New Carlisle Station Feasibility Study Update:

**Community Meeting** 

JANUARY 29, 2025











## Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Background
- Station Benefits
- Station Location Alternatives
- Discussion



# **Objectives**

- Discuss benefits of New Carlisle Station
- Present station options and layouts
- Gather community feedback on potential station locations



## **South Shore System**





## **Project Team**



**Bill Schalliol, Esq.**Director of Economic Development

**Terry O'Brien**Economic Development Planner



Eric Neagu, P.E., LEED AP, AICP Principal

**Molly Delaney**Planner

Mariana Madison, P.E. Senior Project Engineer



#### Michael Noland

President, South Shore Line / NICTD

#### **Nicole Barker**

Director of Capital Investment and Implementation
Double Track NWI Project Manager



#### **Timothy Whalen, P.E.**

Vice President, US West Transportation

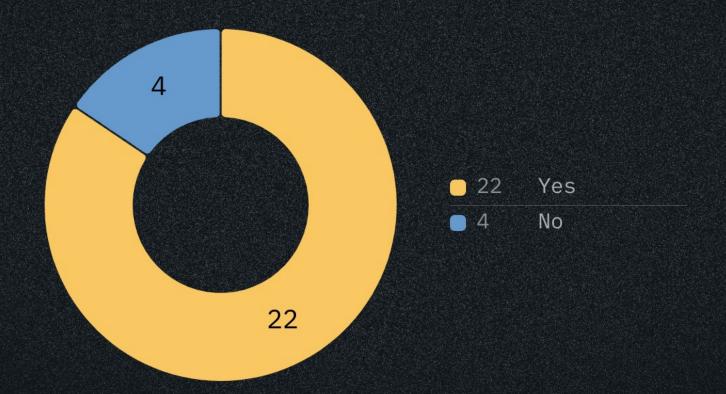
#### **Gary Foyle**

Project Manager, Transportation Planning

#### Brian Czosnyka, P.E.

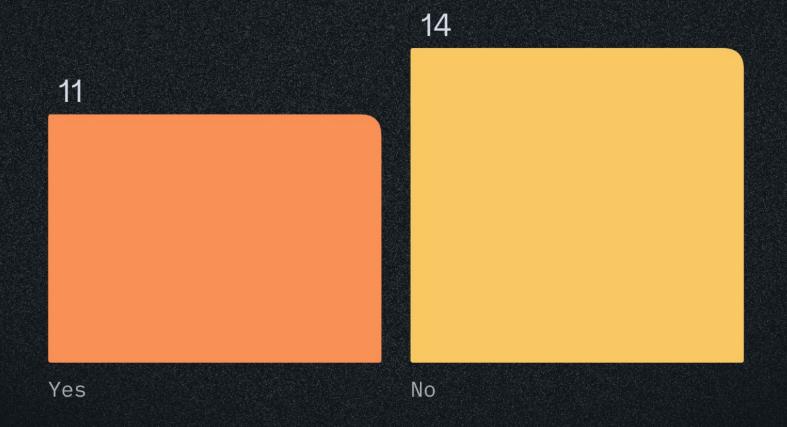
Project Manager, US West Transportation

### Do you live in New Carlisle?

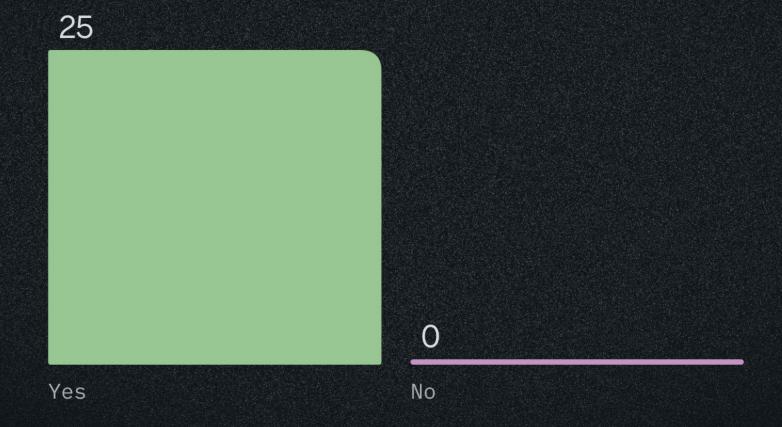




### Do you work in New Carlisle?



#### Have you ever taken the South Shore Line?



#### How frequently do you use the South Shore Line?



#### When you use the South Shore Line, which station(s) do you visit?

Note: These results are from Mentimeter only.

Paper submissions are not included in these numbers.

















Gary (either station)

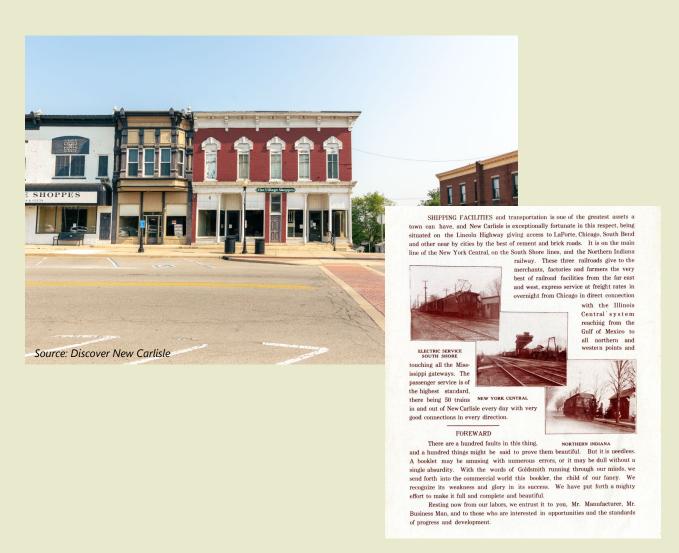


Miller





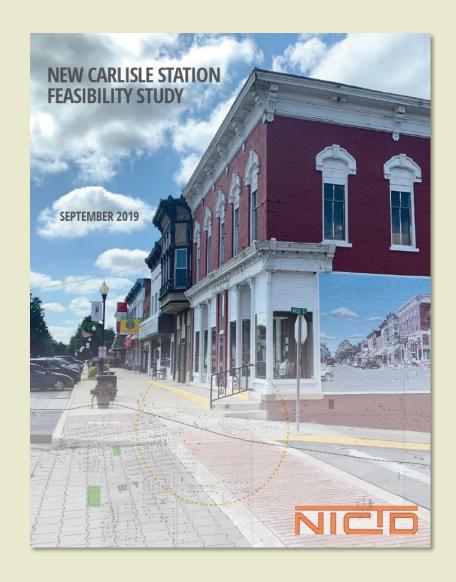
### Why New Carlisle?



- Historical presence
- Halfway point between Michigan
   City and South Bend Airport
- Populous area
- Potential to generate economic activity

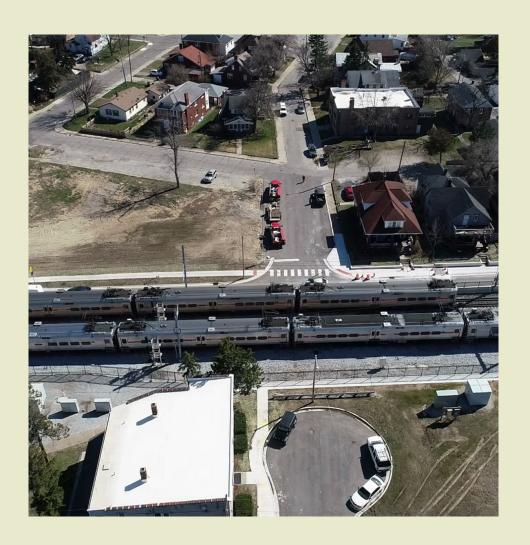
# 2019 New Carlisle Station Feasibility Study

- Initial study launched to explore feasibility of a New Carlisle station.
- Study concluded that a station in New Carlisle was feasible and would generate sufficient ridership.



## **Regional Changes**

- Indiana Enterprise Center
- Double-track completion
- Ridership changes after the COVID-19 pandemic
- South Bend Airport station relocation
- Hudson Lake challenges



# New Carlisle Station Feasibility Study Update

- Evaluate previous site recommendation as well as new alternatives
- Consider impact of new economic development in the region
- Explore last-mile connections
- Support and partnerships with the community





#### **Benefits of a New Station**

- Economic
- Traffic
- Workforce Recruitment
- Quality of Life



### **Economic**

- Attract visitors to downtown New Carlisle
- Increase property value
- Support local economy
- Development opportunities
- Return on investment



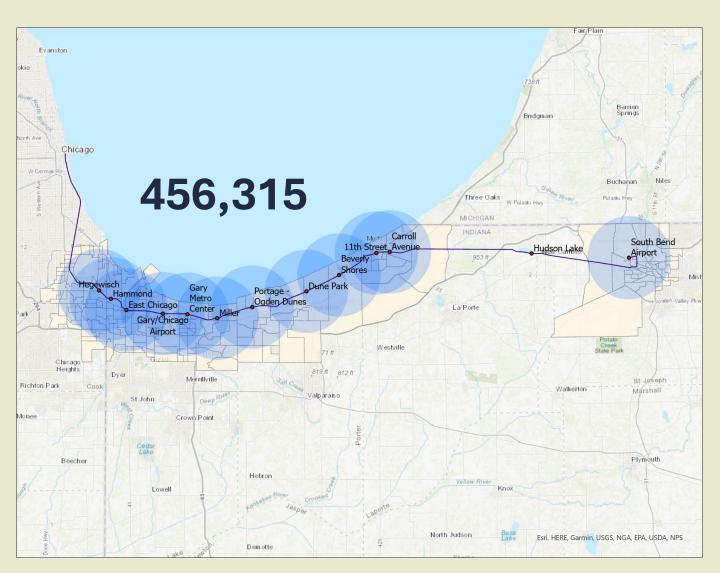
### **Traffic**

- Reduce roadway congestion
- Shorter commute times
- Reduction in single-occupancy vehicle use
- Potential safety improvements



#### **Workforce Recruitment**

- Anticipated jobs at IEC:
  - GM: 1,600 (+2,000 for construction)
  - Amazon: 1,000
- Access to greater workforce potential
- Over 400,000 people ages 18-65 within
   5 miles of a South Shore station
- Last-mile connections from train station

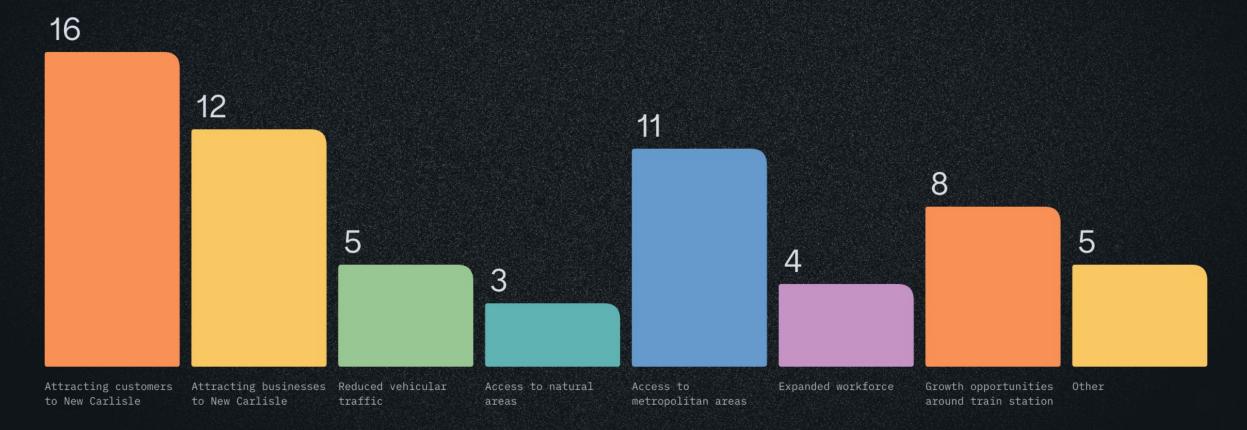


## **Quality of Life**

- Easier access to the South Shore Line
- Proximity to Chicago and South Bend Airport
- Opportunity for a "Gateway" into the Town
- Potential pedestrian tunnel connection to downtown
- Reduced vehicle emissions and improved air quality



## What do you think are the top three benefits of a new train station in New Carlisle?

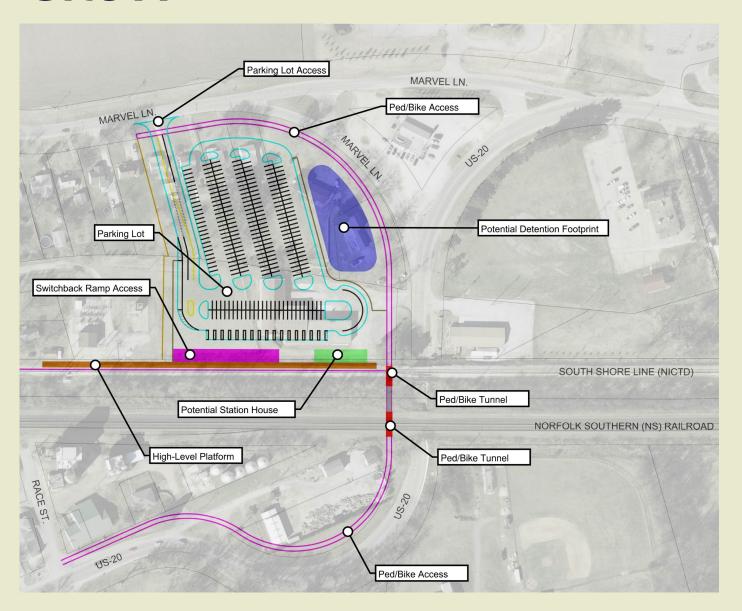




# **Station Alternatives**

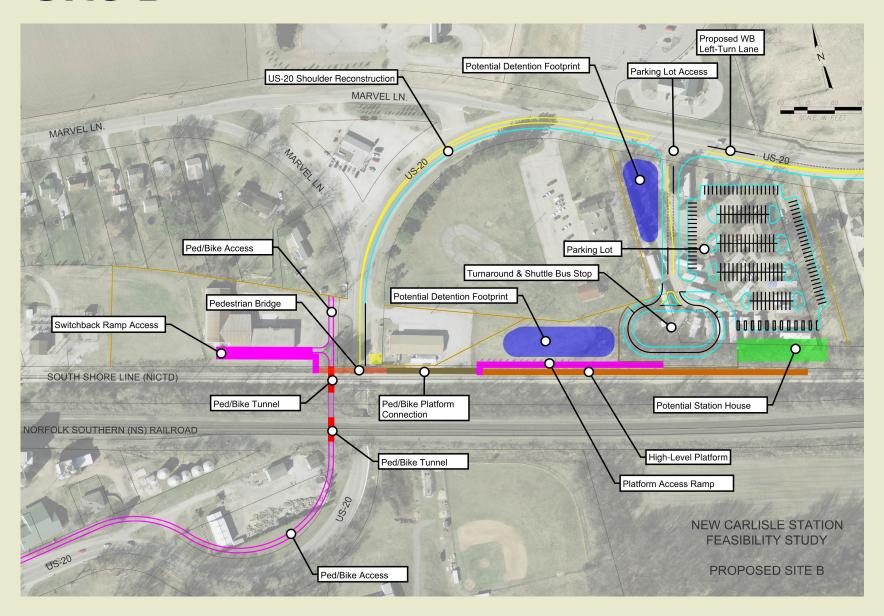


#### Site A



- Accessible from Route 20
- Assessed in 2019 study, but not selected
- Identified as potential site in 2023
   New Carlisle Comprehensive Plan
- Approx 1/3 mile from Town Hall
- Potential for pedestrian tunnel

#### Site B



- Accessible from Route 20
- Identified as the most feasible site in 2019 New Carlisle Feasibility Study
- Approx 1/3 mile from Town
   Hall
- Potential for pedestrian tunnel

#### Site C

- Site closer to IEC
- Accessible from Route 20
- Approx 1 mile from Town Hall
- Infrastructure costs would be higher



# **Station Alternatives**



# What are the three most important considerations in a new train station?



#### **Discussion**



# by SOUTH SHORE LINE

Trains from Chicago operated over the Illinois central Railroad from Randolph, van Buren, 12™, 43™, 53 ™, and 63™, street stations and Kensington



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