

Transportation Newsletter

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Northwest Municipal Conference
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Cover Photo: Village of Fox Lake



Northwest Municipal Conference

Dates to Remember:

Thursday, July 15, 8:30 a.m. — *North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee*

Friday, July 23, 8:30 a.m. — *Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee*

IDOT Announces ITEP Project Selections – Congratulations NWMC Member Awardees!

Construction of new bicycle and pedestrian projects in NWMC communities received a significant boost in June as the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) released their list of awarded projects for Cycle 14 of the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP). Of 270 applications received, 99 projects were chosen for funding totaling over \$105 million from federal and state fund sources. Highlighting the award list are 17 bicycle and pedestrian focused projects totaling \$23,117,920 in *Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines, Elk Grove Village, Evanston, Glenview, Hanover Park, Highland Park, Hoffman Estates, Lake Forest, Niles, Prospect Heights, Rolling Meadows, Streamwood and Wilmette*.

For more information on the program and this year's awards, please visit [IDOT's website](https://www.idot.gov/transportation-enhancement-program).

NWMC Publicizes Multimodal Transportation Plan at Busse Lake Fishing Derby

Cook County Commissioner Kevin Morrison and the Forest Preserves of Cook County celebrated the finale of Outdoors Week 2021 by hosting the annual Busse Lake Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 19. NWMC staff participated in the event by setting up a table to interact with Cook County residents by handing out free water bottles and sharing information about how the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan aims to create a safer and more accessible region for people walking, biking, and accessing transit. A special shout out to *Hanover Park* Mayor Rodney Craig for attending the event and stopping by our table.



Hanover Park Mayor Rodney Craig and NWMC Staff attending Busse Lake Fishing Derby

Bartlett and Streamwood Seeking Input on Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is partnering with the villages of *Bartlett* and *Streamwood* to develop a plan to make walking and bicycling more safe, comfortable, and convenient. CMAP, Bartlett, and Streamwood are working together to evaluate existing and future facilities to create connected networks for pedestrians and bicyclists. Learn more about the project and share ideas by visiting the engagement site, available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Pace Releases New Strategic Vision Plan for Public Comment

Pace has announced their recently completed strategic vision plan, *Driving Innovation*, is now available for public comment. The plan is the successor to the agency's Vision 2020 plan, and will establish Pace's major planning and policy initiatives and priorities for the future. Following the public comment period and incorporation of input received, the plan is anticipated to be adopted in Fall 2021. The plan is available on [Pace's website](#) and will be open for public comment until Friday, August 20.

Comments should be emailed to Driving.Innovation@PaceBus.com. For more information, please see Pace's [press release](#).

Metra Extends \$10 All-Day Pass through September

Metra has announced that it will continue to offer its popular \$10 All-Day Pass through September 30. The pass has been such a popular and affordable fare option for travelers during the COVID-19 pandemic that Metra is extending the availability of this special fare as workers begin to return to the office. The All-Day Pass is good for unlimited rides on any and all Metra lines all day until 3 a.m. the next morning. For most trips, the All-Day Pass costs less than two one-way fares. The pass was introduced on June 1, 2020 and is currently used by approximately one third of Metra riders. More information can be found in their most recent [press release](#).



Village of Wheeling

Last Call to Apply for RAISE Grants

As a final reminder, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) released [Circular Letter 2021-16](#) stating that the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) for the competitive transportation grant program known as the [RAISE \(Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity\) Grant Program](#). Fiscal Year 2021 RAISE grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to surface transportation projects that will have a significant local or regional impact.

RAISE funding can support roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports or intermodal transportation. Grants cannot be larger than \$25 million or less than \$5 million, except for projects located in rural areas where the minimum award size is \$1 million. Interested agencies should apply through [Grants.gov](#) by Monday, July 12 at 4:00 p.m. CT. For further information regarding this notice, please contact the RAISE grant program staff via email at RAISEgrants@dot.gov or call Howard Hill, 202-366-0301.

IDOT Releases 2019 and 2020 Statewide Crash Data

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) released [Circular Letter 2021-17](#) on Tuesday, June 15, announcing the availability of 2019 and 2020 crash data. This data provides the critical information required for the identification of areas requiring improvement, work on safety studies, and analysis on the location and number of crashes. The Department has assembled a wealth of information available to Local Public Agencies (LPA) and members of professions and organizations that have use for this data via a number of resources that can be found in the letter.

CMAP Extends Nomination Deadline for the Regional Excellence Awards

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) wants to honor communities and the projects that have made northeastern Illinois a better place to live, work, and do business. Municipal leaders, nonprofits, transit agencies, and advocates are invited to submit nominations for CMAP's first-ever [Regional Excellence Awards](#). The program recognizes individuals and projects that prioritize equity, strengthen the resiliency of the 284 communities that work with CMAP, and make the region more economically competitive.

[Nominations](#) are being accepted until Wednesday, July 5 at 5:00 p.m. The region's accomplishments will be celebrated during CMAP's inaugural State of the Region event on October 7.



City of Evanston

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