



Northwest Municipal Conference



ANNUAL REPORT FY 2024-2025

*A Regional Association of Illinois Municipalities and Township
Representing a Population of Over 1.3 Million*

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"The NWMC consists of geographically related municipalities north and northwest of Chicago that collaborate together and provide leadership and advocacy on matters of mutual concern in the public interest."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September 2025



Dear Northwest Municipal Conference Members and Friends:

I am pleased to present the Northwest Municipal Conference FY2024-2025 Annual Report, which covers the period of May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025. The report is a compilation of accomplishments and information about the organization and its leadership, committees, membership and staff.

The NWMC continues to build upon its legacy as the region's premier council of government by delivering solutions for our forty-four members and the 1.3 million Illinois residents we serve. To that end, FY2024-2025 was another highly successful year as demonstrated by the following accomplishments:

- Welcomed South Barrington as the organization's 44th member.
- Led the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition to prevent erosion of public safety pension systems.
- Collaborated with the Invest in Communities Coalition, led by the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, to advocate for increased local government revenues and other critical initiatives.
- Engaged in discussions on the future of the region's public transportation system.
- Identified and advocated for transportation funding opportunities for our members.
- Expanded the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative and conducted the Supplier Showcase.
- Collaborated with the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference and the region's councils of government on the Newly Elected Officials Workshop.
- Approved the FY25-26 NWMC Budget without a dues increase for the twelfth consecutive year.

These accomplishments would not have been possible if not for the hard work of our marvelous members, committee chairs, staff, consultants and regional partners. Thank you to the nearly 400 NWMC member elected officials, staff and other stakeholders who served on the organization's thirteen standing and ad hoc committees. Finally, I could not have served as your President without the support of our membership and especially our leadership team. I thank Vice President Donna Johnson, Secretary Eric Smith and Treasurer John Lockerby for their guidance and leadership over the past year.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the NWMC President and I look forward to achieving even greater success in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rodney S. Craig". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rod Craig
FY2024-2025 President, Northwest Municipal Conference and
Mayor, Village of Hanover Park

FY 2024-2025 NWMC LEADERSHIP

**President**

Rodney Craig
President, Village of Hanover Park

**Vice-President**

Donna Johnson
Mayor, Village of Libertyville

**Secretary**

Eric Smith
President, Village of Buffalo Grove

**Treasurer**

John Lockerby
Manager, Village of Skokie

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



Key Legislation/Initiatives

- **NWMC President and Hanover Park Mayor Rod Craig, Vice President and Libertyville Mayor Donna Johnson, Secretary and Buffalo Grove President Eric Smith** met and discussed pending legislation and local government issues with House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch.
- **NWMC President and Hanover Park Mayor Rod Craig and Barrington Village President Karen Darch** published letters to the editor on municipal pensions and transit reforms in the Chicago Tribune, Daily Herald and Crain’s Chicago Business.
- NWMC members and staff gathered in Springfield for the annual NWMC Legislative Days. Twenty-one participants representing ten member communities advocated for municipal interests during meetings with key legislative leaders and legislators as well as attended Governor Pritzker’s Budget Address.
- **NWMC Executive Director Mark Fowler**, on behalf of the Invest in Communities Coalition, testified before the House Personnel and Pensions Committee on the importance of maintaining municipal Tier 2 pension reforms. His testimony provided the history of Tier 2 pensions and emphasized the difference between the state and local pension systems regarding Social Security Safe Harbor concerns.
- Mr. Fowler also gave a presentation on the history of pension reform and pending legislation at the Illinois Government Finance Officer Association’s 2025 Pension Institute Webinar Series.
- Administered the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition, established a work plan and held partner meetings throughout the year, focusing on opposing the proposed erosion of Tier 2 and education on the Social Security Safe Harbor issue.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



- Established transit principles to guide the Conference's engagement on transit funding and governance legislation. Additionally, the Conference adopted a resolution supporting the protection of suburban municipal voices in transit governance and sustainable transit funding for the region.
- NWMC Leadership met with proponents of the Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act to exchange information and viewpoints.
- Issued an Action Alert during Veto Session requesting that members and partner Councils of Government contact legislators to remove police and fire Tier 2 pension changes from HB5909/SB3988.
- Partnered with the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference on a joint public relations contract with Serafin & Associates and Yellow Box during the 2025 Spring legislative session, including a targeted digital media campaign focused on influencing key legislators on municipal pension issues.
- Staff published a comprehensive analysis of Governor Pritzker's proposed budget.
- Staff published thorough analyses of the Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act legislation (Senate Bills 3937/3938 and House Bills 5828/5829) and the Labor Coalition Transit Reform legislation (SB1938).
- Worked with the Invest in Communities Coalition led by the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference to advocate for an increase in the Local Government Distributive Fund and in opposition to elimination of the Grocery Tax. Worked with partners to incorporate the Pension Fairness Coalition under the Invest in Communities banner.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

- Supported and successfully advocated for passage of Senator Julie Morrison’s IDOT Local Government Portal bill (SB2129).
- Provided State Representative Tracy Katz Muhl with research on revenue constraints facing non-home rule municipalities.
- Staff monitored the work of the House Pension and Property Tax Relief Working Groups.
- Members participated in an Invest in Communities press event at Elmhurst University.
- Developed and forwarded messaging to members on proposed elimination of the Grocery Tax and Crime Free Housing Ordinances.
- Monitored legislation proposing to restrict local Crime Free Housing Ordinances.

Additional Advocacy/Activities

- The NWMC Legislative Committee held eleven meetings, led by committee co-chairs **Buffalo Grove Village President Eric Smith** and **Northfield Village President Greg Lungmus**.
- The NWMC Legislative Committee, staff and consultants tracked over 500 bills during the spring 2025 session.
- Staff published “Bills in Committee” emails during each session week, highlighting priority legislation in House and Senate committees with instructions for members to submit witness slips and/or take additional action.
- Staff developed factsheets on legislation threatening local zoning authority (HB 1813 & 1814) and firefighter paid family leave (HB 2490).
- Staff issued NWMC Action Alerts during the veto and spring sessions:
 - Opposing the elimination of suburban representation as part of northeastern Illinois transit governance
 - Increasing the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF)
 - Opposing the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) – HB3765
 - Opposing Paid Family Leave for Firefighters legislation (HB2490)
 - Opposing Crime Free Housing Ordinance Prohibition (SB2264)
 - Opposing Tier 2 Public Safety Pension Enhancements
 - Opposing expansion of the “supervisor” definition in the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act
- The Conference published twelve NWMC Legislative Updates.
- The Conference extended its contract with Anderson Legislative Consulting to maintain a consistent presence in Springfield.
- NWMC members and staff attended the Illinois Municipal League’s annual Lobby Day.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



- Staff published a thorough analysis for the membership of the Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act and related legislation, which seeks to restructure the region’s mass transit governance and increase funding.
- The Conference issued “Regional Transit Legislation Guiding Principles” which outline ideas to improve regional transit services and highlight the need for state investment.
- **Barrington Village President Karen Darch** presented the Conference’s Guiding Principles during testimony to the Senate Transportation Committee and House Working Group on Transit.
- Members and staff attended all Senate Transportation Committee subject matter hearings on transit reform.
- Held eight meetings of the NWMC Transportation Committee, which was led by co-chairs **Hanover Park Village President Rod Craig** and **Libertyville Mayor Donna Johnson**. Key presentations and discussions included:
 - CMAP Municipal Survey
 - CMAP Speed Management Report
 - CMAP and RTA’s Joint Community Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program
 - CMAP research on parking mandates
 - RTA’s Transforming Transit vision and Transforming Transit Summit
 - Pace ReVision systemwide planning effort
 - Amtrak Chicago Hub Improvement Program
 - State university research on transit commuting burdens (University of Illinois at Chicago) and property value growth around Metra stations (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
 - Funding opportunities from US DOT (Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant, Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program), IDOT (Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program), and others (AARP Community Challenge Grants, Cook County Invest In Cook, Illinois Department of Natural Resources Bike Path Program, RTA Section 5310 Program)
 - Transit-related state legislation

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



- Held eight meetings of the NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, which was led by Chair and **Hanover Park Trustee Herb Porter**. Key presentations, discussions and events included:
 - **Grayslake** Bikeshare Program
 - Bike and Pedestrian funding sources
 - CMAP Speed Management Report
 - CMAP Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Public Right-of-Way Access Guidelines (PROWAG) resources
 - US DOT Safe Streets for All (SS4A) program and regional countywide Safety Action Plans
 - Pending bicycle and pedestrian state legislation
 - E-bike regulations at the local, regional, state, and federal levels
 - Strava Metro data collection tool
 - Winter bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure maintenance best practices
 - Project Sidewalk data collection program
 - Bicyclist fatality regional trends
 - Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act
 - Funding opportunities from US DOT (Safe Streets for All (SS4A), Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant, Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program, Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation Program (PROTECT)), IDOT (Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program, Special Program Assistance Conference), and others (Safe Routes Partnership Ruby Bridges Walk to School Mini-Grant, AARP Community Challenge Grants, Cook County Invest In Cook, RTA/CMAP Planning Technical Assistance Program)
- Planned and led a field trip in the **Village of Glenview** for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.
- Published twelve NWMC Transportation Newsletters.
- The North Shore and Northwest Councils of Mayors approved their Surface Transportation Program Local (STP-L) programs for FY2025-2029. Seventeen projects totaling over \$35 million were approved for funding.
- The North Shore Council of Mayors began an update to its locally programmed Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) fund methodology.
- Both the Northwest and North Shore Councils of Mayors participated in the Call for Projects for the regionally programmed Federal Surface Transportation Program-Shared (STP-Shared) funds.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING



- The North Shore and Northwest Councils of Mayors programmed and obligated over \$27.6 million in Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding for engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction. The North Shore Council obligated over \$10.9 million in STP funds, while the Northwest Council obligated over \$16.7 million.
- Additionally, the Northwest and North Shore Councils obligated over \$3.1 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and locally programmed Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP-L) funds.
- Coordinated meetings between IDOT Central Office and Municipal, COG, and Regional Agency staff.
- **Highland Park Mayor Nancy Rotering** and **Mount Prospect Mayor Paul Hoefert** served on the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Board of Directors.
- **Arlington Heights Village President Tom Hayes, Barrington Village President Karen Darch, Northfield Village President Greg Lungmus, and Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen** served on the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Council of Mayors Executive Committee.
- **Hanover Park Mayor Rod Craig** served on the Metra Board.
- **Hoffman Estates Mayor William McLeod** and former **Wilmette Village President Chris Canning** served on the Pace Board.
- Staff submitted a letter of support for the **Des Plaines** US-14 S-Curve Bike/Pedestrian Underpass Project grant application submitted for the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP).
- Staff submitted Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) grant application letters of support for projects in **Arlington Heights, Barrington, Bartlett, Glenview (2), Mount Prospect (2), Skokie** and **Wilmette**.
- **NWMC Program Associate for Transportation Brian Larson** was appointed to the Cook County Safety Action Plan Steering Committee.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Grant Programs

- Publicized, provided updates and assisted member communities with applications for the following grant programs:
 - United States Department of Transportation (USDOT):
 - ◆ Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding webinars
 - ◆ Technical Assistance program
 - ◆ Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant awarded to the **City of Evanston**
 - ◆ Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grant
 - ◆ Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) program
 - ◆ Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements grant
 - ◆ Technical assistance program
 - ◆ Resources for Transforming Legacy Highways
 - ◆ Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants
 - ◆ Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) grant
 - ◆ Safe Streets and Roads for All
 - ◆ Rail Crossing Elimination Grant
 - ◆ Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART)
 - ◆ Reconnecting Communities pilot program
 - ◆ Community Traffic Safety
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA):
 - Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP)
 - Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grant program
- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT):
 - Safe Routes to School (SRTS) – awarded to **Barrington** and **Streamwood**
 - Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)
 - Rebuild Illinois program
 - Special Bridge Program
 - Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP):
 - Local Technical Assistance (LTA) and RTA Community Planning program and projects in **Morton Grove**
 - Surface Transportation Program (STP) Shared Fund
 - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)
 - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP – L) projects in **Wheeling**
 - Climate Reduction Program (CRP)
- Federal Railroad Administration Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant program.
- FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant.
- Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative.
- Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation Love Your Block grant to the **City of Evanston**.
- Cook County's Invest in Cook program – \$1.4 million in grants were awarded to **Elk Grove Village, Evanston, Glencoe, Morton Grove, Northbrook, Northfield, Prospect Heights** and **Streamwood**.



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Research in Illinois to Spur Economic Recovery (RISE) grant.
- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Rebuild Downtowns & Main Streets (RDMS).
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources Bicycle Path Grant.
- Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Access to Transit Program – awarded to **Niles**.
- RTA Community Planning grant awarded to **Morton Grove**.
- RTA Section 5310 grants.
- Rails to Trails Conservancy grants.
- Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program.
- Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) Green Alley grant awarded to **Skokie**.

Regional Events/Meetings/Initiatives

- Promoted, updated and/or participated in regional planning events, meetings and initiatives including:
 - **Bannockburn's** approach to cycling violations
 - **Barrington** groundbreaking ceremony for the U.S. Route 14 Grade Separation project
 - "Students Ride Transit for Free" Day
 - Active Transportation Alliance suburban advocacy meetings
 - American Planning Association National Planning Conference
 - American Planning Association Illinois (APA-IL) **Park Ridge** and **Arlington Heights** transit-oriented development analysis
 - Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways discussion on regional bicycle network gaps
 - CTA Powering Our Transit Future
 - **Des Plaines** Active Transportation Plan Community Advisory Group
 - **Evanston** Bicycle Voucher Program
 - Envision **Evanston** planning study virtual open house
 - **Hoffman** in Motion – Municipal/Township Focus Group
 - **Kenilworth** and Kenilworth Park District discussion on local bicycle network gaps
 - Lake County Opening on the Metra Board
 - League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community applications
 - Local Infrastructure Hub webinars
 - Maine Township Church Street bike project supporting a NWMC Multimodal Plan priority corridor
 - **Morton Grove** groundbreaking for its new Metra station
 - **Mount Prospect** Arterial Bike Network Study Open Houses
 - National Association of City Transportation Officials (NATCO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide
 - Northwest Cook Transit Coordination Study
 - National Walk & Roll to School
 - NWMC-DMMC regional transit legislation collaboration discussion
 - Rails to Trails webinars
 - Regional Day Pass Pilot Program
 - Regional Transportation Authority Transit-Friendly Communities Guide
 - **Rolling Meadows** Kirchoff Road study open house
 - Safe Routes to Schools State Report Card
 - Transport Chicago conference
 - U.S. Joint Office of Energy and Transportation Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Playbook
 - Shared Use Mobility Center discussion on collaborative opportunities
 - Transport Chicago Conference
 - University of Illinois at Chicago Urban Transportation Center (UIC UTC) fall seminar series on autonomous vehicle development

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

- USDOT Bipartisan Infrastructure Law webinars on project implementation.
- Prioritizing Vision Zero Efforts for Greatest Impact webinar
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP):
 - Northwest and North Shore Councils of Mayors Surface Transportation Program – Local program summaries
 - Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) briefings
 - My Daily Travel Survey
 - County Safety Action Plans under the Safe Travel for All initiative.
 - Accessibility Considerations for Bike Lanes
 - Accessible Communities Newsletter
 - Speed Management Report
 - Surface Transportation Program Summaries
 - Northeastern Illinois Priority Investments
 - Safe Travel for All Roadmap (STAR) technical assistance
 - Priority Climate Action Plan (with Metropolitan Mayors Caucus)
 - Regional Comprehensive Plan
 - Regional Transportation Plan
 - Regional Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinators Group
 - ADA and Public Right-of-Way Access Guidelines (PROWAG) resources
 - Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan (TRIP)
 - Community Data Snapshots
 - Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP)
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA):
 - Separated Bike Lanes on Higher Speed Roadways toolkit and guide
 - Bike lane planning toolkit
- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT):
 - Statewide Crash data and Safety Portal
 - Project administration workshop
 - Vulnerable Road Users Dashboard workshop
 - Fall Planning Conference
 - Move Illinois Long-Range Transportation Plan public comment and virtual advisory groups
 - Public Right-of-Way Access Guidelines training
- Pace:
 - I290/I88 Express Bus Study, including participation on the stakeholder working group
 - Pace ReVision bus planning, including participation on the local community stakeholder group
 - Resolution supporting the ReVision Project and related events
- Regional Transportation Authority (RTA):
 - Suburban Transit Summit held in **Arlington Heights**
 - Transit is the Answer Coalition
 - Safety Summit
 - Transforming Transit
 - Transit Friendly Communities Guide workshop
- United States Department of Transportation:
 - Local Public Engagement workshop
 - Guideline revision workshop
 - Safe Streets for All (SS4A) program and regional countywide Safety Action Plans
 - Transportation Community Explorer Tool workshop



Mt. Prospect Mayor Paul Hoefert and
CMAP Executive Director Erin Aleman

SUBURBAN PURCHASING COOPERATIVE (SPC)

- Created and published the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative Joint Purchasing Newsletter. Each quarter, the newsletter will detail the latest information about the suppliers, products and services offered by the SPC.
- The SPC implemented all contracts via the Sourcewell/SPC Interlocal Agreement, providing member access to over 550 products and services via Sourcewell's national cooperative purchasing program.
- The SPC realized gross sales of approximately \$112 million.
- Through Q3, the SPC earned administrative fees of nearly \$275,000, of which over \$236,000 went to the NWMC.
- 596 vehicles were sold on SPC contracts.
- Hosted the SPC Supplier Showcase with 20 suppliers and 100 attendees. The event featured a Lunch & Learn presentation by Sourcewell that offered continuing education credits awarded to NIGP members.
- Promoted Granite Government Solutions as the sole SPC Telecommunications program provider and scheduled topical Granite Government Solutions webinars.
- Staff registered 5 new vendors on the SPC bidder list.
- Staff regularly updated the SPC program brochure and disseminated it and related marketing materials to the SPC's partner Councils of Government.
- In FY24-25, 262 unique entities participated in SPC joint purchasing programs; with the addition of the Sourcewell programs, the SPC reached over 700 entities.
- Executed a new agreement with Sourcewell.
- 451 entities statewide utilized the SPC/Sourcewell alliance contracts.
- The SPC awarded contract extensions for the following programs:
 - Type I Additional Duty Ambulance
 - 10 Yard Combination Sewer & Catch Basin Cleaner Truck
 - 12 Yard Combination Sewer & Catch Basin Cleaner Truck
 - Chevrolet Silverado 3500 HD CC 2WD Reg Cab 146" Work Truck
 - Chevrolet Silverado 3500 HD 6.6 L V8 2WD Reg Cab 142" Work Truck
 - Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD 2WD Reg Cab 142" Work Truck
 - Combined Office Supplies & Janitorial Supplies
 - Electrical Supplies
 - Ford Escape
 - Ford F-150 Police Responder



SUBURBAN PURCHASING COOPERATIVE (SPC)



- Ford F-250 Truck
 - Ford F-350 Dual Wheel Chassis Cab
 - Ford F-350 Single Rear Wheel Pick Up
 - Ford F-450 Chassis Cab
 - Ford F-550 Chassis Cab
 - Ford Interceptor Utility
 - Ford Transit Van
 - Gasoline, Ethanol, Diesel, and Bio/Diesel Fuel
 - Liquid Calcium Chloride
 - Sourcewell
 - Telecommunications
 - Thermoplastic & Urethane Lane Marking
 - Telecommunications contract with Granite Government Solutions
- Staff negotiated the Lane Marking contract extension by providing members with the opportunity to lock in 2024 prices before the new price increases took effect.
 - NWMC Purchasing Director Ellen Dayan, CPPB, represents the Conference as a member of the following organizations:
 - Illinois Association of Procurement Officials (IAPPO) – member of the Scholarship, Legislative Affairs and Nominations & Awards Committees
 - Midwest Association of Public Procurement (MAPP)
 - National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP)
 - Chicago Women’s Leadership Summit
 - Legacy Project Advancing Women in Local Government
 - Metropolitan Mayors Caucus EV Readiness Advisory Committee (EVRAC)
 - Staff monitored and informed SPC participants of changes to Ford Motor Company SPC product lines.
 - Promoted the NWMC and SPC at the IAPPO, MAPP and NIGP events.
 - Publicized and promoted SPC programs/updates in NWMC Executive Director’s Weekly Briefings and sent for inclusion to the other participating SPC councils of government for their member communications.
 - Promoted and participated in Warehouse Direct’s 2024 Customer Appreciation and New Product Show.

SURPLUS VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS



- Conducted live NWMC surplus vehicle and equipment auctions in July and October 2024 and April 2025. 105 units were sold with gross sales exceeding \$454,000. The NWMC earned over \$11,100 in administrative fees.
- The following municipalities participated in the NWMC auction program:
 - **Deerfield**
 - **Evanston**
 - **Glenview**
 - **Lincolnshire**
 - **Lincolnwood**
 - North Aurora
 - Oak Lawn
 - Olympia Fields
 - **Skokie**
 - Tinley Park
 - Tinley Park-Park District
 - Wheaton
- Awarded a new contract for the NWMC Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction Agreement to America's Auto Auction of Crestwood.

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS/NOTABLE ITEMS

- Welcomed **South Barrington** as the organization's 44th member.
- The NWMC Board approved the FY 2025-2026 Budget which did not include a membership dues increase for the **twelfth** consecutive year.
- Nearly 400 NWMC member elected officials, staff and other stakeholders participated on the committees managed by the organization.
- One hundred and sixty NWMC members and guests attended the 2024 NWMC Annual Gala at the Renaissance **Schaumburg**.
- Hosted the NWMC Holiday Celebration where nearly 80 NWMC members and guests gathered at the Chateau Ritz in **Niles** to reconnect in person and celebrate the holiday season.



- Held subregional Mayor's meetings in **Grayslake**, **Glencoe** and **Lincolnwood**.
- Held quarterly meetings of the NWMC Managers Committee to discuss legislation and specific topics including ComEd issues, local grocery taxes and the strategic planning process.
- Coordinated member participation in Oakton College's Open House for Elected Officials.
- Appointed **NWMC Past President and Schaumburg Mayor Tom Dailly** and **Highland Park Mayor Nancy Rotering** as delegates to the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. Mayor Rotering was appointed Chair of the Caucus.
- **Libertyville Mayor Donna Johnson** served as the NWMC appointee to the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Asylum Seeker Working Group.
- **Glencoe Village Manager Phil Kiraly** served as President of the Illinois City/County Management Association.
- The work of the Northwest Municipal Conference was reported in the following publications/news outlets:
 - Chicago Sun-Times
 - Chicago Tribune
 - Crain's Chicago Business
 - Daily Herald
 - Politico Illinois Playbook
 - The Record North Shore
 - Shaw Local
 - Streetsblog Chicago
 - Journal & Topics newspapers
 - The Center Square
 - Green Market Report
 - WGEM – Quincy, IL
 - Evanston Roundtable
 - Wirepoints

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS/NOTABLE ITEMS

- Published 51 NWMC Executive Director's Weekly Briefings.
- Staff gave a presentation on the Conference to the **Deerfield** Village Board.
- Staff made two NWMC Alternative Dispute Resolution program referrals to the Center for Conflict Resolution for the **Village of Glenview**.
- Staff completed 106 membership surveys; the Conference houses over 2,700 surveys.
- 1,562 local government employees participated in the NWMC Employee Assistance Program (EAP).
- Staff collaborated with the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference to plan for a joint Newly Elected Officials Workshop.
- Staff participated in and/or served as members of the American Society of Public Administrators (ASPA), International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Illinois City/County Management Association (ILCMA), Emerging Local Government Leaders (ELGL), Legacy Program Conference for Women in Government as well as various procurement and transportation associations.
- Convened a ComEd Storm Response Meeting to address issues resulting from the August 2024 storm event.
- Hosted a discussion at the October 9 NWMC Board meeting with ComEd and Jones Lang LaSalle on locating and constructing data centers.
- Disseminated information for the NWMC Health Directors Committee.
- Staff participated in the meetings of the NWMC Local Government Communicators Committee.
- Staff published the NWMC Public Works Directory.
- Promoted the municipal candidates for election to the Illinois Firefighters' Pension Investment Fund Board of Trustees.
- Participated in weekly meetings of the regional Council of Government Executive Directors, hosted by the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference.
- Promoted and participated in the following Metropolitan Mayors Caucus meetings:
 - Quarterly Business meetings
 - Executive Committee
 - Diversity Issues Task Force
 - Housing and Community Development Committee
 - Environment Committee
 - Age-Friendly Communities Collaborative

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS/NOTABLE ITEMS

Grant Assistance

- Publicized, provided updates and assisted member communities with applications and/or letters of support for the following grant programs:
 - Metropolitan Mayors Caucus:
 - ◆ Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seekers (SMASS) grants (in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Human Services)
 - ◆ Homes for a Changing Region program
 - ◆ Powering the Holidays grants with ComEd
 - ◆ Powering Safe Communities Grants
 - Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD):
 - ◆ Green Alleys Grant award to **Skokie**
 - ◆ 2024 Chicago River Summit: Linking Watersheds
 - ◆ Green Infrastructure Partnership program
 - ◆ Stormwater Partnership program
 - ◆ Stormwater Management Conceptual Project partnerships
 - ◆ Voluntary Flood Prone Property Acquisition program
 - Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:
 - ◆ Green Infrastructure grant program
 - ◆ Electric Vehicle Rebate program
 - Federal Emergency Management Agency:
 - ◆ Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
 - ◆ Flood Mitigation Assistance
 - ◆ Hazard Mitigation Assistance
 - ◆ Swift Current program
 - ◆ Direct Technical Assistance program
 - Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity:
 - ◆ Rebuild Downtown & Main Streets Program
 - ◆ Research in Illinois to Spur Economic Recovery (RISE) Implementation grants
 - Cook County:
 - ◆ LeadCare Cook County - free lead service line replacement for childcare providers in Cook County
 - ◆ Cook County Disaster Impacts Municipal Survey
 - US Department of Housing and Urban Development Pathways to Removing Obstacles (PRO) Housing Program
 - AARP Community Challenge grant program
 - ComEd Electric Vehicle Rebate Program and Make-Ready Rebate Program

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS/NOTABLE ITEMS



Regional Events/Meetings/Initiatives

- Sponsored and attended the Illinois State Treasurer's Local Officials Appreciation Picnic at the Illinois State Fair.
- Promoted the Illinois Commission on Diversity and Human Relations Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance and Commemoration Dinner, featuring Illinois House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch.
- Highlighted the **City of Evanston's** APA-IL Strategic Plan Award.
- Participated in meetings of the Northwest Water Planning Alliance.
- Promoted, publicized, updated and/or participated in regional planning events, meetings and initiatives including:
 - Wintrust Financial presentations:
 - ◆ Unlocking the Benefits of Health Savings Accounts for Public Sector Employees
 - ◆ Insights from the Field: Uncovering Trends in Fraud Schemes & Investigations
 - ◆ Getting Out of Our Own Way – A Regional Roadmap to 2037
 - ◆ Navigate the Future: Key Topics Shaping Public Entities in 2025 and Beyond
 - ◆ Strengthening Your Organization's Brand
 - Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD):
 - ◆ Watershed Management Ordinance Amendments
 - ◆ Watershed Planning Council Member Survey
 - Metropolitan Mayors Caucus:
 - ◆ Annual Gala at Wrigley Field
 - ◆ MMC/ComEd Powering the Holidays program
 - ◆ Stretch Energy Code presentation
 - ◆ EV Readiness program
 - ◆ Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Survey
 - ◆ Recycle Coach webinar
 - ◆ Food Insecurity webinar
 - ◆ Hosted the March Executive Committee meeting at the NWMC offices
 - ◆ "Missing Middle Housing" Technical Assistance
- Staff attended the Metropolitan Planning Council's 90th Anniversary Gala.
- Illinois City/County Management Association Awards programs.
- University of Illinois at Chicago and Northern Illinois University MPC capstone projects.
- Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund Board of Directors candidates.

FY 2024-2025 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Rodney Craig, President, Hanover Park
Vice-President/Transportation Committee Co-Chair Donna Johnson, Mayor, Libertyville
Secretary/Legislative Committee Co-Chair Eric Smith, President, Buffalo Grove
Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair John Lockerby, Manager, Skokie
Past President Tom Dailly, President, Schaumburg
Legislative Committee Co-Chair Greg Lungmus, President, Northfield
At Large Karen Darch, President, Barrington
At Large Andrew Goczowski, Mayor, Des Plaines
At Large Nancy Rotering, Mayor, Highland Park
At Large Bill McLeod, Mayor, Hoffman Estates
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Luke Foresman, Project Engineer, Mount Prospect
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