



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2012

CONTACT:

Mayor's Press Office

312.744.3334

press@cityofchicago.org

PLAN TO BUILD INTERMODAL TRANSIT CENTER INTRODUCED TO CITY COUNCIL

Key Component of the Future Central Loop Bus Rapid Transit System

Mayor Rahm Emanuel introduced a plan to the City Council today to acquire property near Union Station to build an intermodal transportation center, a key component of the future Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) Central Loop bus rapid transit system.

“The new off-street transportation center will improve conditions for CTA passengers boarding at Union Station and transfers to and from Metra and Amtrak trains at the busiest railroad terminal in Chicago,” Mayor Emanuel said. “It will relieve street congestion surrounding Union Station and improve safety by reducing pedestrian exposure to traffic at the busy Canal and Jackson intersection. Making it easier for people to get around downtown Chicago will create economic opportunity for many Chicagoans.”

The transportation center will provide sheltered staging areas for CTA buses. It will include a vertical connection to an existing Amtrak underground passageway, allowing commuters to access the Union Station concourse from the transportation center without crossing Canal and Jackson at street level.

The ordinance introduced to City Council authorizes the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) to acquire the property, a surface parking lot located south of Jackson between Canal and Clinton.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

The total project costs are approximately \$7.3 million for construction, \$5.9 million for property acquisition and \$1 million for design. The project is 80% federally funded, with the required 20% match coming from Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds.

The project is expected to be completed in 2014. The project is supported by a number of organizations, including: Amtrak; the Metropolitan Planning Council; Chicago Loop Alliance; and the Midwest High Speed Rail Association.

#