 21% increase in ridership? How is the current movement of Major Corporation moving to Downtown Chicago (West Loop/Fulton Market district) factored into the studies for market studies and the studies for the proposed TOD’s locations? Does the large disparity of the medium household incomes make Hammond’s proposed TOD @ the Gateway station a viable location for investment of private money (developers) to build a Transit Orientated Development. With Hammond at $39,771, Munster at $72,532 and Flossmoor at $103,373, NICTD and the RDA have assumed the higher paying jobs in Chicago will reside North Hammond and Munster. How will the ridership increase if people choose to reside in the Loop/West Loop/South Loop and the north and southwest suburbs as the trends have shown and are projecting for the next 5 years.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
e-mail: robert@raigroup.net
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 3:25 PM
questions_comments: 5. Understanding that the City Of Hammond City Council passed Resolution 16R-23 in August 2016, Hammond Alternate, following the recommendations of the NEPA's preferred route that would eliminate the indicated Downtown Hammond Station. The explanation of why the Downtown Hammond station was removed for consideration is due elevation differences north of Douglas Street. It also indicates several street closures north of Sibley and east of Homan. With the fundamental basis of a TOD, why has this Downtown location been omitted for further study and consideration as a Station. The Gateway Station is also elevated, so the design and logistics are similar in scope, why can't provisions be made to look at the Downtown as a viable TOD, with the similar type of scale and densities preferred at the Hammond TOD workshop (October 2016)

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Robert Ochi
address1: 43 Highland Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46320
phone: 3127317072
email: robert@raigroup.net
Some of the issues as I see them with the South Shore extension are:

1. No Referendum. There was no referendum held in Lake County to approve the West Lake extension and the associated county tax. After a 2009 referendum in Porter and St. Joseph counties overwhelmingly rejected the train, Lake County adopted a 1.5% county income tax with .25% earmarked for "economic development." The "economic development" turned out to be the West Lake extension. Since the tax mechanism was already in place, no voter approval was required. This is government sidestepping the democratic process and deliberately engineering a process to deny input to taxpayers.
2. Cost. The total construction cost and debt service will be over $900 million. Close to a billion dollars for 7.8 miles of track that will extend the line only into the next town from where it already exists. The projected ridership of 2,227 new passengers for this amount of money is sad. That's more than $400,000 per new rider.
3. Homes Taken. Property never should be taken from private owners except as the option of last resort. That is not the case, particularly with the Ridge Road station. The proposed Ridge Road station is only 2.7 miles south of the proposed South Hammond Station. It is only 4 travel minutes. Property owners should not be required to surrender their homes for transit service that will attract only 2,200 new riders (over almost 20 years), particularly when options exist that require no property acquisitions.
4. Existing Service. NWI residents who commute to Chicago but do not take the South Shore avoid the train because the service is poor. The recent (Jan. 12, 2017) 6-to-8-hour delay is a perfect example. NICTD has avoided making costly service improvements despite regular weather-related vulnerabilities that exist with its outdated rail technology. As a result, thousands of passengers were trapped on trains that had no electricity, no heat, and barely working toilets. I learned of at least one person who missed a job interview due to being held on the train (way to bring jobs to the region!).

Despite the fact that these delays happen regularly, as usual NICTD provided no alternative service in the form of buses or shuttles, no bus schedules, and no information for passengers who were ultimately released far from their station of origin. The fact that American taxpayer dollars support this third-world standard of transportation is appalling and offensive to everyone who works hard for a paycheck. Frankly, commuters deserve better than NICTD offers. There is no reason to believe that expanding their service area will improve this scenario as the same outdated rail technology and day-late management personnel will be employed. I say this as a South Shore passenger (18 years) who lives in Munster and who would ostensibly benefit from the extension.
5. Rail Transit is Expensive. Rail as a form of transit is far more expensive per passenger than RTB or highway transportation. Light rail projects in the New Starts 2016 report average approx $200 million per mile. That's crazy talk for a transit system that fixed, inflexible and not scalable. Rail transit costs have multiplied exponentially given the availability of federal funding, yet ridership yields have not improved. Rail transit built at $200M/mile does not carry more passengers than the original systems built in the 80s for $10M/mile. Apparently FTA has too much money!
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 4:39 PM

6. Transit-Oriented Development. TOD is the tail that wags the dog. Municipalities welcome the West Lake extension not for the train or commuter benefits, but because it opens the door to so-called (taxpayer supported) economic development. Rail needs passengers, passengers lacking other transit options that may be preferable to riding the train. Organic passenger development apparently will not take place; therefore heavy engineering of the nearby residential neighborhoods takes place in order to serve up the passengers needed for the rail project to successfully meet its ridership goals. Station-adjacent high-density multi-family residential development is needed to provide the passengers, the developments are designed to be car-unfriendly to ensure the passengers are captive. The fact that TOD is required for the rail extension tells us all we need to know about the actual "need" the project purportedly fulfills.
7. Reducing VMT. According to the DEIS, traffic in the West Lake Corridor area will be reduced a whopping .04% as a result of the project. Surely there are New Starts applicants offering more meaningful impact on VMT. If not, the bar for this standard is entirely too low.
8. Funding Sources are Inequitable and Unjust. Finally, but perhaps most importantly, the communities contributing the most money to the local match for this project are Hammond, East Chicago, and Gary, through the provision of casino revenues to RDA. Hammond is getting some benefit in the form of new train stations, alleged economic development, etc. But East Chicago and Gary gain nothing. Both of these communities are predominantly low-income minority communities. That poor and minority communities are subsidizing a rail extension to facilitate easier, more convenient transportation for affluent white communities, and that the already-affluent communities will grow even more so as a result (while the funding communities grow less so), is completely unacceptable. This is government- and agency-supported racial and economic injustice.
Hello, This project gives me so much hope for the future of the region. As a young adult who grew up and moved back to the region from Chicago after college, this train is key to our future to continue to work in Chicago, and for the generations of our children and grandchildren so they can be connected to the jobs and opportunities that may at times seem out of reach for so many in the area. Having this train would keep my husband and I here in the region for years to come. Without it, we may be forced in the future to move to a western suburb due to the long commute and the ease of commuting elsewhere. My husband and I couldn’t be more excited for this train. This is something I had always hoped for, and am excited to see it happen. Thank you, Kim

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 28 years
realname: Kimberly Hasse O'Halloran
address1: 10334 Sandy Lane
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: kjhasse@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Scott Orsi
6945 Monroe Ave
Hammond, IN 46324

Very informative meeting. Thanks for organizing. I will attend one the open house meetings. Excited about the opportunities and progress in NWI.
Name: DANIEL M PANAGGI
Address: 1100 MELBROOK DR
City: MUNSEY
State: IN
Zip Code: 46321
E-Mail: dbpanaggi@hotmail.com
Phone Number: 312-315-2933

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I am a commuter and fully support this project.
Name: Jonathan Paulinae
Address: 3749 173rd St
City: Hammond
State: IN
Zip Code: 46323
E-Mail: jpaulinae@pnu.edu
Phone Number: 219-331-3384

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Please proceed with the West Lake Corridor Project. This area would be greatly impacted by the increased jobs and accessibility to Chicago.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 11/09/2015 11:50 AM

questions_comments: My neighbors and I are very much against this project, as it would destroy the field running parallel to Lyman Avenue in South Hammond--a green space that has much to do with our quality of life. Children play here, adults walk their dogs here, and it's home to rabbits, toads, birds, and other wildlife--not to mention a rainbow of colorful wild flowers in the summer months. Whereas I'd be more than happy to pay taxes to support a fleet of regional BUSES (including buses to transport commuters to and from existing South Shore stations), I cannot and will not "get behind" a rail extension that will forever scar my neighborhood. Your website states that you care about preserving green spaces, and I'm willing to believe you're sincere; but how do you plan to compensate for environmental losses in this case? Please consider. Thank you!

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 20 years
realname: Valerie Pennanen
address1: 249 169th Street
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone:
email: finnfriends@att.net
Name: Ed Pierson

Address: 3920 N. Lake Shore Dr. Apt 35

City: Chicago

State: IL Zip Code: 60613

E-Mail: pierson@pnnw.edu

Phone Number: 219-989-2467

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor project:

Like idea

One issue connection to

Meetings when slow trains

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 9:45 PM

questions_comments: Like all of my neighbors directly impacted by the addition of the train through our quiet section of town, I'm concerned with the aftermath. Specifically how the Town of Munster will compensate all those residents whose property abuts the newly active rail line for the loss in property value driven by close proximity to the noise, vibration, poor drainage and safety concerns the rail line will bring. This project provides those unlucky property owners with a double whammy of reduced property values with increased taxes courtesy of a previous County tax increase, passed specifically to pay for the rail line extension.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 5 years
realname: Brian Pirok
address1: 1104 Elliot Drive
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2196295937
email: b_pirok@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 9:39 PM
questions_comments: I have no desire to have a train run through my town of Munster, especially at
the cost of some of our residents' homes and some residents having to see, hear, and feel that train
several times a day everyday. I don't see the train being worth the money it is going to require,
especially when people in the area who are going to use it already do use it by driving to the
Hammond or East Chicago station. It's ridiculous to cause all this upheaval and cost the town's people
all this money to extend the line just to the Munster-Dyer border. Traffic is going to become
horrendous on Ridge Rd if a station is put there and that area is already full of businesses, so I'm not
sure where supporters of the project think all these "new businesses" are going to go up. I also don't
like the idea of low income housing going in as a result of the train for obvious reasons. I grew up on
Frederick Ave. and my mom still lives there (has for 30 years, well before this train was going to be an
issue). The train will run RIGHT behind her backyard, lowering the value of her property indefinitely
along with everyone else's on that block. I think it's just awful to do that to long-time Munster
residents.
Bottom line: The drawbacks to extending the South Shore through Munster far outweigh any
potential positives. Therefore I do NOT want that train extension in my neighborhood.
Homeowner: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
realname: Jennifer Pizzuto-Dean
address1: 8222 White Oak Ave.
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: jnpizzuto@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 7:41 PM
Just returned home from your meeting (?) in Munster @ Centennial Park. What an absolute waste of my
time! 1. Totally ridiculous venue. No organization and too small for the several hundred+ who attended.
2. No open forum for questions. 3. How are you gonna maintain the new extention, when you’re unable
to maintain the current line, case in point a few weeks back... frozen lines and no back up plan... buses,
etc. 4. No way will I ever support any taxes for this project. 5. Too many questions and very few
answers!!
Michael Pokrajac
michaelpokrajac@att.net
Name: Craig Popovich
Address: 1924 Magnolia Ln
City: Munster
State: IN Zip Code: 46321
E-Mail: copopolco@gmail.com
Phone Number: 219-689-9980

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

This would be a great way to help North Shore residents. I would like to see it well planned and implemented, like the coming of the 7900/49 in
Newtown.
Direct Email Submission
Jennifer Poskin
1751 Novo Drive
Schererville, IN 46375

Great plan for Lake County! Excited to see it come into reality
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/27/2017 2:57 PM
questions_comments: How will a parking lot behind my property help my property value and are you going to be trying to buy my property? Will this be eminent domain?
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 1
realname: Emily Pritchard
address1: 8237 Highland Pl
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: emmers1925@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 8:25 AM
questions_comments: I am a resident of the Meadows subdivision in Dyer and I DO NOT want Seminary Drive connecting to the parking lot to the train station. It is already impossible to get out of the front entrance onto Sheffield during rush hours. Do not bring huge amounts of unwanted traffic into our residential subdivision. This will already bring too much noise and crime into our quiet location. Find another way.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 16 years
realname: Ann Radde
address1: 832 Sunflower Lane
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: annradde@comcast.net
This project is GREAT! It is needed for current and future generations.
Name: Marion Ray
Address: 9518 Elmwood Dr
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip Code: 46321
E-Mail: marion-ray@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 219-924-7427

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:
- poss. gate @ Margo @ S. Munster station
* bike racks at all stations *
- bike spaces on train cars
- bike accessibility? to/from stations
- need to connect Main to Joe Orr in IL
  for throughfare traffic
- very excited for train dev!
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 3:01 PM
questions_comments:
as an owner since 1999, I am opposed against this expansion which includes part of our sub-division.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 1999
realname: ALICIA REYES
address1: 200 Eagle Court
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 2199376000
email: licha52@aol.com
Can the municipalities south of Dyer see the potential to increase their local populations with the addition of a train system in their towns? There is a tremendous amount of appeal for transportation alternatives from Northwest Indiana to Chicago area business. “Build it and they will come.” ☺
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/20/2017 9:44 AM

questions_comments: As a life long Munster resident, I am concerned. I am not only concerned for the well-being, safety and overall viability of Munster, but I am just as concerned as being represented as taxpayer with a voice. In this situation I don't feel the public, the tax payers, the homeowners have had a say or a voice. Even though my house sits within walking distance of the Munster/Dyer stations, I am not in favor of this project. It is a gross overspending of my hard earned dollars and I have no problem continuing to drive to the Hammond Station. My questions are as follows:

- Why did this not come to a referendum vote for how to spend my money as a tax payer?
- All meetings thus far have been one-way information to residents. When will the tax payers be able to voice their concerns, in a public forum to the NIDTC, RDA and others, vs having to express concerns in writing?
- What noise safeguards are going to be put in place for the residents of West Lakes?
- What safety measures will be put in place for the children of West Lakes, especially when we will now have electrified wires nearby in a large subdivision?
- Are quiet crossings planned throughout the extension? What restrictions will be in place for train engineers to not use their train horns in residential areas?
- I have read over many reports and it is clear this project will not be able to operate without a deficit. What guarantees as a tax payer will I get that and financial deficiencies will not come back to me, the tax payer, as part of a current or new tax?
- I keep reading about Transit Oriented Design. How will this impact the Munster/Dyer station and how will I be assured that the proposed TOD designs will not adversely impact my property values?

Thank you for your time.

Eric Ribble
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 5 Years
realname: Eric Ribble
address1: 10232 Whitehall Garden
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2197302322
email: eribble@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Sat 01/28/2017 5:43 PM

We bought a house in the Dyer Meadows Subdivision a little over a year and a half ago. We left our long time Hammond home under tragic circumstances and welcomed the quiet, peaceful neighborhood we hoped to call home for the remainder of our years. We are in our 60’s and 70’s and found a house that could serve us through our retirement and aged years. It is a pleasant, quiet and safe area inhabited by mostly senior citizens, including the condominium complex at the entrance. It is a pleasure to take walks around the retention pond area, watch the corn and soybeans grow, watch the planes and helicopters frequent the airport and watch the beautiful sunrises and sunsets. The most traffic we see is during the yearly garage sale.

While any demonstration against the proposed train station is apparently moot, we are appalled at and completely oppose several of the plans that include connecting our subdivision and the Munster Westlakes subdivision directly to parking areas. We would also oppose any through connection of Main Street through to Illinois as an alternative east/west thoroughfare.

With so many train stations such a short distance apart, we are concerned about the commuters who would use the trains and would care less about the neighborhood they are passing through. The noise is also a concern.

It seems that the most acceptable access would be directly off Sheffield which would keep any transient traffic out of two established and quiet neighborhoods.

This is a safe and very low crime neighborhood where we feel comfortable now and anticipated feeling just as safe and secure in the years to come. I am not convinced and very concerned that the train development will maintain that atmosphere. We are a mere three houses away from the retention pond area.

The prospect of TOD development that would include strip mall after strip mall and franchise fast food after franchise food is not our vision of diverse retail development. The addition of concentrated transient apartment housing also does not contribute to the stable, hometown feel that I am sure most of my new residential neighbors would like to maintain, including us.

We vote no for any access other than directly from Sheffield for the train development if it has to happen at all.

Richard and Lana Richardson
556 Sunflower
Dyer
lanarichardson@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 10:17 AM
questions comments: This project needs to be scrapped. To Expensive, will make families homeless, and tax the rest of us to DEATH. scrap it.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 66 yrs.
realname: Cynthia Robbins
address1: 2942 Wells Street
address2:
city: Lake Station
state: IN
zip_code: 46405
phone: 2199633591
email: justdoit_90@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Mon 01/16/2017 2:45 PM  
questions_comments: The expansion of the South Shore is a boondoggle.  
Using the SS to commute to Chicago on and off over the years, I have had a chance to confirm the absence of development along the existing South Shore. Hammond and East Chicago have no significant development as a result of the existing South Shore corridor.  
In Chicago from 130th street south to 55th street for the most part is an urban wasteland. Development along this corridor has failed miserably.  
The current trends regarding population shift in Chicago and Illinois indicates population is waning, the result of crime, high taxes and contemporary technology are significant components contributing to this population exit.  
Contemporary technology, has allowed employers to move away from the traditional office, physical plant with its related cost, rent, utilities, furniture, office supplies, security, along with the untold wasted man hours consumed with commuting.  
Contemporary technology is moving in the direction of remote, home based offices, providing the employee with substantial flexibility along with reducing corporate cost mentioned above. This is a corporate win, win.  
Not addressed are the Kensington Stop bottle neck, which from this point north to Chicago has substantial physical plant limitations. The electrical infrastructure limits the number of electric operated trains able to function with the current electrical grid. More than 7 units operating in this grid causes the electrical system to shut down.  
Infrastructure improvements in the hundreds of millions haven't been funded and appear not to be funded in the near to extended future.  
Additional issues exist at Randolph Street, the last stop, end of line. Real estate is exceptionally limited in available space for additional train storage.  
Then we have recent other national based projects, similar to this expansion, which have negative economic impact for the associated taxpayer now paying additional taxes supporting those mass transportation failures.  
Follows are three articles giving a summation of some problematic mass transportation programs, some frighteningly similar to the SS expansion.  
10 rail systems that loose the most money per passenger. [https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brookings-now/2015/06/03/the-10-u-s-metro-rail-systems-that-lose-the-most-money-per-passenger/](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brookings-now/2015/06/03/the-10-u-s-metro-rail-systems-that-lose-the-most-money-per-passenger/)  
Homeowner: yes  
Business_Owner: yes  
length_of_time: 26 years  
realname: Charles Rocek  
address1: 44 Mason St.  
address2:  
state: IN  
zip_code: 46320  
phone:  
email: ChuckRocek@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/23/2017 9:56 PM
questions_comments: I fully support this expansion and development.
Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 6 years
realname: Brian Rogan
address1: 9507 Fran Lin Pkwy
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: bprogan@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/16/2017 11:45 AM
questions_comments: This project is an opportunity to create real beauty with the tree-filled areas within the corridor. All it needs is attention to what we already have. There are forest-like patches of land throughout the area that can so easily be transformed into areas of natural beauty. Let's make it a community-wide commitment to what everyone will enjoy.
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
length_of_time: 1 year
realname: Walter Matthew Rogers
address1: 20 Indi-Illi Parkway
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IL
zip_code: 46324
phone: 
email: w.matthew.rogers1@gmail.com
I suggest two themes, both of which can play a valuable part in the success and enhanced citizen appreciation of NICTD's West Lake Corridor Project.

The first theme is that every tree is a life. So, when a tree absolutely, positively has to be cut, then one or more new trees can be planted elsewhere to bring back the necessary balance. The key here is to have the awareness and sensitivity that cutting trees, especially the mature ones, is only a last resort. Why? Because the trees represent a free, natural and appealing sound and visual barrier. One way of implementing this strategy is to have engineering specifications such as, “Before any tree is to be cut, it must first be verified with a direct confirmation from [for example] Nicole Barker at NICTD headquarters.” Another possible engineering instruction/specification could be the requirement that machinery entrance and egress must always go through the same path, and that these designated paths must be created with as minimal effect on the existing trees as possible.

My second theme is that NICTD can easily become the environmental/recreational hero of Northwest Indiana based upon how it builds out the West Lake Corridor rail line. As just one example, the greenbelt in Hammond between I-80/I-94 and 165th Street can become a jewel of the project. My suggestion is that you might also be able to use federal/regional/local funding other than your own to enhance this area right alongside your new Hammond station. Bob Bronson of Indiana’s Department Of National Resources said that this Hammond Greenbelt Project would fit within the “Rails With Trails” federal program. The most he said he could commit to such a project would be $200,000, provided this project won over other statewide participants. Bob Bronson is in charge of the federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for the State of Indiana. Following his suggestion to contact Mitch Barloga of the NIRPC, I listened to Mitch’s positive initial reaction to a Hammond Greenbelt Project. Mitch Barloga was open to the idea of enhancing the Hammond greenbelt, and also added that this effort was the kind of project that Hammond Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr. might find worthwhile and worthy of pursuing.

There are other constituencies that also would support a Hammond Greenbelt Project for the existing forest between I-80/I-94 and 165th Street along the West Lake Corridor. Hammond resident Valerie Pennanen is circling a petition requesting that NICTD guarantee land protected for wildlife within the corridor. This potential “Rails with Trails” possibility would answer that petition. And finally, the Hammond Greenbelt Project perfectly fits the South Shore Trail Organization’s goal of promoting “a connected system of trails, paths, and bike lanes.” With all of these parties able to support the Hammond Greenbelt Project, it seems like a natural winner. Just as the protection of trees goes hand-in-hand with a better NICTD rail line, so also would protecting this greenbelt. It will be something beautiful for commuters to see as they pass by in one of your trains, and for area residents who will be walking through the beautiful beltway in their leisure, NICTD would be held in the highest of esteem for implementing such a beautiful companion project to the West Lake Corridor rail line. It seems like a win-win for everybody.
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Wed 01/25/2017 1:46 PM

questions_comments:
Dear Sirs;
Would you please mail me a printed copy of the project maps?
Is there a list of potentially affected properties slated for acquisition?
I'd like to get a copy of that list of properties as well.
The maps on-line aren't clear enough to decipher the proposed routes and properties affected.
I would like a copy of the document that spells out the exact routes proposed, including street names and blocks.
Any additional information on the project you can include would also be appreciated.
I'm assuming the cost is minimal, but please make me aware if there is an applicable charge due with my request.
Thank you for your cooperation.
M. Rosales
P.O. Box 2400
Hammond, IN 46323
nearchicago@sbcglobal.net
I would like to stay connected with OneRegion initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

I do support this because for me specifically, this will save me a lot of time and money. I am just concerned about the environmental impact, please try not to displace too many animals. I am very excited to see how this turns out. I love taking the train and if it can be made quicker I am all for it. Will ticket prices change?
This project can't happen soon enough. It brings NWI closer together, and it cements our ties to Chicago, economically and culturally. That makes NWI ripe for economic development, bring a potential we haven't seen in a century.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 12/20/2016 4:42 PM

questions/comments: This is a much needed expansion of our transit infrastructure within Indiana. More and more people are relocating to the southern parts of Indiana and need a closer public transportation option. Funding for mass transit will serve the public much more than building a new expressway, as the Illiana expressway was proposing.

After reviewing the documents within the DEIS I have several specific comments related to active transportation to/from the proposed stations:

> The new line is going to hug many areas that currently have a bike trail (e.g. the Monon trail) and it appears that all of these bike trails will remain or relocated. This is absolutely critical. We cannot move backwards and break up the great existing trail system that is now in place.

> There is no pedestrian bridge/tunnel at the Munster Ridge station, but there is a parking lot on the north side of Ridge when the station is on the south side. This is very dangerous for pedestrians streaking across Ridge to try and catch their train. This crossing is also very dangerous for those using the Monon bike trail, so this is a great opportunity to install a bridge/tunnel for pedestrians and cyclists. A safe way for pedestrians/cyclists has to be included or this station would effectively cut off the entire north side of town from safely accessing this station.

> There are a lot of opportunities to include bike lanes on the streets around the stations to make a true Transit Oriented Development (TOD):

1) Hammond Downtown Station - Douglas street and Sohl should have bike lanes installed. The Erie Lackawanna bike trail going north should be extended to connect with the Wolf Lake path.

2) Hammond Gostlin Station: Bike trails should be installed along Hohman and Gostlin.

3) Munster Ridge Station: Broadmoor should have bike lanes installed so that people could easily commute to the new station east/west that live north of ridge.

4) Munster/Dyer Station: A bike path should be installed all along Main from the train station to the Pennsy Greenway. And another should be installed along Columbia/Sheffield to connect with Centennial Park.

> The Monon trail should be extended straight south from Fisher all the way to the Munster/Dyer station, while hugging the new rail line, since you'll have to get right aways for the tracks you might as well extend the trail too.

> The Erie Lackawanna could be extended from downtown Hammond to follow the train and connect with Hegewisch.

> If the Gostlin station is used then the Erie Lackawanna should just be extended with the track right away to connect with the Hegewisch station.

> Instead of tearing down homes Aurelio's and KFC should be removed for the station. Plus, it makes more sense for the station to be closer to Ridge road.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 13 years
realname: Paul Rotatori
address1: 8118 Kraay Ave
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: paul.rotatori@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 9:06 AM
questions_comments: I appeal to you - do not connect any direct traffic to or thru seminary avenue or main street. Please keep all of this away from our beautiful community in the Meadows of Dyer. Use space east of Sheffield Please respect the homes and peace of those who Live near the train and parking sites.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 18 years
realname: Sharon Ruane
address1: 515 Rosebush
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46312
phone: 2192278240
email: johnandsharon1972@yahoo.com
I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Why hasn’t this happened already?!?

- It makes Munster look inviting to people relocating
- It makes NWI an extension of Chicago
- It allows us to take advantage of the entire region
- Makes new economic development feasible

- Christine Rucinski chrisrucinski@gmail.com
I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

This project is essential to the development of NWI.
I am in support of the Hammond Alternative Option #2. This is long overdue.
Hemsiderillo, I see where the IHB route is still on the map. I thought it had been eliminated and there would be one station in North Hammond, for both lines. This is very confusing. I think the city of Hammond should not devote any money to this project until the IHB is removed.

Tom Ryan
thryan45@sbcglobal.net
questions_comments: My husband has been a lifelong resident of Munster and we have lived in our current house for about 5 years. My house is one of the proposed houses to be taken in the Westlakes subdivision if option 3 goes through. If it doesn't go through, I am worried that the value of my home will be impacted negatively since the trainline would run right behind my backyard. I understand value can go up but not when you are right on top of it. I also will be adjacent to the parking lot if it is placed just south of Westlakes on the west side of the tracks. I have 3 small children and am concerned about the safety of my children from transient people at a train station. I know most people will be commuters but not all will and I am concerned about the safety, noise and lighting from the parking lot. Will there be lighting on all night long? Is there an ordinance in the town limiting bright lighting that close to residential homes? Also, I would like a solid fence to be considered to block not only the view of the parking lot but also the safety for my children. I would also like many trees and landscaping to be part of the budget not just a few trees. Also, some residents are concerned about Margo connecting to the parking lot if it is placed there. I am opposed to that. If it were to connect, can there be a gate put in place that only residents can enter and leave through that way. People will definitely be trying to cut through and speeding to catch the trains and there are no stop signs nor speed bumps on Margo. At one of the meetings, they told us that it probably would only connect with a pedestrian crosswalk. But now I am hearing at another meeting that some town people would like it to connect. I also would like a solid fence and trees/landscaping to be considered for my backyard and my neighbor's. Our backyards are right on the tracks and with the addition of another rail line and overhead wiring for the south shore I would like a better view and privacy especially since there will be several more trains coming through. Furthermore, I don't see the necessity of the train being placed right next to residential homes in order to bring more people to northwest Indiana. There are PLENTY of people in northwest Indiana. I can't even drive on the roads in or out of town right now with the crowded population of Munster and the surrounding towns. How is a large project like this started and already funded locally and stately without any of our say up until now. This project was never brought to the people of Munster and no referendum had taken place. I had no idea when we bought the lot nor when we built, for instance when we applied for building permits were we ever informed that our land could be taken. I feel betrayed and fooled. The people that just built this year right next door and behind us that just bought the house were never informed either. I am not on social media and rely on my town to inform me of such drastic changes in the town, especially those that directly affect me. Again, I am not for this train but would like some sort of resolution on how to proceed further. Thank you.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 5
realname: Cori Rybicki
address1: 409 Knightbridge Pl
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: coritojias@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 4:25 PM
questions_comments: I am opposed to the Munster ridge road station. We do my need 2 in Munster.
Resisdents do not need to be relocated. The town of Munster did not discuss this with the members of the town.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Amanda Sanow
address1: 8618 Garfeild Ave
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: Spears1177@aol.com
Name: Anyana So-eed
Address: 2440 173rd St.
City: Hammond
State: IN
Zip Code: 46323
E-Mail:aso-eed@pnu.edu
Phone Number:

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

This will be very convenient. 
Name: Rebecca Satchers
Address: 7002 California Ave
City: Hammond
State: IN
Zip Code: 46323
E-Mail: gothangelic@gmail.com
Phone Number: 219.232.6250

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line’s West Lake Corridor Project:

Would be amazing!
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 10:23 AM
questions_comments: I support the train station, but cannot support Dyer unfairly saddled with the parking lot, layover facility, and relocations/lost TOD land. These should be fairly divided between Dyer and Munster. Also, I do not support a Main Street extension, or any modification that increases traffic through the Meadows subdivision.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 18 years
realname: Christina Schneider
address1: 100 Seminary Dr.
address2:
city: DYER
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 2193229469
email: cschneid@lcscmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 8:43 AM
questions comments: I can support the train station, but the parking should be on the west side of the tracks and in Munster. This would require fewer relocations. Further, if Dyer must have the unsightly lay-over then it should also have the most area for potential TOD development. It doesn't seem right that Munster gets two stations, none of the unsightly development and the best land for future development.
Finally, I strongly oppose the extension of Main Street and any curb cut that would allow any traffic in The Meadows subdivision.
Resident Project Corridor: yes
Email Notifications: yes
length of time: 18 years
realname: Tom Schneider
address1: 100 Seminary Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip code: 46311
phone: 219-545-1011
email: schneiderthomasw@hotmail.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 3:29 PM
We appreciate the detailed information provided concerning the new NICTD expansion project into Munster and Dyer, the potential economic advantages for the Region are exciting. As with most young families (we have 2 small children), there are choices for where we raise our children and Munster provided a good deal. This kind of project requires many considerations: tax implications, traffic patterns, property values, commute times, etc. Surveys and studies may miss some things, though small in nature have big consequences. For example, we are concerned about the impact to the existing West Lakes neighborhood should the Munster/Dyer station parking lot be constructed west of the CSX tracks. This option will open Margo Lane to all traffic from the west and north which will substantially increase safety risk to our neighborhood children. As you may or may not be aware, West Lakes is unique in that it is the young family hub of Munster with perhaps the largest concentration of small children in the town. West Lakes also hosts ALL Munster Parks soccer games and practices for the town, which typically occur during afternoon peak commuter hours. While we see much potential for a train line, there are serious concerns about keeping our neighborhood private, and safe. We would welcome the consideration of more options that keep traffic on Margo Lane to just the residents and visitors of West Lakes. Thank you again and we look forward to hearing more in the future,
Michael Sculli
West Lakes resident
msculli@hotmail.com
I attended the Dyer meeting on Tuesday, 1/18/17
I live in The Meadows on Sunflower Lane. It appears there is no plan to have this street connect with the proposed parking lot. However, Seminary Road will connect. This will bring much more traffic thru our subdivision. I would prefer that there be NO street in our subdivision that connects to the parking lot or the walkway or the actual station.
By the same token, the traffic on Sheffield will be dramatically increased; I see no way to avoid this so I would like to suggest that we have a stoplight installed at the entrance to our subdivision so we can get in and out easily.
Won't the pedway under the tracks be expensive? Wouldn't it be easier and cheaper to keep the station and parking east of the tracks? I saw that someone in Hammond suggested a multilevel parking structure to reduce the footprint on this area. Would that be feasible here, east of the tracks?
Do other studies show whether having a station so close increases or decreases property values?
What happens if the federal grant is not approved? Does the project go forward with the cities expected to pick up the rest of the cost?
Thank you for hearing my concerns
Barbara Sejda
Barbarasejda@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 02/05/2017 7:03 AM
questions_comments:
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 13 years
realname: Rogelio Senteno
address1: 530 main st
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: gsent@prodigy.net
The DEIS and Evaluation fail on several accounts: The stated purpose is to increase trans. options for central and southern Lake County. Neither Dyer nor Munster nor Hammond are located there. A more central route thru the County could use existing rail corridor roughly along Kennedy Ave., eliminating need for ROW upgrades and build outs. The old Monon ROW is owned publicly, but will require complete rebuilding, as opposed to current active freight lines that also intersect the South Shore Electric Line. (Using that name for convenience only. You know what I mean.) The Preferred Alt. route (#2) blithely runs over and thru sites on the Nat’l Historic Register. You say that we’ll get some other building to take their place. Mocking the Register and its process which has been established for decades. You mention Wetland Conservation without establishing any plan other than “buying credits”, thereby mocking the conservation policies also in place for decades. You have yet to make provision for electric power stations along the proposed line. These will also directly impact homeowners in Munster and possibly Dyer. You insist upon Electric trains, which is, after all your current business, without addressing the use of diesel locomotives along this proposed line. The proposed Ridge Rd. station destroys a residential neighborhood and increases traffic in an already-crowded area (at least in rush hours). The Dyer/ Munster terminus effectively destroys a smaller neighborhood in the name of greater good. You mention 7000 daily riders without providing info on their boarding place. I submit to you that there are not now, and will not be in 30 years, 7000 riders in Dyer/Munster who have a desire to travel to jobs in downtown Chicago. In addition, a bit of arithmetic shows that the proposed option #2 is the highest cost to build and to continue to operate. This leaves a deficit of $2350 per rider on an annual basis, when one presumes total ridership pays full fare using a monthly pass (using total ridership as twice the round trip figure). So, we have a built-in deficit, built-in surface or community roadway upgrade costs, and built-in added congestion for a possible 150 riders per train. Does Federal money promise to cover all that? We all know better. Your plan, of course has a lot of issues with Hammond and Hegewish. These can be dealt with, I suspect, more easily than the proposed Maynard Junction problem. You have seemed to gloss over this issue. If we think 20-24 trains daily is not an issue at Maynard, we have not spoken to the folks at CN and at Amtrak and CSX. Your plan says you will fly over Maynard. Above, there are 2 sets of high tension power lines. Below, about every 10 feet is a pipeline of some description. Your engineers will be hard-pressed to find adequate space for proper bridge footings. When found, you will then have to use bridge spans far longer than “normal”, costing far more in building cost than you seem to have budgeted. You plan to bridge 2 separate tracks, if the new line goes West of CSX. If you stay East of CSX, you have to move or lose a couple of warehouses and several homes near the Munster/Dyer border. Still, building the 53rd St. station will just add to that home loss. Your proposal seems obvious in its desire to make some use of your planning services, even after the people in the south and central portions of Lake County have refused your plans. (Yes, your work has been done rather well, and we thank you for that.) The proposed plans, however, do not properly address the needs, even the perceived possible needs, of the areas you are here covering. Dyer has an Amtrak station with daily Chicago access. Munster is seeking Town growth, wherever it thinks it might find it. Munster, however, has done no study of its own on possible jobs or workplace transportation for possible future residents. They are believing your figures on ridership, without questioning the infrastructure cost that the Town will have to bear or the tax burden that its residents will incur when the built-in operating deficit of this plan finally shows up. Why is this plan more cost-effective than a Light Rail alternative? Suburban Chicago people quite often have Metra busses running from town train stations. Why is this plan more cost-effective than busses from a (any) Hammond station? Who pays for these deficits until ridership increases enough to cover costs? Who is accounting for coming changes in workplaces and the general idea of working from home via computer. This NEPA plan costs too much, destroys too much of business and neighborhoods and environment, and depends upon old, in-place technology to solve future problems. (Of course, the old technology is what is paying for you to do all this planning,) I see almost zero good in this proposal.
Name: Steven Shareif
Address: 124 Salisbury Drive
City: Munster
E-Mail: shareifmail@aim.com

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

100’s plan to connect Margo Lane to parking lot/over
is Horrible. Any Proposed changes to Margo Lane
MUST be discussed with West Lake Residents

Traffic MUST be kept off Margo especially if parking
lot is connected to Joe Orr Road.
I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

What about handicapped access to/from the platforms?
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/02/2017 5:47 PM
questions_comments: Sign Munster up for economic opportunities. We need transportation solutions to boost us into being a compelling township of the future.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 32 years
realname: Paul Sikora
address1: 8155 Woodlawn Ave.
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198050220
email: paul.john.sikora@gmail.com
I live at 10206 Allison Road in Munster, Ind. When is my home being purchased by the NICTD? And what will the purchase consist of.

Thank you.

Sue Silaj

smsilaj@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Tue 01/31/2017 5:53 PM
I live in one of the town homes in Munster that is scheduled to be leveled and so I will be losing my home. I am 57 years old, on my own and have a very reasonable mortgage here. I was very excited when I first moved here about 2.5 years ago because I wanted to see the subdivision fill in with houses and families. The first summer three houses were built. The next summer none were built and it's been that way since. Of course it's due to citizens learning about the West Lake Project. I rode the South Share for 24 years to/from Chicago every day. I drove from Munster to Hammond. It was about 15 minutes to get there and I never had a problem with it. Why do you want to turn Munster and Dyer and perhaps beyond that into a crime ridden area. That's all that this railroad is going to bring. All of these beautiful homes will be burglarized, the cars in the train station parking lots will be stolen or vandalized, there will be physical attacks, etc. It makes me physically sick to think of what is going to happen to this lovely area along with Dyer and beyond. Can't there just be one piece of land left for our wild life to enjoy? Can you let the people who have bought their homes and barely scrape by keep their homes? There is no need for this extension. Many people work from home now and there are many that drive downtown now because the trains are so full of crime and not dependable. Please leave our neighborhood and citizens alone.
Thank you.
Susan Silaj
Mobile: 219.789.5840
smsilaj@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017 11:47 AM

questions_comments: Which, if any streets will be closed in Hammond? From 165th St. to Waltham, the corridor has 6 grade crossings. It is unacceptable to close any of these cross streets.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 47 years
realname: William Simmons
address1: 6326 Van Buren Avenue
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone:
email: Bill.Simmons6771@att.net
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Wed 01/18/2017 11:25 AM
I completely support West Lake South Shore expansion. It will supply a much needed boost in public transportation opportunities in northwest Indiana.
Walter Skiba
1612 LaPorte Ave.
Whiting, Indiana 46394
(219) 473-4270
wskiba@ccsj.edu
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 7:19 PM
questions_comments: I am a home owner in the Westlakes neighborhood. I would like to record my plea that Margo Lane NOT connect to the proposed parking lot site. I do not have children living in our home, but I enjoy seeing children riding their bikes and waiting for the bus safely. I believe that commuters would be rushing to make the train and speed down Margo Lane. My hope was that the parking lot would also be located on the east side of the train track, which actually would make the most sense. I was told at the last meeting that this will not happen. Therefore, I ask that you please do not connect to Margo.
Also, for my neighbors who live on the south side of this neighborhood, I would hope that you would include a tall wall on the north side of the lot to provide safety and decrease the noise from the parking lot patrons. Nice greenery would also be appreciated north of the wall to make it appealing.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 17 YEARS
realname: Julie Smit
address1: 17 Leicester Rd
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: soundwk@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 7:26 PM
questions_comments: I would like the parking lot to be placed on the East side of the tracks near the proposed platform. It seems to make sense that it be an easy walk to the platform. If the parking lot is placed on the west side of the tracks, please do not connect to Margo Lane. Margo was designed for 25mph traffic. Commuters will be tempted to speed down Margo when they are running late for the train and this would be unsafe. This neighborhood has been a nice, quiet place to come home to after work and I would hate to this change.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Steven Smit
address1: 17 Leicester Rd
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: soundwk@aol.com
Anyone who has seen the congestion caused by a South Shore Station should be alarmed. Add parking problems to the traffic problems then ask who will benefit. Note the cost will result in increase debt to the towns which will fall on the property owners. Why would maintenance become the responsibility of the towns? This political pork barrel will ruin our towns bringing: noise and vibrations, congested traffic, higher taxes and the famous imminent domain to steal our houses and wreck neighborhoods we have enjoyed for a lifetime. Let the people affected vote on this projection. Citizens in Munster and Dyer this will not benefit you as claimed. As for the cost when has the government ever built something without going over budget!

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 31 years
realname: Ross M. Smith
address1: 145 Potomac Dr
address2:
city: Dyer
state: State
zip_code: 46311
phone: 2193222414
email: rosssmith1@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017 9:35 AM
questions_commens: Trains choked Hammond for years why would anyone want them in their towns. Why should my home be stolen by the south shore to give people in other towns an easier access to crime capital of Chicago. Look at the area around existing stations. Nobody wants noise, crime, traffic congestion just for convenience of some. Why ruin my neighborhood, steal my house..just for political pork to satisfy spending money which will cost more from tax payers in the future. Stop the political boondoggles and think about your home. Do we really need to save 10 minutes it takes to drive to existing stations at the cost of our environment and money. What are the ramifications of this "free government money" the south shore will be a money pit requiring constant feeding. The where will the benefit to Dyer be when its disposed population move out along with the taxes they paid to the town. Who wins and who loses. Think about it and who is pushing for the SS to be extended. Politicians do not have the best interest of the people if they support this government pork.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 35 years
realname: Ross M. Smith
address1: 145 Potomac drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: rosssmith1@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 3:27 PM

questions_comments: I have looked at your maps and the pretty drawings but you fail to realize the unbelievable traffic congestion you will create. From RT 30 to Calumet Ave to Main St or Sheffield and 213th street. You show lots for 1700+ cars but how do they get to the SS and home from the SS. Those poor fools that think they will save time coming to Dyer will find the traffic appalling and aggravating. Add to that the cost for all of us in NW Indiana and it is a very bad idea.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 30+ years
realname: Ross M. Smith
address1: 145 Potomac Dr
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: rosssmith1@sbcglobal.net
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

This is super exciting. Improving our views on public transformation can have a great impact not only one's accessibility, but one's environment.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017 12:49 PM
questions_comments: Sheffield Ave in Dyer is in terrible shape. How much more damage will the added traffic have on the road in Dyer?
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 37 years
realname: Rich Soga
address1: 829 Jacobs Ct
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: rsoga@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 10:58 AM

questions_comments: I am a resident, homeowner that lives on Harrison Ave in Munster, IN. The proposed parking lot and station are to be in my back yard. I would just like you to know that we know that the train is coming and there is not much we can do about that. My family is completely opposed to the station and parking lot. There is no way that this is acceptable. Right now we look out at beautiful open space that is peaceful. There is wildlife that lives there that we watch all year long, even some that migrate into the area in the summer. It is a peaceful neighborhood and that is what brought us to this area of Munster when we moved here. If you put in your proposed lot and station that will disrupt everyone's way of life and lifestyle as well as mental and physical health.

We have a pool and patio in the yard which is where we like to go for our privacy and well being. We do not want to listen to car doors, snow plows, people talking as well as the garbage that will be thrown in our yards. Not to mention the car alarms that will be going off and the lights that will invade our privacy. Our bedrooms face out to the proposed lot and this is unacceptable to have people looking in and invading our privacy. We should not have to deal with the day to day goings on, as we moved here for peace, privacy and quiet. Also the proposed tax increases are unacceptable!!!! I cant believe that you can just think of us backed up to this proposed lot as collateral damage. We are families, we have built our lives here. I understand progress but why should yours take precedents to ours. What will you do to make our lives livable. There is no fence or wall or landscaping that will change any of this.

If we are forced to move, there is no place in Munster that we can go and have what we have built up. At our age we should be in our forever home and not have to worry about any of this, and that is where we thought we were.

There are plenty of other options for you, but not for us. You can simply not put the station in here, or move it to a less populated area where you wont disrupt as many lives. This project will also effect the traffic pattern on Ridge Road and not in a good way. There are already three stop lights within a two block distance. We also do not want people parking in front of our houses.

You seem to have all the answers that suit you and the ears of the people that use this train but what about us? You are planting this beautiful bed of roses that is good for you but you are using our land and neighborhood to plant it and are fertilizing it with BS!!

Stop stringing us all along, grow up and make your decisions so we can all move forward. Think of the children that you are effecting, where they go to school, how they live, their way of life. They are what we as adults live for is our children. We moved into this area to better their lives and that is what we have done and are doing. How is it right that you can just come in and change those decisions for us?!!!

Obviously this is just a business dealing for you and you are not thinking of the damage that will be done. You better make this right with the people of this area, some how some way!! Listen to us. Please dont just go through the motions of taking our comments and brushing them under the table just so you can say you listened! Truly listen with your hearts not your pockets. Think and make decisions as if it was your back yard and life.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 5 years
realname: Kelly Sons
address1: 8420 Harrison Ave
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: sonsfamily@comcast.net
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I currently commute approx. 20 min by car to reach the existing Hammond Station, though I live 5 blocks from the proposed Ridge Rd., Munster Station, which would be more convenient. However, offering extended service into Munster/Dyer would provide all the proposed increase and would justify extending the West Corridor line further into such areas as Volpo, etc.
At the Ridge/Manor station location all parties, both business and citizen should be considered with the same values, rules and actions and none should be exempt from action.

A business should not have "rights" greater than that of a citizen. In all instances, a decision should be made on human impact before economic impact on the Town of Munster.

Under current plans, the businesses of "Aurelio's Pizza", "Kentucky Fried Chicken", and "Speedway" gas station are to remain in place, while a parking area is created by the removal of single family homes further South of the proposed station extending to Briar Lane.

Considering that the actual land use of these properties is essentially already parking it seems to make sense that the business removal and continued use of the land for parking is obvious.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 19 years
realname: Robert Stickley
address1: 8101 Frederick Ave
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219 836-2391
email: Robert.stickley@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017 6:11 AM
questions_comments: I encourage NICTD to NOT use the existing green space located on Manor Drive, North of Ridge Road for overflow parking for this project.
The homes that were formerly located on this now vacant lot were condemned by the town of Munster so that this area could be used as a "park". The town's original complaint against these homes and the reason for their condemnation and owner's removal through eminent domain was that these houses were in poor repair. In truth, these homes were low income housing that the Town of Munster considered an eyesore.
As time has passed, it becomes clear that the transparent reason that these homes were condemned and their low income owners and tenants were removed is that the Town of Munster had already planned on the Ridge/Manor parking area for South Shore Expansion. This land should be used for the stated purpose that it was condemned and seized for. Please allow this land to be used as a Park as it was intended and NOT a parking lot.
Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 19 years
realname: Robert Stickley
address1: 8101 Frederick Ave
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219 836-2391
email: Robert.stickley@gmail.com
Name: Lou Stricher
Address: 1616 Talip Ln
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip Code: 46324
E-Mail: loustricher@gmail.com
Phone Number: 219-923-6149

I would like to stay connected with One Region Initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

Build it and we will ride!

Can't wait for the realization of this project.

Aug. 5, 2022 is not soon enough.
Hello.

My name is James Swetlik and I live at 225 Evergreen Lane in Munster Indiana, I have just heard about this rail expansion plan - I do not read the local papers and there are no local tv stations that I receive that would have informed me about this terrible plan that is in the works. I feel you have done the bare minimum to inform people about this plan. I have talked to my neighbors and they also have had no idea nothing like this was going on.

I have lived in Munster for 20 years and have raised two children here. My wife and I moved here from Hegewisch and know first hand that living by the commuter rail system brings traffic congestion, and lowers property values due to people selling there houses because they don't like the change. These properties are bought up by others to become rental properties.

I have seen this before when the Chicago airport was to be built in Hegewisch everybody was in limbo not making any improvements to there homes due the fact they might be torn down to make room for the airport. I see this happening in Munster and Hammond.

I'm against this rail expansion into my town and will rally my neighbors to attend your meetings and contact elected officials to voice our concerns.

James Swetlik
225 Evergreen Lane
Munster, IN. 46321
js5111@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 12/27/2016 11:11 AM

questions_comments: What type of barrier will be built between the overflow parking lot on Manor north of Ridge and the duplexes on the east side of Highland Place? Will these duplexes be obtained by the project for removal?
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 32 years
realname: Kathleen Szala
address1: 8147 Highland Place
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198365354
email: kszala@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017 8:38 AM

questions/comments: Will homeowners along the rail line and parking lots have any support if they are not able to sell their homes at the pre-train values?

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 36 years
realname: Kathleen Szala
address1: 8147 Highland Place
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2198365354
email: kszala@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017 9:14 AM

questions_comments: I LIVE IN DYER INDIANA IN THE MEADOWS SUB-DIVISION. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE NEW SHORE STATION MIGHT BE CONNECTED TO MY SUB-DIVISION. I STRONGLY OBJECT TO THIS PLAN. IT WILL CREATE TOO MUCH TRAFFIC IN OUR SUB-DIVISION, MAKING IT VERY UNSAFE, ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 14 YEARS
realname: JAMES SZCZUCKI
address1: 809 SUNFLOWER LN.
address2:
city: DYER
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-865-4927
email: RVRCABN@ATT.NET
Dyer is unique in the fact that it has not succumbed to franchises and responsible growth. The neighborhoods are already affected by speculators hoping to cash in on housing for those using the South Shore. My concerns are surrounding the residents and the Town of Dyer. Who will insure homeowners will not lose money on selling their homes? Who will support the maintenance of the roads surrounding the town? More transportation issues will change Dyer in general. Bicycle paths must be installed in a 5 mile radius of the station. Who is going to fund this? The cleaning facility must be built and maintained by the South Shore and be up to the standards of the Town of Dyer. Schools are directly affected by the changing demographics of the children. Has anyone included the Lake Central School Corporation Superintendent? I appreciate all of the meetings and appropriate opportunities for responses.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 65 years
realname: Mary Tanis
address1: 2610 Lakewood Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219.308.3515
email: mtanis5229@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017 1:34 PM
questions_comments: Dyer is unique in the fact that it has not succumbed to franchises and responsible growth. The neighborhoods are already affected by speculators hoping to cash in on housing for those using the South Shore. My concerns are surrounding the residents and the Town of Dyer. Who will insure homeowners will not lose money on selling their homes? Who will support the maintenance of the roads surrounding the town? More transportation issues will change Dyer in general. Bicycle paths must be installed in a 5 mile radius of the station. Who is going to fund this? The cleaning facility must be built and maintained by the South Shore and be up to the standards of the Town of Dyer. Schools are directly affected by the changing demographics of the children. Has anyone included the Lake Central School Corporation Superintendent? I appreciate all of the meetings and appropriate opportunities for responses.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 65 years
realname: Mary Tanis
address1: 2610 Lakewood Drive
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219.308.3515
email: mtanis5229@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/28/2017 4:04 PM
questions_comments: Will storm runoff analysis be part of the environmental impact study to determine the potential of flooding within the project area? Will there be separation between the station and The Meadows Subdivision by burms or fencing? We do not want any connection of streets from The Meadows subdivision to the station or parking area. Plan 2 seems to be the best option for the Dyer residents with some tweaking.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 13 1/2 years
realname: Jim & Cindy Tarin
address1: 507 Rose Bush Lane
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 
email: cindy.allande@aon.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 5:17 AM

questions_comments: Nov 2016 at the Kenwood School meeting in Hammond we were told there would be a follow up meeting in January. There were meetings but none in south Hammond. I did receive a post card stating there were going to be Public Hearings on 1/17 in Dyer, 1/18 Irving - north Hammond and 1/19 in Munster. According to the dictionary a public hearing is an opportunity to speak. I attended the Munster hearing on 1/19 and it was not a hearing, it was an open house. People were outraged. There was not enough parking; many people had to park illegally along the side of the entrance road.

I oppose the South Hammond station. I feel it is not necessary. There is one in North Hammond, another in East Chicago which is not far and with the one in Munster which would be approximately 1.5 miles away. It is over kill. I do not want the extra traffic in my neighborhood.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 41 years
realname: Connie Taylor
address1: 6624 Jackson Ave
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone: 
email: Connietaylor2013@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 12/19/2016 6:42 PM
questions_comments: I totally disagree with this project. We were told 18 years ago that phase three in the West Lakes subdivision in Munster would be upscale residential. Now it will be a train station, train repair facility and parking lot. I do not believe this will be good for Munster or our property values.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 18 years
realname: Paul Taylor
address1: 9900 New Devon
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: ptaylor9900@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 10:48 PM

questions_comments: I am not in favor of this proposal, there are families and many retired seniors that live in these homes, of which I am one of those seniors. We have a friendly quiet neighborhood, bring this project in would increase our taxes, raise crime, increase traffic issues, there are young children that live and play in our neighborhood and would restrict them from playing on our sidewalks, further risking their and our safety, family have many outside activities ie. bike riding, walking the family dogs, walking to a neighborhood park. This project would remove those activities, So I vote "NO!"

Sincerely,
Rondalyn Taylor-Brown
800 Blue Jay Way
Dyer, IN. 46311
Renter: yes
length_of_time: 8 years
realname: Rondalyn Taylor-Brown
address1: 800 Blue Jay Way
address2: 
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-669-7392
email: rondalyn1023@live.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 10:32 AM
questions_comments: I am a resident in the West Lakes subdivision in Munster, IN. I have three small children who enjoy the neighborhood with their friends. My family oppose the option of connecting Margo Lane to the parking lot of the proposed West Lake Corridor Project as this will significantly affect the safety of our families in West Lakes.
We already see an increase in traffic from vehicles looking for a "short cut" when there is a train on 45th or an event at the church on 45th and Margo. We also know that vehicles do not abide by the 25 mph speed limit in the neighborhood.
If Margo is connected to the parking lot, our neighborhood will be exposed to speeding vehicles trying to catch the train. Also, crime in our neighborhood is low, and I believe exposing our homes and families to added traffic may lead to more crime. Utilizing an existing public street (i.e. - Sheffield) on the east side of the tracks makes more sense to me as the subdivisions on the east side are gated from the busy street.
Please listen to these concerns as you move forward with the project. Thanks.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 8 years
realname: Jeff Tioco
address1: 232 Westminster Place
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: jtioco23@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/05/2017 1:22 PM
questions_comments: I just attended the Lake County on Track breakfast informational meeting at the Wicker Park Social Center. I was very pleased and impressed by the presentations of Tom, Mike and the woman whose name I can't remember. I believe that this project is vital for the future of Northwest Indiana. I support it wholeheartedly!
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Fred Triezenberg
address1: 2459 E lakeshore Dr
address2:
city: Crown Point
state: IN
zip_code: 46307
phone: 2197936308
email: fredtriezenberg@hotmail.com
Name: Kelly Turner
Address: 208 Mayfair Way
City: Munster
State: IN
Zip Code: 46321
E-Mail: Kelly.4177@hotmail.com
Phone Number: 708-421-5150

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

Very supportive of train project, however very opposed to having Marso Lane opened at South end. As a resident of West Lake Subdivision, I feel this would be a safety issue and create a thoroughfare for traffic.

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 7:25 AM

questions_comments: I feel this project is WRONG. Bringing the train to our community is going to ruin our town and homes. Noise pollution and excess traffic. Our town is already is noisy with train horns and airplanes and helicopters. I thought Munster was working on making our community better. The 45th street project was going to ease congestion. What a joke! If this train comes into our town traffic is going to get worse. I thought Munster had an image to uphold. This project is a DIRTY shame. The area is going to go to the dogs. OH, that's right...I'm sure none of Munsters officials live near the train tracks. Trains bring nothing but filth and noise. Who wants to live by a Project that will have horns, vibrations, and noise from a layover yard right by their house. SHAME ON YOU FOR RUINING OUR COMMUNITY!!! Munster used to be the place to live for schools and the wonderful community. NOT any more. Schools are going to POT and the community is following in it's footsteps.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 12 yrs
realname: Candy
address1: 108 Leicester Road
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: clb1074@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 02/04/2017 12:14 PM
questions_comments: It is harder for people south of route thirty to get to a train station. It would actually make a lot of sense to bring the train further south so commuters don't have to drive, that's the whole point. Hammond already has a station and east chicago, so munster, griffith and highland don't have far to go already. Now the person making the decision not to come to st john/lowell is not thinking that decision through. All the new construction is taking place SOUTH of route thirty. Your missing the train not extending the train. I've been taking trains to the city for twenty years from all the various stations. Choosing to go to dyer is doing the project half ass.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 20 years.
realname: Chad
address1: 8971 parkside lane
address2: 
city: St john
state: IN
zip_code: 46373
phone: 
email: Chadbluett123@gmail.com
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Wed 01/11/2017
From: 219-484-9742
Dave: I have a home at the 200 Block of Hanover Street in Hammond. I heard that you are already approaching people discussing acquisitions. I would like someone to follow-up with me regarding process and whether my property is one to be acquired. My number is 219-484-9742.
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Sun 01/29/2017
Frances 533 Seminary Dr Apt #4
Opposed, Please put relay station east of tracks not through our subdivision.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 4:09 PM

questions_comments: I support the NICTD WLC project. I think it will increase property values and bring jobs to the region. It's likely those opposed will scream the loudest their unhappiness about the project but please don't let that put an end to the project.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 20 yrs
realname: Heather
address1: 10147 Devonshire Ln
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-924-2539
e-mail: Heathlev@comcast.neg
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/16/2017 2:32 PM
questions_comments: Please do not do this to this community....they don't deserve this length_of_time:
realname: Jacob
address1: 5425 s latrobe
address2:
city: Chicago
state: IL
zip_code: 60638
phone:
email: Pimpdolamite@aol.com
I have a few things to say about the train coming through in Munster. I am very upset about this train coming through my back yard. I moved here a few years ago to get away from a train and I came here thinking I would be able to stay in this house and stay in a school but now you want to put a parking lot in my backyard and I won't be able to build my childhood in a place, I also won't be able to go outside in my backyard and have private backyard where I can play and swim but now I would have people looking in my window in my room every night and looking in my backyard, and I also do not want all the lights the car doors the horns etc. Not even will it change all that I will have to go to a new school after I just moved into this school thinking I would be able to stay and make friendships. So please consider this and how many family's life's you would be changing, we do matter.

Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 5 years
realname: Katelyn
address1: 8420 Harrison Ave.
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: Ksons123@comcast.net
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017
No number
Michelle
524 Seminary Dr
I am opposed to connecting our subdivision to this project because of the danger to young children and the elderly. I feel their safety will be seriously compromised.
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 7:55 AM
Is there any online source for all this project information like drawings, Etc?
Paul
kaczocha_moss@comcast.net
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Fri 01/13/2017
Rick Unknown
Rick: I have a question regarding this project and the roundabouts which have taken three years, would like someone to get back with me. 219-931-5277
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 4:20 PM
questions_comments: I am absolutely opposed to Margo Lane being opened up as a through street. This poses an incredible danger for our families and children as speedy is an issue already. We are not in favor of this and only support the train if Margo Lane doesn't open up.
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Samantha
address1: 9809 Margo Lane
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: Samantha_amezcua@yahoo.com
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017
No name/no number
In support of project but there were too many cars parked and they could not get any additional information.
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Tue 01/03/2017
No name/no number
I do not like placing this project through a residential district, which will displace residents, why not place it in a commercial district?
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Wed 01/04/2017
No name/no number
Hello, I am looking for the website, I saw an article by Andrew Steele which said that the Westside alternative was already selected. I understood that no decision had been made. If this is the case and you have already selected where this will go, I am extremely distressed. This seems like the most expensive option. I wish there was more information. Has a decision been made?
Direct Email Submission
Unknown Contact

The travel time from Hammond to Chicago is 44 minutes – yet you claim with this project the travel time from Dyer will be 47 minutes. So travel time from Dyer to Munster will be 3 minutes? How is that possible?
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 01/11/2017 5:19 AM
questions_comments: How do you big shots feel about getting left out in the cold when Chicago gets a billion dollar gift for their commuter upgrade?
length_of_time:
realname: Nunya Biznis
address1: 524 manor dr.
address2:
city: highland
state: IN
zip_code: 46322
phone:
email: dontrump@aol.com

NOTE: This is obviously a bogus email address. The email address was not added to the list.
Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City ____________________________ State ______ Zip Code ______

E-Mail ____________________________

Phone Number ____________________________

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

$600 million Fed/State Investment

5,000 New Jobs

2,700 Temp Construction Jobs

Clark Rd - X

New Hub in Millay

Prevailing Wage for Construction
We need the West Lakes expansion! It will bring economic development to downtown Hammond and the region in general. I would like to see adequate bicycle lane access to all stations. My one question is will it be a single track down to dyers? There is minimal space from Ridge to Fishers in Munster and was wondering if any horses will be affected. Thank you for the presentation and transparency.
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

Name

Address

City ___________________________ State ______ Zip Code

E-Mail __________________________

Phone Number ____________________

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

You've done your homework
Great project
Go for it!

One REGION
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017
No name/no number
Munster Resident: I am against this project. I work evenings and since all the school meetings are in the evening, I cannot attend. My comment is, off Ridge Road at Manning would be a poor location choice. I hope I will be getting more information.
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017
No name/no number
Opposed to 9 mile rail expansion.
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/26/2017
No name/no number
I am opposed to this project because Chicago has the highest crime rate for any city in the country and this will further connect us to the city which we moved from. Do not connect the Meadows Subdivision
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Fri 01/27/2017
No name/no number
Dyer resident approves all extensions to parking lots, road ways, etc., and thinks this project is a great idea.
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017
Opposed, Seminary should not be a straight through street that connects the rail station, it should be fenced off.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 12:46 PM
questions_comments: The train will run both ways which in turn will bring all the gang bangers selling their drugs along with thugs and murderers from the hell hole, murder capital of the world, known as Chicago. There are only few small groups of people this will benefit, Dyer residents that work in Chicago, which is a small percentage of Dyer residents and the rich businessmen that will own shops by the train station and the politicians which will get kickbacks from them.

600 million dollars estimated - are you kidding me- more like a billion dollars with all of the over runs that will happen like any other big project. Fix our crumbling roads with this money!
We all moved here to get away from this scourge, scum. Stop this insanity before this beautiful area turns into another infestation of unwanted's

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: not a resident - just a concerned NWI resident
realname: I don't wish to receive updates
address1: I don't wish to receive updates
address2: 
city: I don't wish to receive updates
state: IN
zip_code: 46385
phone: 
email: I don't wish to receive updates@yahoo.com
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017
Resident of the Meadows subdivision who lives on Sunflower
Opposed to train station connecting to Seminary St.
I feel this project is very much needed in Northwest Indiana. It is the very best fix to bring more growth to the area.
Direct Email Submission
Unknown

This case is strong and clear. We must do this if the region is to have a positive future! Great leadership and vision.
This project is awesome. Keep up the good work. Regional Transit is the bomb!
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 2:40 PM
questions_comments: The South Shore line already terminates at Millennium Station, Chicago, IL. I would like to see a diesel line from Dyer, IN to Union Station, Chicago. It would provide potential riders different accesses points in Chicago. Not everyone works or visits the east Loop. This may eliminate people driving to Chicago and increase ridership.
Homeowner: yes
Business_Owner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 20 yrs
realname: Joseph J Uzubell
address1: 327 Salisbury Dr
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 2199340776
email: uzubell@comcast.net
Both the West Lake Extension and the Northwest Indiana double tracking projects are critical for the future of NWI. And, it's not just millennials that want better transit and walkability. We all want better access and mobility. You need to spend some time thinking about how to gain support for the 30-60 group (primary tax payers). Great work – keep it going!
Name: Liz & Chris Valavanis
Address: 1447 Oak Park Dr.
City: Munster, IN
State: Zip Code: 46321
E-Mail: Vera24@atl.com
Phone Number: 

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:
About time... In support of... Good luck!
Putting NWI on the map!
Name: Isaac Van Buren

Address

City: ___________________________ State: ________ Zip Code: ________

E-Mail: ___________________________

Phone Number: ____________________

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

I like the idea.

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017
John VanCocker
Opposed to train station connecting Seminary Drive to any part of train facility.
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017
Jeff Van Hecht
219-308-4507
Unable to make meeting at school but I am opposed to any cuts on Seminary Dr and no traffic thru subdivision. He has contacted his congressman and mayor. In favor of project but not subdivision traffic flow.
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 8:19 AM  
questions_comments: To whom it may concern: I was unable to attend the meeting this week at Prottsman elementary regarding this project, but I am deeply concerned about any curb cuts tying Seminary Drive into the parking lot. I live at 508 Seminary drive immediately located to the south of where the proposed parking facility will be and I will tell you that the volume of traffic traveling at high rates of speed through our sub-division putting our children and our community as a whole at risk not to mention the logistical nightmare this would cause for those of us living here just to enter and leave our homes is UNACCEPTABLE! I have always been in favor of this project as my Wife works in downtown Chicago and has to drive to the Hammond station daily, but as I mentioned in my public comments a couple of years ago this project MUST be done responsibly and with respect to the communities it will impact! I will assure you that the residents of the Meadow's sub-division of Dyer will fight any traffic flow through our area as we have fought the Main Street Extension many times in the past and have been successful in stopping it until this point. I find it disgraceful that the Dyer Town Council and our newly appointed Town Manager Mr. DeGuilio have not stepped in on behalf of the residents and have chosen to remain silent on something that would have such a detrimental impact to our community and our property values!

Regards,  
Jeff Van Hecke  
508 Seminary Drive  
Dyer, IN 46311  
Homeowner: yes  
length_of_time: 16 years  
realname: Jeff Van Hecke  
address1: 508 Seminary Drive  
address2:  
city: Dyer  
state: IN  
zip_code: 46311  
phone:  
email: jffvnhck@aol.com  

NOTE: This person submitted the same comment via the online form three times in the span of two minutes; only one reference included above. He also submitted the same comment to project.email@nictwestlake.com, also not listed above.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 4:42 PM

questions_comments: I am a resident of the meadows subdivision in dyer Indiana. I oppose any option for the Munster/dyed train station that would connect seminary drive to the train parking lots or any other train facilities

Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: John van kalker
address1: 217 eagle court
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: Djvk123@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 10:41 AM
questions_comments: I hope thought has been given to the infrasture that needs to be updated to supply the West Lake concept. For example is Main Street going to be widened to five lanes to Interstate 65 and Interstate 394 to provide access to the West Lake Corridor Project?
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 36 years
realname: JOHN VAN TIL
address1: 14219 SHERMAN ST.
address2:
city: CEDAR LAKE
state: IN
zip_code: 46303
phone: 2194052587
email: johnartvantil@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Andy Van Waardenburg
5247 Fail Roard
LaPorte, IN 46350

This is an amazing project that is long overdue!
Comment ID No. 00371

One REGION
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

COMMENTS CARD

Name: Natalie Vander Woude
Address: 12718 Hess St
City: Cedar Lake
E-Mail: nvander@pnc.edu
Phone Number: 219.308.0668

State: IN Zip Code: 46303

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE'S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Great idea!

One REGION
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

www.facebook.com/oneregionnwi
Name: Sara Vander Vorst
Address: 12118 Hess Street
City: Cedar Lake
E-Mail: vandervo@pnw.edu

I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CONNECTED WITH ONE REGION INITIATIVES THROUGH EMAIL AND/OR MAIL.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SOUTH SHORE LINE’S WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT:

Exciting! More convenient for those who live in the Southern region area!
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/05/2017 6:09 PM
questions_comments: What about all the increased traffic on Ridge Road a station will bring and also when the train stops and blocks traffic on Ridge Road.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 43 yrs
realname: GARRETT VANDERHOEK
address1: 9207 HAWTHORNE AVE.
address2:
city: MUNSTER
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: sandyv5798@att.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 01/19/2017 1:07 PM

questions_comments: I support the extension of the train. However, as a resident of West Lakes subdivision in Munster, I cannot be supportive of an alternative that includes Margo Lane. As a mother of young children and as a concerned resident, I am troubled with the current traffic patterns on Margo Lane. Motorists consistently blaze down Margo Lane, creating an unsafe environment for pedestrians and particularly children. Including Margo Lane as an entry to a parking lot would further add to the problem we face rather than resolve or improve the current condition.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 4.5 years
realname: Maria Venetis
address1: 307 Salisbury Drive
address2:
city: Munster Indiana
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 6094818517
email: mkvenetis@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 9:49 PM
questions_comments: I am supportive of the train, but I do NOT support connecting Margo Avenue to the train parking lot.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 4.5 years
realname: Peter Venetis
address1: 307 Salisbury Drive
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 6094818516
email: pvenetis@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/10/2017 5:10 PM
questions_comments: I am against this project, it will disrupt a Nice quiet neighborhood, not to mention the traffic, pollution, noise and transit people it will bring. As one person stated at the last meeting, why not put the staging area and the train station in munster industrial park where there is plenty of room, full of all businesses not homes and family's with children. Don't disrupt what is good when there are empty areas for these types of projects! I speak the truth.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Wendy Verwey
address1: 551 seminary dr
address2: Dyer
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone:
email: Verwey14@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Fri 01/27/2017 9:31 AM  
questions comments: the area you want to use in dyer behind seminary drive is not large enough to support your ideas... you want to literally build in our backyards which will promote air pollution, noise pollution unwanted people in our neighborhood ..not to mention the roads around this area cannot support the traffic it will bring.. I find this idea to be ridiculous.. when there are surrounding areas that can best fit this project.. like the industrial park in munster, which is literally 11/2 miles north  
Homeowner: yes  
Business_Owner: yes  
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes  
Email_Notifications: yes  
length_of_time: 17 years  
realname: wendy verwey  
address1: 551 seminary drive  
address2:  
city: dyer  
state: IN  
zip_code: 46311  
phone:  
email: verwey14@sbcglobal.net
Name: Jacob Regn
Address: 436 176th
City: Hammond
State: IN Zip Code: 46324
E-Mail: Jivlee29@gmail.com
Phone Number: (219) 895-2259

☑️ I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

- For shuttle buses to and from Purdue Cal
- What is the impact on cost for students
- With the new line
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdwestlake.com
Date Received: Fri 01/20/2017 9:17 AM
This project (the Munster Station) specifically will create a very negative impact on an ALREADY OVERLY CONGESTED AREA and I for one don't want to pay for this.
Dawn Voss
dawn871@gmail.com
Phone Message Received
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017
John Wagner
Opposed, We do want a rail line, we do not need a rail line and it would only eat up valuable land.
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/07/2017 4:40 PM
questions/comments: What about 440 south street home? Are you taking our home? My little girl is scared she is losing her home, and especially her school.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 3 years
realname: Noran Warot
address1: 440 south street
address2:
city: munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 219-801-9272
email: gozilla5@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Candee Warren
1730 W. 3rd Street
Hobart, IN 46342

It is important that NWI develop public transportation using the West lake corridor for trains as the beginning. Our region not grow, attract new residents or become a desirable area for future generations without this project and many more like it.
Name: Elizabeth Watkins
Address: 1402 Winter Park Dr
City: Valparaiso
State: IN
Zip Code: 46385
E-Mail: ewatkins@pmw.edu
Phone Number: 219-264-3278

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

This sounds so good for the students!
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/27/2017 10:22 AM
questions_comments: you should have created a google earth overlay of the project not what you have at present to give a better look at thing as they are or will be
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
length_of_time:
realname: christopher weller
address1: 7218 w 126th ave
address2:
city: crown point
state: IN
zip_code: 46307
phone:
email: chris_maria@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 8:55 AM
questions_comments: We are not in favor of using Seminary Street as a main path to the subdivision. Alternative main roads must be used rather than a quite neighborhood, that is not a commercial area at all. The main path should be using main roads that are used for main travel to reach a main transportation hub.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 40+ years
realname: Karen Wells
address1: 817 Sunflower Lane
address2:
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-670-6289
email: kjcolorne1@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission  
Date Received: Sat 02/04/2017 12:05 AM  
questions_comments: Do not want train. Concerned about more traffic, safety in the neighborhoods that it affects, more train crossings even they are quick they still occur and block traffic. Not to mention all the new traffic we'll have in Munster from this. Do not want retail and condos either as part of this development.  
Homeowner: yes  
length_of_time:  
realname: JOE Westminster  
address1:  
address2: MUNSTER  
city: INDIANA  
state: State  
zip_code: 46321  
phone:  
email: joe12129@aol.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/21/2017 10:34 AM

questions comments: As a West Lakes resident I am very concerned about options 3 and 4 of the proposed Main Street station where parking west of the tracks. In those options Margo Lane in Munster and Seminary Dr in Dyer are shown feeding the main parking lot. What is to prevent those roadways from becoming busy thoroughfares of cars coming to and leaving the station? I believe the increased traffic will severely jeopardize the safety and tranquility of the West Lakes subdivision.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 13 years
realname: David White
address1: 10084 Margo Lane
address2:
city: Munster
state: State
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: dwhite78@comcast.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/09/2017 4:44 PM
questions_comments: I can appreciate the convenience of commuting from Northwest Indiana to Downtown Chicago, especially on the south end of NWI. I would not like to see that convenience effect my residency, which I established nearly two decades ago. This would mean uprooting my family - our entire neighborhood of families - in order to increase travel, which I already established in Hammond, Hegwisch, and Gary. In addition, there are other means of travel from our south end to downtown, which include coach buses. There should be another way that would not involve tearing down what has so recently (compared to other means of travel to downtown) been established.

Homeowner: yes
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: 19 years
realname: Davita White
address1: 916 Robin Court
address2:  
city: Dyer
state: IN
zip_code: 46311
phone: 219-680-7849
e-mail: Davita.White@Yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 7:18 AM
questions_comments: As a former resident of Chicago, I am very supportive of this project to better connect Munster residents and families to the city. It will also make Munster a more attractive place to live with this available transport to downtown.
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 3.5 years
realname: Claire Will
address1: 1823 cherrywood Ln
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: Claire_jennings@hotmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/28/2017 3:35 PM
questions_comments: The extension is not welcomed. It will bring more people and traffic into our quiet neighborhood. No longer will you be able to sit in your yard and listen to quiet. More noise from more cars traffic and people is not desirable attribute to my home. I live on the corner and looking out my window at the train is a negative feature. I am considering leaving the area.
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 11 years
name: Beverly Williams
address1: 268 humpfer st
address2: 
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone: 
email: Bwms57@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Sat 01/14/2017 5:38 AM

questions_comments: I think that the NICTD should do this expansion. I believe that this South Shore train extension would better serve the people of NW Indiana. Less people would have to drive less miles to reach the stations to commute to Chicago via rail, people who live in towns like Highland, Munster, Dyer and Griffith in Indiana. I hope that in future years that this extension project will be realized.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 10 years.
realname: Keith Williams
address1: 7616 Howard Ave.
address2:
city: Hammond
state: IN
zip_code: 46324
phone: 2195549750
email: dollarsmakesense11@gmail.com
Name: Salena Williams
Address: 851 W 52nd Drive B-40, not 40
City: Merrillville
State: IN
City: Merrillville
State: IN
Zip Code: 46410
E-Mail: salena.a.williams@gmail.com
Phone Number: 219-718-9736

I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email, and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

I have been commuting on South Shore for over 5 years. I work in Downtown Chicago. Every winter with inclement weather delays...Delays...If an incident occurs, commuters are out of transportation. I have many comments and concerns. Thank you.

PS: East Chicago is only a stop that I trust. I am looking forward to new additions.

www.facebook.com/oneregioninwi
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Thu 02/02/2017 3:42 PM
questions_comments: Living on Margo Lane, I have major concerns for the safety of our children who play outside. The church traffic already presents an issue and concern for safety when people speed through and realize it is a dead end and speed back through. I support the train but do not support exposing my children and the children of others to more potential danger of people who do not live in our subdivision speeding through or potentially with other agendas. Having another entrance/exit gives more opportunity for escape as well. Please consider the safety of our children and do not open Margo.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 8 years
realname: Chantel Willis
address1: 10100 Margo Lane
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: Chantelwillis@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Mon 01/30/2017 1:28 PM
questions_comments: I live in Munster near the border of Indiana and Illinois. I take the train to work in Chicago everyday. I do not see the point in destroying neighborhoods and decreasing the value of our homes by putting in a train line. No person wants their home to be near a train. It is load, it brings more traffic and is a nuisance. If I can drive the 5 mins to the Hammond station every day I don't see why every other munster/Dyer resident can't do that same. Furthermore, as an NICTD rider for the past 6+ years I can tell you they have enough problems with delays and trains not arriving on time (whether that is a result of Metra is irrelevant) so adding additional trains to that mess is not going to make anything any easier.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: a NWI resident my entire life
realname: Julie Wilson
address1: 8422 Forest Ave.
address2:
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone:
email: julie.k.wilson17@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission
Nina Wiseman
221 173rd Street
Hammond, IN 46324

When will you notify the residents impacted? I support the rail line. I live in the area most impacted and I think it’s best the thing. I don’t like to drive in Chicago, now I can walk to the train to Chicago.
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 11:05 AM

questions_comments: If there is a connection in Dyer, could Amtrak use the new line to get into Chicago? (Ignore the Chicago station connection issue for now, the Grand Crossing Project would fix that) Perhaps Amtrak could help fund or assist with the line.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: John Wotkun
address1:
address2:
city: Griffith
state: State
zip_code: 46319
phone:
email: jpwotk@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission

Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 11:05 AM

questions_comments Is this NICTD project coordinating with NIRPC on the plan to extend Main Street west into Illinois?
Homeowner: yes

length_of_time:
realname: John Wotkun

address1: 
address2: 
city: Griffith
state: State
zip_code: 46319
phone: 
email: jpwotk@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 11:05 AM

Questions/Comments: Will the curvature and grades of the new line prevent "standard" passenger equipment (ex. Amtrak) from operating on it?

Homeowner: yes
Length_of_time:
Realname: John Wotkun
Address1:
Address2:
City: Griffith
State: State
Zip Code: 46319
Phone:
Email: jpwotk@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 10:59 AM
questions_comments: Will there be a track connection switch in Dyer between the existing CSX track and the new NIRPC track?
Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: John Wotkun
address1:
address2:
city: Griffith
state: State
zip_code: 46319
phone:
email: jpwotk@sbcglobal.net
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 01/27/2017 11:36 AM

questions_comments: I support the South Shore project improvements including the West Lake Extension because of the following bullet points:

Access to Chicago Job Market
- Chicago Has the Jobs
  • Cook County Employment is 8.5 times GREATER than Lake, Porter & Laporte Co combined
  • Cook County has 20 times the Number of Jobs as Lake Co in Professional Services
  • History shows Chicago is a Job Creation Engine
- Chicago Has Much Better Wages
  • Cook County has an average +39% Wage Premium vs Lake County
- But We Have a VERY HARD TIME Getting to Them
  • Average Peak Period Travel Speed from Lake Co to Illinois is 29.5 Miles/Hour
  • Today’s workforce thinks in terms of HOW LONG and not HOW FAR. Convenient transportation to the Chicago Job Market brings high paying jobs that don’t exist in Indiana close to home.
- Property Values
  • 2013 National Association of REALTORS Study Findings
    • Consumers are willing to pay more for housing located in “walkable” neighborhoods that have:
      1. Higher Densities
      2. Varied Housing Options
      3. Mix of Uses
    • Access to Jobs and Amenities such as Transit
      • Homes located within 1/2 mile of public transit were valued 41% higher on average than those away from public transit
      • Northwest Indiana Population Change/Shift:
        • Lake County posted the biggest drop in population in the state in 2015
        • Declined by 0.5% in 2015; has declined 1.6% since 2010; and has fallen for 7 straight years
        • Porter County’s population has grown by 2% since 2010;
        • 2013-2014 IRS data shows a majority of people leaving Lake County are leaving Indiana
        • Relocating to: Phoenix, Las Vegas, Houston, Atlanta, Dallas, Orlando, Austin
        • Cook County population has shrunk for first time since 2007
        • Indiana is cited as the state most Illinois residents relocate to when they move to a neighboring state.
    • Convenient transportation to jobs in Chicago that don’t exist in Indiana, along with Indiana’s lower cost of living, encourages population growth in Lake County

Generational Trends:
- For the last 3 years, Generation Y (Millennials) have been the largest share of homebuyer’s at 35%
- As Generation Y ages, they are getting more traditional in their buying habits
- Desire more single family homes in suburban areas
- Rent costs are offering millennials an incentive to buy a home vs. renting
- Despite substantial student loan debt
- Rent costs are forcing millennials from urban to more suburban areas
- The biggest factors influencing millennials home buying preferences are:
  • Quality of neighborhood (75%)
  • Convenience to jobs (74%)
- National Association of REALTORS Commuter and Transportation Preferences Survey found:
  • Millennials use transit much more than any other generational group;
  • Millennials are more likely than other groups to place a high-priority on:
    • Providing convenient alternatives to driving,
    • Expanding public transportation, and
    • Developing communities where people don’t have to drive long distances
  • Millennials are much more likely to have used transit in the past 30 days than any other group;
  • 40% did as compared to 28% for the next highest group
  • Millennials do like driving – 71% said so – but they like it less than any other group
  • Provides for Regional Growth
- South Shore Recent Ridership Survey
  • Average Household Income of Riders is $82,400
  • 47% of Households have Annual Incomes of $75,000 or more
  • 31% have Annual Incomes exceeding $100,000
• 43% are Executives, Managers or Professionals
Expanding South Shore -> Expanding Job Opportunities =
More $ for Investing in Housing & Economic Development
- Lake County Local Option Income Tax (Economic Development Portion Alone)
• $24 million/year ($350,000 to $360,000/year for Dyer) - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
By Increasing Taxable Wages in Lake County, there is More $$$ available for Dyer -
NO MATTER WHERE THE JOBS ARE LOCATED!
Interested_Stakeholder: yes
Email_Notifications: yes
length_of_time: Lake County Citizen; Porter County Resident
realname: Joseph Wszolek
address1: 6444 Portage Avenue
address2: 
city: Portage
state: IN
zip_code: 46368
phone:
email: Joe@AppraiserJoe.com
I would like to stay connected with One Region initiatives through email and/or mail.

Public Comments on the South Shore Line's West Lake Corridor Project:

Could the Times reprint the map showing the proposed stations and rail lines. It was so light that it couldn't be read.
I have written and spoken to a variety of people about this and why it's not a good idea: Primarily because the extension is located on the border with Illinois, which ALREADY has its own public train transportation, and Indiana commuters will have a hardship to access this proposed train extension because of the great distance they will need to travel to traverse the entire county to even GET TO the train, not to mention all the congestion they will have to contend with on the way to or from the train, thus increasing commute times all around. Yet (surprise, surprise!) all the cities and towns in Lake County are expected (and bullied) to donate an ongoing yearly financial contribution for this train extension, even though their residents will have a tough time using the extension. This is all VERY unfair!

But, all the "officials" and "powers that be" are concerned about is having ILLINOIS residents move to Indiana and they are using this train as an enticement to bring these people into Indiana instead of having the train extension for what should be its intended purpose: getting Lake County residents to good paying jobs in Chicago.

However, the public's complaints have fallen on deaf ears. The officials who decide on implementing this train infrastructure expenditure have ALREADY made up their minds that they are going to do this come hell or high water. Therefore, it is hypocritical of them to ask for public input as, obviously, these men could care less about what the public wants and truly needs. So these officials are soliciting the public's comments as a ruse, to simply fulfill governmental requirements that the public's input be given before this project has gotten any further underway. Well, many of us can see right through this. And it's a shame because this only adds to corruption in government.

Thank you for listening and hearing me out on this.
Marybeth Yokovich
myokovich@gmail.com
Direct Email Submission to project.email@nictdweslake.com
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 2:08 PM
Hello,
As a concerned citizen, I have some questions regarding this project.
How will the recent recommendations submitted by the Dyer Town Council affect the current Munster/Dyer Train Station plans?
Is the Main Street extension into Illinois still a top priority of the NIRCP 2040 Plan?
How will the extension of Main Street into Illinois be affected by the Munster/Dyer Train Station project?
Is there an updated schedule for the Main Street extension project?
If possible, please respond at your convenience.
Sincerely,
William Zawada
william.zawada@att.net
219-928-3130
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Tue 01/17/2017 6:37 PM

questions_comments: Munster needs only 1 station! The station on the Munster/Dyer border. It is clear that this Town is divided on the ones that want the train and those that don't. The ones that do live on the south side of town as the majority over there work in the City. There is no need for a station off of Ridge Road when there is a station upcoming in South Hammond and the one proposed in South Munster/Dyer. Furthermore residents will be able to keep their homes by not having a Ridge Station. I am also AGAINST any "affordable" housing which means Section 8!

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time: 16 years
realname: Kerrie Zukley
address1: 7902 VanBuren Avenue
address2: 
city: Munster
state: IN
zip_code: 46321
phone: 
email: kerriezuk@gmail.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Fri 02/03/2017 10:08 AM

questions comments: It is disgusting that you are planning to displace and inconvenience residents of Dyer as a result of this plan. People moved into this community expecting a quiet, suburban environment. Building a train station in the middle of it will make this area a noise and traffic nuisance to its residents. When property values drop as a result of foreclosure, you will have no one to blame but yourselves.

Homeowner: yes
length_of_time:
realname: Kristin Zuzich
address1: 12605 Marsh Landing Pkwy
address2: 
city: Cedar Lake
state: IN
zip_code: 46303
phone:
email: KristinMZ@yahoo.com
Online Comment Form Submission
Date Received: Wed 02/01/2017 7:58 PM
questions_comments: I am totally opposed to any parking lots in Dyer that connect to Seminary Drive.
I am also opposed to any parking lots on the west side of the tracks. I am very concerned about noise
and crime in my backyard!
Homeowner: yes
Resident_Project_Corridor: yes
length_of_time: 17 years
realname: Susan J Zwier
address1: 49 BLUE JAY WAY
address2:
city: DYER
state: IN
zip_code: 463114031
phone:
email: susan.zwier@gmail.com