

WEST LAKE CORRIDOR PROJECT NICTD

Section 106 and Public Involvement

West Lake Corridor Project: The Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD), in cooperation with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), is proposing the West Lake Corridor Project (Project) in Lake County, Indiana and Cook County, Illinois. The Project would involve an approximate 9-mile southern branch extension of NICTD's existing South Shore Line (SSL) between Dyer and Hammond, Indiana. Since the Project is anticipated to use federal funds, it is considered an undertaking that is subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act: Section 106 requires the FTA and NICTD to take into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties, and allows the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), other potential consulting parties, and public to voice their concerns and share information about historic properties that may be affected. Through the Section 106 process, the FTA and NICTD will:

- Identify historic properties within an Area of Potential Effects;
- Assess potential effects on historic properties; and
- Resolve adverse effects through consultation with SHPO, other consulting parties, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, if needed.

Public involvement is a key ingredient in successful Section 106 consultation, and the views of the public will be solicited throughout the process. This is a great opportunity for individuals to share any historic information about the proposed project area.

National Register of Historic Places: The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Under Section 106, a historic property is any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in

or eligible for the NRHP. To be considered eligible, a property must meet the NRHP Criteria for Evaluation. This involves examining the property's age, integrity, and significance.

Area of Potential Effects: When evaluating Project-specific impacts, Section 106 requires defining the geographic area where proposed Project activities may have an effect on historic and archeological resources. This geographic area is known as the Area of Potential Effects (APE).



Potential Historic Buildings in Hammond, Indiana