

Transportation Newsletter

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Northwest Municipal Conference
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Cover Photo: Village of Elk Grove Village



Northwest Municipal Conference

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, February 18, 10:30 a.m. – Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee – *NWMC Offices*

Thursday, February 27, 8:30 a.m. – Transportation Committee – *NWMC Offices*

Friday, February 28, 8:30 a.m. – Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee – *Barrington Village Hall*

Welcome Matt!

Matt Pasquini began his career with the Northwest Municipal Conference on January 6 as our new Program Associate for Transportation. Matt is a 2016 graduate of the University of Illinois and is scheduled to obtain his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Northern Illinois University in May.

He previously served as an Administrative Intern for the City of Geneva and as a Scheduling Coordinator for the office of Illinois Treasurer Mike Frerichs.

Matt's duties include staffing the North Shore Council of Mayors as well as the NWMC Transportation and Bicycle/Pedestrian Committees.

Please join us in welcoming Matt to the Conference family!

City of Rolling Meadows



Respond to the Call for Northwest and North Shore Council STP-L Projects

The Northwest and North Shore Councils of Mayors have opened their call for Local Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) Projects. More information on project requirements can be found in both Councils' updated methodologies and individual applications, available on the [Northwest](#) and [North Shore](#) Council of Mayors' websites. Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16 and should be submitted electronically either to Kendra Johnson, kjohnson@nwmc-cog.org (for Northwest Council projects) or Matt Pasquini, mpasquini@nwmc-cog.org (for North Shore Council projects).

Transportation Committee Readies for Electric Vehicles

The NWMC Transportation Committee met on January 23 to hear a presentation on electrical vehicle (EV) readiness from Edith Makra and Tim Milburn of the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus (MMC). They informed the Committee about the nuances of EVs and the infrastructure required to accommodate their rise in popularity. The MMC is currently preparing a guide to help municipalities begin developing plans for a future that involves EVs and is conducting listening sessions to ensure municipal concerns are understood and addressed in the guide. To provide feedback or receive additional information please contact staff or Edith Makra, emakra@mayorscaucus.org.

North Shore Technical Committee Rings in 2020

The North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee met on Friday, January 10 and received updates from Pace regarding Phase Two implementation of their North Shore Coordination Plan. Staff from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that work for Multi-Year Program 2021-2026 is underway and requested that local concerns should be directed to the agency. Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways staff noted that the Invest in Cook call for projects will be open until March 13 (see article on pg. 4). Finally, the Technical Committee received local project updates and discussed the possible need to grandfather several current locally programmed Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) projects into the new program that will be developed from the upcoming STP-L Call for Projects.



City of Evanston

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Provides Input on Final Stages of Multimodal Plan

The NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met January 21 to discuss additional updates to the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan. New deliverables include a draft street design toolbox that has been made available to the project steering committee for comments, as well as an [online map](#) that identifies sidewalk gaps within NWMC service territory. The final plan is on track for completion in late February. Committee members also discussed local project updates and field trip ideas for this summer.

IDOT Releases 2021 Surface Transportation Program Funding Allotments

On January 24, the Illinois Department of Transportation released the state's annual allotments for federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding. The allotments are divided between rural (STR), urban (STU), and bridge (STP-BR) funds. The Northeastern Illinois and Chicago region receive mostly STU and STP-Bridge funding, although some counties are eligible for STR funds. For state fiscal year 2021, Northeastern Illinois/Chicago will receive \$156,620,805 in STU funds, \$17,110,335 in STP-Bridge funds, and an extra \$25 million to go toward the regional STP-Shared Fund. For more information, please contact staff or refer to [IDOT's circular letter](#).



Village of Streamwood

Council of Mayors Approves UWP Proposal, State Funding and Rail Safety Letters

The Council of Mayors Executive Committee met on January 28 and approved the scope of services and FY 2021 funding proposal for the region's Unified Work Program (UWP). The Conference receives funds through the UWP to support staffing of the Northwest and North Shore Councils of Mayors and further assist CMAP in meeting federal transportation planning requirements. The Executive Committee also approved sending letters to Governor Pritzker, the region's legislators and IDOT to address the region's current STP funding shortfall. The committee also voted to send a letter to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to address ways to monitor delays and address safety challenges at priority highway-rail grade crossings in Northeastern Illinois.

Invest in Cook Call for Projects Now Open

The fourth round of the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highway's (CCDOH) Invest in Cook program is now open for applications from local governments, transit agencies, natural resource or public land agencies and other government entities that deal with transportation and recreational trails within Cook County. The program is intended to expand the County's role in multimodal transportation and can include proposals that incorporate new technologies along with those for transit, bicycle and pedestrian, freight, roadway, and bridge improvements. Applications should be submitted electronically via the [application website](#) and are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13. For more information please contact staff, visit the [Invest in Cook website](#) or contact Tim Egan, tim.egan@cookcountyil.gov.



Lake County Forest Preserve District

Des Plaines River Trail Project Team to Host Open House

On Wednesday, February 19, the Des Plaines River Trail Advisory Group and the Forest Preserves of Cook County will host a public information meeting to gather input on improvements to the southern leg of the trail. Participants will discuss the Phase I Engineering Study of the project, which runs from Touhy Avenue in the *City of Park Ridge* south to the Illinois Prairie Path. The purpose of the project is to address safety, geometric deficiencies and flooding issues as well as improvements at major roadway crossings and potential new trail connections. The meeting will be conducted in an open house format between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin Park Police Department, 9451 Belmont Avenue, Franklin Park, IL 60131. For more information, please visit the [Forest Preserves of Cook County's website](#).

Public Hearings on Pace's Proposed North Shore Service Changes Continue

From the desk of Pace Community Relations Representative Steven Andrews:

Pace is seeking public input on proposed service changes resulting from the North Shore Transit Service Coordination Plan and Market Analysis, a joint study completed in 2017 by Pace and CTA. The goal of the Plan is to improve coordination of transit services in North Cook County and to update the public transportation network to better serve high demand travel markets. The restructured network, proposed to be implemented in August 2020, includes proposed changes to five routes: 215, 225, 226, 422, and 423; the addition of one new route: 424; and the discontinuation of two routes: 210 and 421.

Pace is holding six public hearings throughout North Cook County to get input from stakeholders on the proposed service changes. For details regarding the proposed service changes and the upcoming public hearings, please see the [attached notice](#). Information is also available on our website at PaceBus.com in the [Projects & Studies](#) section. Until February 18, 2020, written comments may also be submitted to our website, PaceBus.com, in the [Public Hearing Comment Form](#) area.

Public Hearing Schedule

Attend an upcoming public hearing to provide feedback about proposed route changes resulting from the North Shore Coordination Study. Until February 18, 2020, written comments may also be submitted to our website, PaceBus.com, in the "Public Hearing Comment Form" area.

Thursday, January 30, 2020 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Chicago Public Library Albany Park Branch 3401 W. Foster Ave. Chicago, IL 60625	Friday, January 31, 2020 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM Glenview Public Library Community Room 1930 Glenview Rd. Glenview, IL 60025	Monday, February 3, 2020 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Niles-Maine District Library Commons Meeting Room 6960 W. Oakton St. Niles, IL 60714
Wednesday, February 5, 2020 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM Northbrook Public Library Pollak Room 1201 Cedar Ln. Northbrook, IL 60062	Tuesday, February 11, 2020 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Levy Senior Center Linden Room 300 Dodge Ave. Evanston, IL 60202	Tuesday, February 18, 2020 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Wilmette Public Library Auditorium 1242 Wilmette Ave. Wilmette, IL 60091

APWA Video Highlights Opportunities Through Public Works Careers

The American Public Works Association's Chicago Chapter recently partnered with the *Village of Buffalo Grove* Public Works Department to create a video that demonstrates the unique opportunities available through careers in public works. The video explains the many paths people can take to get started in the field and the pivotal role that public works plays in local government. To view and share the video, please visit APWA Chicago's [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) channels.

IDOT to Conduct Work Zone Safety Training Session

On February 18, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Technology Transfer Center will host a training course titled "Implementing Safe Work Zone Operations Strategies". Recommended attendees include municipal planners, engineers, elected officials and others who are interested in strategies to reduce roadway work zone incidents. The event will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy, 2300 Patriot Boulevard, in *Glenview*. For more information and to register, please contact Barry Kent, Barry.Kent@illinois.gov.



Village of Northbrook

Public Comment Period Open for RTA Community Planning Program

On January 10, the Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) released its [2020 proposed Community Planning Program of projects](#) for public review. For over 20 years, the RTA has used this program to invest \$21 million in over 200 projects across the region. The program funds Transit Oriented Development (TOD) projects, special transit funding districts, transit corridor plans and neighborhood transit mobility improvement plans. This year's recommended program includes six projects from suburban municipalities, including one submitted by the *Village of Hanover Park* to update their zoning code to align with their TOD plan. The public comment period will run until February 8 and comments can be submitted to applications@rtachicago.org.



Village of Glencoe

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