

# Accessibility Issues in C-U for Visually Impaired

Urbana Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Presentation 12-21-21  
Cynthia Hoyle, FAICP, LCI

# Current Conditions – Concerns for Visually Impaired

Lack of contrast between sidewalks and bike path on Green Street is problematic. MCORE originally planned for more green paint in bike path locations with high pedestrian volumes. It was cut due to budget shortfalls.

Lack of pavement markings and/or signage at high volume bus stop @ Illini Union & Transit Plaza creates issues for cyclists and pedestrians.

Pedestrians with visual limitations do not realize they are crossing a bike path walking from bus shelter to sidewalk in front of Union.

No truncated dome located on the South side bus stop for departing passengers to alert them to bike path crossing at Union.

Lack of stop announcements on buses

Audio signals at signalized intersections are different across the two cities and campus, standardization would be helpful

Website information for those with visual limitations lacking and scattered across multiple locations. One primary location would with mobility information for cities, U of I, and MTD.

Southside  
Stop Illini  
Union –  
Needs Truncated  
Dome and  
Pavement Markings



A photograph of a paved area, likely a bus stop or plaza. In the foreground, a black metal fence with vertical bars and a decorative top rail runs along the left side. The ground is made of light-colored concrete pavers. A red and white perforated metal ramp leads up from the paved area onto a sidewalk. The background shows more of the paved area and some dry grass and bushes.

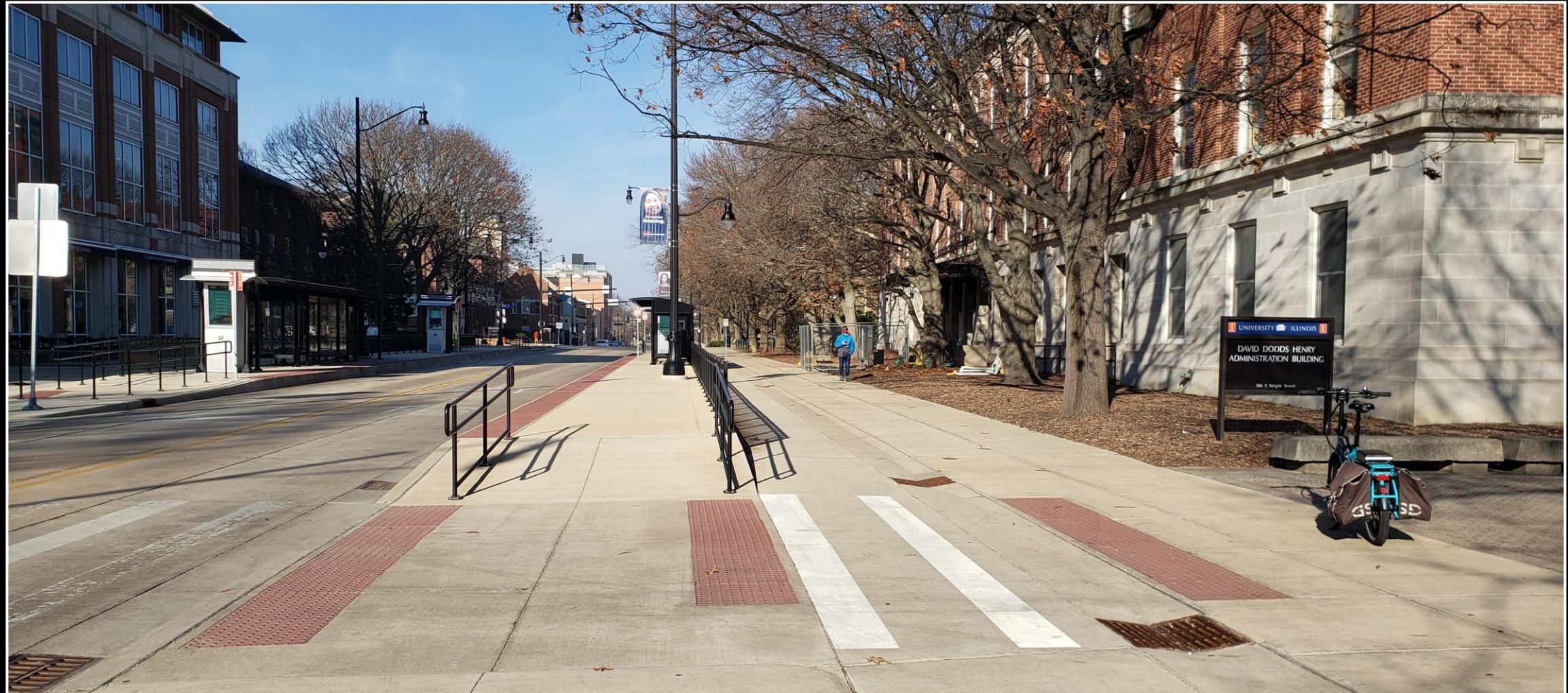
Southside Illini  
Union Stop - East  
End

# Southside Illini Union



# NACTO Transit Street Design Guide Example

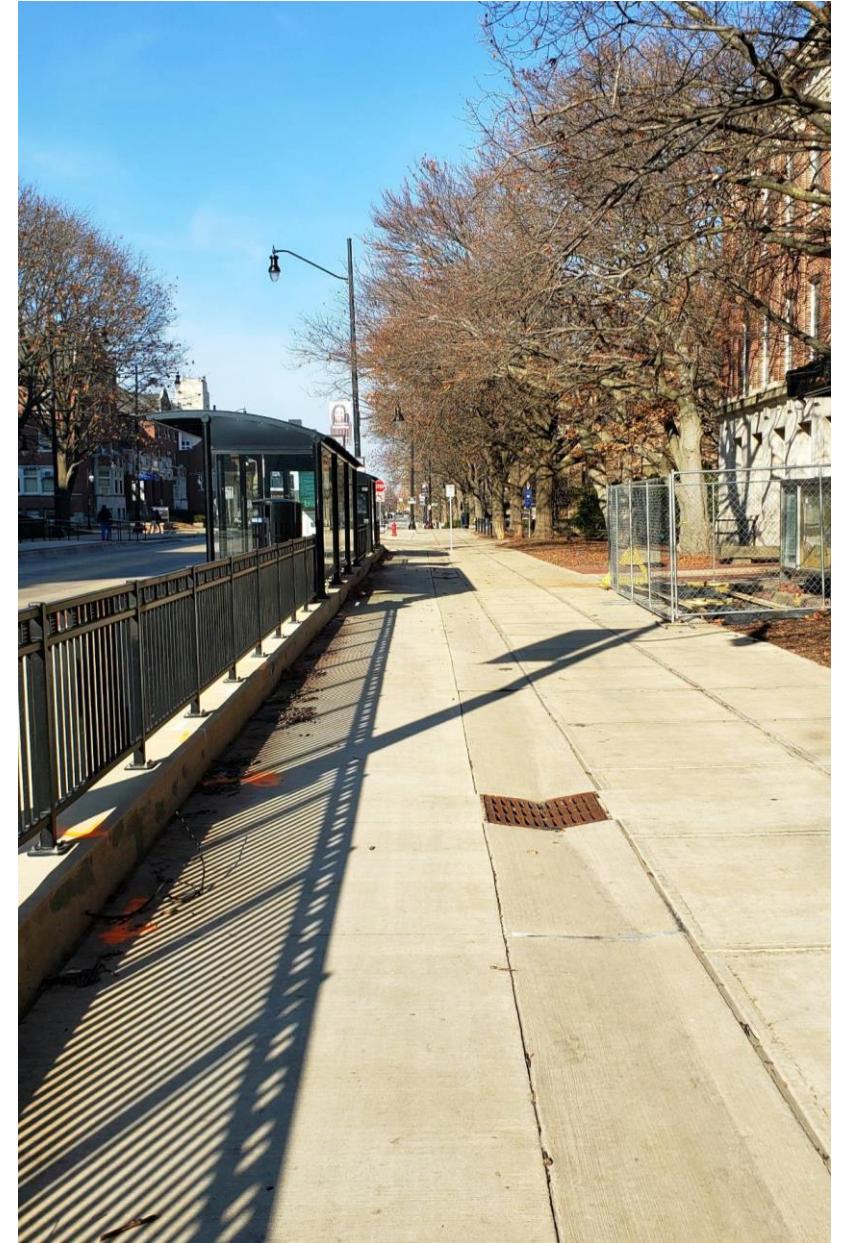




Transit Plaza on Wright Street - Eastside

# Transit Plaza on Wright Street – Eastside Bike Path Unmarked

---



# MTD Plans for Improvement

- Marketing and Software Development Departments are working on improving low-vision access to MTD's website and the interior of buses
- Submitting federal grant application to fund external announcement software on buses. This will allow buses to announce what route they are as they approach a stop that has multiple routes.



# Recommendations

---

Add

**Add truncated dome to bus stop on Green in front of Illini Union on Southside.**

---

Add

**Add green paint to bike path next to Illini Union and Transit Plaza bus stops.**

---

Add

**Add white line to bike path next to Transit Plaza bus stop on Eastside.**

---

Standardize

**Standardize audio announcements at signalized intersections for both cities, the U of I, and IDOT signalized locations.**

---

Create

**Create webpage with information for handicapped that includes information for both cities, U of I, and MTD. Interagency project could be hosted on MTD website.**

---

A photograph of a crosswalk at an intersection. On the left, there's a wooden post with three signs: a yellow diamond-shaped sign with a black walking person icon, a larger black sign with a white walking person icon, and a smaller green rectangular sign with a black walking person icon. To the right, a man in a maroon shirt and blue jeans stands near a red and white striped curb, facing away from the camera. Next to him is a woman with grey hair, wearing a black vest over a white shirt, pushing a red walker. In the background, there's a grassy area with a chain-link fence, some houses, and trees. A person is walking across the grass. The sky is clear and blue.

Thank You!  
Questions?