

Skokie Valley Trial – Old Orchard Road to Voltz Road Public Comments Summary and Analysis

Overview

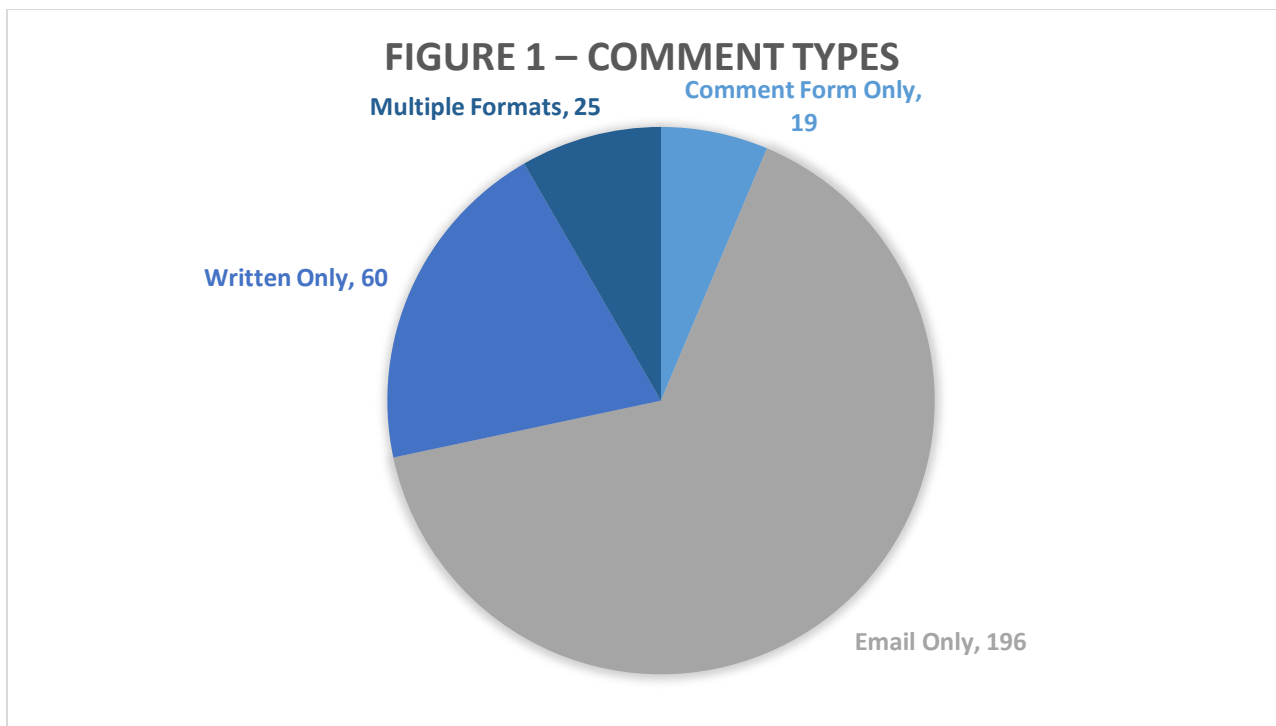
A public informational meeting was held on May 29, 2019 at Glenview Village Hall. The meeting was open to the public from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Exhibits were on display and an audio-visual presentation was continuously played. Attendees were encouraged to provide comments and speak with the design team and staff of the sponsor villages.

The meeting was advertised in the village websites and newsletters of the sponsor villages. Meeting invitations were hand delivered to properties adjacent to the project. The total number of registered attendees was 102.

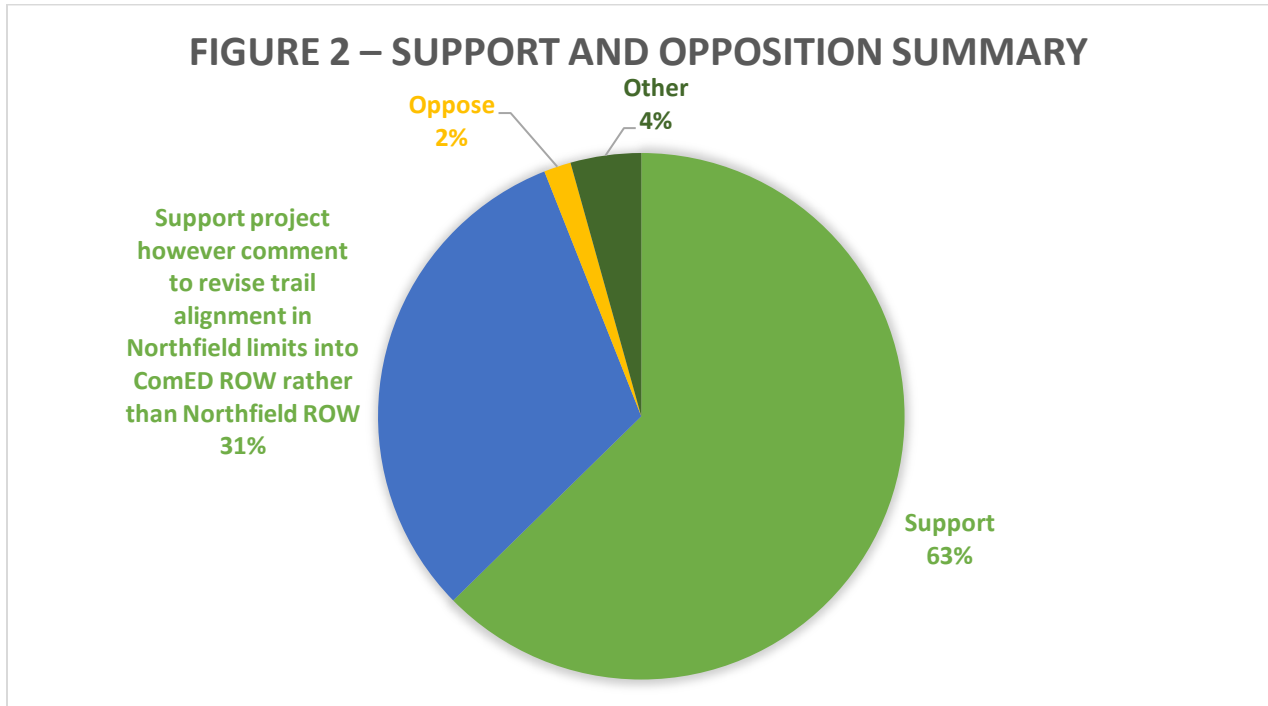
Attendees were encouraged to complete comment forms or submit comments via email. The comment period began on May 29, 2019 and was scheduled to end June 14, 2019 but was extended to July 8, 2019.

Summary of Comments Received

A total of 300 written comments were received. Comment forms were provided at the meeting and written and email comments were accepted as well. There were 25 commenters that provided comments using multiple formats. In cases of one individual providing comments in multiple formats, all formats were added to the public record, but for the comment analysis, those comments were consolidated and counted as one comment. The breakdown of the various types of comments is shown in **Figure 1 – Comment Types**.



As shown in **Figure 2 – Support and Opposition Summary**, approximately a) 63% of comments were in generally support of the project as presented; b) 31% of the comments supported the project but were in favor of the path being located on adjacent ComED property in lieu of the existing vacant right-of-way (ROW) owned by the Village of Northfield (from approximately 1200 feet north of Willow Road to the north project limit); c) 2% of the comments were generally opposed the path regardless of location; and d) 4% of the comments did not express support or opposition.



Comment Breakdown

Review of the comments revealed a correlation between the commenter’s address and their regard for the project. Comments were grouped by the municipality based on the commenter’s address. **Table 1 – Support and Opposition by Municipality** shows that many of the comments supporting the project came from communities outside of the project limits and that many of the comments regarding the use of Northfield’s existing right-of-way came from Northfield residents.

TABLE 1 – SUPPORT AND OPPOSITION BY MUNICIPALITY					
Municipality	TOTAL	Support	Prefer Use of ComEd Rather Than Northfield ROW	Oppose	Other
Glenview	17	13	0	1	3
Northfield	131	35	91	3	2
Skokie	5	5	0	0	0
Wilmette	9	9	0	0	0
Other/Unknown	138	126	3	1	8
TOTAL	300	188	94	5	13

A total of 213 comments expressed a particular concern beyond general support or opposition of the project. There were 88 (41%) comments regarding the loss of privacy and 77 (36%) were concerned about the environmental impacts of the project. These two concerns were primarily regarding the section of path proposed in Northfield's existing right-of-way. Other topics of concern included 16 (8%) comments regarding drainage issues (existing and the potential for new problems) and 6 (3%) comments regarding bicycle and pedestrian safety.