

Transportation Newsletter

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Northwest Municipal Conference
1600 E. Golf Rd. Suite 0700 Des Plaines, IL 60016
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Cover Photo: Village of Grayslake



Northwest Municipal Conference

Dates to Remember:

****No scheduled meetings****



Transportation Committee Reviews New Surface Transportation Projects

At their December 1 meeting, the Transportation Committee received a presentation from NWMC staff on projects awarded Local Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) funding during the most recent Call for Projects held by the North Shore and Northwest Council of Mayors earlier this year. Staff provided an overview of overall funding information and broke down each program by the number of projects funded project types and phases. The Committee also reviewed projects that are directly improving or connecting to NWMC Multimodal Plan Priority Bicycle Corridors through an online GIS map. Staff then provided a brief summary of the changes to the STP-Shared Fund and CMAQ/TAP-L scoring methodologies and requirements that will be in effect for the Call for Projects that the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning will hold in January.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Discusses New IIJA Programs

On October 18, the NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met to discuss new programs and funding resources that can be used for bicycle and pedestrian improvements available as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Staff highlighted increases in funding for existing programs, new funding programs and ways that communities can be ready to apply as details on new programs are released. Members provided local project updates and directed staff to identify projects within the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan that would be ideal candidates for new IIJA funding.

Village of Skokie



City of Park Ridge

IDOT Seeks Competitive Freight Program Applications

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is seeking applications for a new round of the Illinois Competitive Freight Program. Total funding of approximately \$200 million in National Highway Freight Program funds will be available through 2026. Approximately 30 percent of annual funding will be made available for intermodal rail and water projects. This competitive grant program will be used to create a freight investment plan that will become part of the 2022 Illinois State Freight Plan update currently being developed. Applicants should assume a 20 percent match requirement of non-federal funds. Successful proposals will address one or more goal areas which include safety, reliability, system enhancements, operational needs, truck parking, modal connectivity, and mode shift.

The application form and Program Guidance document are available by visiting the [IDOT website](#). Applications are due Monday, December 19. A webinar to answer questions and provide additional information was held in November and a recording will be made available on IDOT's website soon. Please contact DOT.ILFreightPlanning@illinois.gov for more information.

New Endangered Species Designation Impacts Tree Removal Procedures

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently released a Circular Letter announcing a change in classification of the Northern Long Eared Bat (NLEB) to an endangered species. The tree-clearing restrictions to preserve the habitat of NLEB, which have been in place for Districts 2 to 9 and part of District 1, will soon be expanded to include the entire state. The most notable impact to project scheduling will be that all IDOT District 1 projects will now be required to go through the full Environmental Species Act evaluation and permitting process, utilizing the Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects in the Range of the Indiana Bat and NLEB.

Applicable projects and more background on the issue can be found in [Circular Letter 2022-28](#). These procedures apply to all projects using state or federal funds, requiring a federal permit, and/or if the project requires IDOT review. Any questions regarding this Circular Letter and its information should be directed to Local Studies and Plans Engineer William Raffensperger, 217-785-1676, or William.Raffensperger@illinois.gov.

Salt Smart Collaborative Collecting Responses for Winter Maintenance Survey

The Salt Smart Collaborative has launched an online survey to assess how municipalities and other entities in Illinois use salt and plows to clear parking lots and sidewalks in winter. The survey is anonymous and confidential. Respondents will be entered into a drawing for a prize for participation in the survey. For more information and to take the survey, please review this [online form](#).



City of Des Plaines

CMAP Announces Additional ADA Training Sessions

To help communities improve accessibility, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) has launched a new training program. The program covers community obligations under the [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) with a focus on the public right-of-way. These half-day, interactive workshops detail ADA and Title II requirements, how to complete a self-evaluation, the role of an ADA coordinator and developing a transition plan.

There will be four in-person workshops covering a variety of topics on January 18 in Frankfort, March 1 in Calumet Park, April 18 in Naperville, and April 19 in Aurora. These workshops are free, but you must register in advance. Registration for 2023 workshops is coming soon and more information on the workshops and other resources is available on [CMAP's website](#). Please contact CMAP staff at, accessibility@cmap.illinois.gov, with any questions.

NWMC staff wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season and Wonderful New Year. A special thanks goes to both our Bicycle & Pedestrian and Transportation Committee Members for their dedication throughout the year:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Jim Baxa, Co-chair <i>Village of Northbrook</i>	AC Buehler <i>Village of Northbrook</i>
Nellie Beckner, Co-chair <i>Village of Mount Prospect</i>	Alderman Lara Sanoica <i>City of Rolling Meadows</i>
Sean Dorsey <i>Village of Mount Prospect</i>	Michael Lysicatos <i>Village of Schaumburg</i>
Shannon Coleman <i>Village of Barrington</i>	Rachel Benson <i>Village of Schaumburg</i>
Caroline Gabiga <i>Village of Elk Grove Village</i>	Eric Sanchez <i>Village of Skokie</i>
Adriana Webb <i>Village of Glenview</i>	President Billie Roth <i>Village of Streamwood</i>
Trustee Herb Porter <i>Village of Hanover Park</i>	Scott Nielsen <i>Village of Streamwood</i>
Jennifer Horn <i>Village of Hoffman Estates</i>	Ross Klicker <i>Village of Wheeling</i>
Phil Green <i>Village of Hoffman Estates</i>	
Scott Mangum <i>Village of Lincolnwood</i>	
Tim O'Brien <i>Village of Niles</i>	

Transportation Committee

Mayor Rod Craig, Co-chair <i>Village of Hanover Park</i>	Tom Powers <i>Village of Niles</i>
Mayor Donna Johnson, Co-chair <i>Village of Libertyville</i>	Trustee Bob Israel <i>Village of Northbrook</i>
Marie Hansen <i>Village of Barrington</i>	Matt Farmer <i>Village of Northbrook</i>
Heather Lis <i>Village of Barrington</i>	Lou Arrigoni <i>City of Park Ridge</i>
Trustee Lester A. Ottenheimer <i>Village of Buffalo Grove</i>	Peter Falcone <i>City of Prospect Heights</i>
Darren Monico <i>Village of Buffalo Grove</i>	Alderman Lara Sanoica <i>City of Rolling Meadows</i>
Trustee Robert "Bob" Benton <i>Village of Deerfield</i>	Mayor Tom Dailly <i>Village of Schaumburg</i>
Maggie Jablonski <i>Village of Elk Grove Village</i>	Karyn Robles <i>Village of Schaumburg</i>
Jeff Brady <i>Village of Glenview</i>	Samantha Maximilian <i>Village of Skokie</i>
Mayor Bill McLeod <i>Village of Hoffman Estates</i>	Dan Kaup <i>Village of Wheeling</i>
Nadim Badran <i>Village of Lincolnwood</i>	
Sean Dorsey <i>Village of Mount Prospect</i>	

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