

Transportation Newsletter

November 2022
Volume 14 Issue 11

Northwest Municipal Conference
1600 E. Golf Rd. Suite 0700 Des Plaines, IL 60016
Phone: 847-296-9200 www.nwmc-cog.org
Cover Photo: Village of Grayslake



Dates to Remember:

NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Tuesday, November 22, 10:30 a.m.

NWMC Transportation Committee
Thursday, December 1, 8:30 a.m.

New Local STP Programs Approved for North Shore and Northwest Councils

Two new programs of Surface Transportation Program (STP) projects for the North Shore and Northwest Councils of Mayors were approved at CMAP's Board and MPO Policy Committee meeting on October 12. These programs are composed of five years of federal funding allocated the region and awarded to municipalities for important road, bridge, and intersection improvements.

Between the two councils, over \$49 million in funding was awarded for 36 new projects. Project types included both resurfacings and full reconstructions, intersection improvements and one grade separation. For more information on the new programs, please visit the [North Shore](#) and [Northwest](#) Council websites.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Learns About Safety Resources

At their October 18 meeting, the NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met with Victoria Barrett, Transportation Planner with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, who provided an update on CMAP's Safety Resource Group. The update included an overview of regional traffic safety efforts, speed management strategies and bicycle and pedestrian safety. Ms. Barrett reported that CMAP had applied for funding through the federal Safe Streets for All program in order to help facilitate safety planning throughout the region. Committee members shared updates on local projects, including *Hoffman Estates* and *Mount Prospect* receiving Statewide Planning & Research grants.

Tollway Seeks Comment on Tentative 2023 Budget

Last month, the Illinois Tollway introduced a Tentative 2023 Budget and is now seeking public comment on the spending plan. According to the tollway, the balanced budget includes \$426.5 million for annual maintenance and operations on the 294-mile system and provides funds to support \$1.47 billion in capital spending, including funding for the 12th year of the agency's 15-year, \$14 billion capital program entitled "Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future."

As part of the Illinois Tollway's 2023 Budget process, the general public is invited to visit the Illinois Tollway's [website](#) to review the [Tentative 2023 Budget Book](#) or view a recording of the [presentation](#) to the board. The public may also attend either of two hearings on Thursday, November 17, 9:00 a.m. at Illinois Tollway headquarters in Downers Grove or 6:00 p.m. at the Markham Village Hall, 16313 South Kedzie Parkway.

NWMC Communities Participate in International Walk to School Day

On October 12 Illinois schools joined others throughout the world to celebrate International Walk to School Day. International Walk to School Day provides an opportunity for schools to ensure kids have safe routes to school and encourages students to improve their own health and the health of the environment by walking or rolling to school instead of traveling by private vehicles. Of the 122 Illinois schools participating in this annual event, 22 from 14 NWMC communities participated, including schools in *Arlington Heights*, *Bartlett*, *Des Plaines*, *Evanston*, *Glenview*, *Hanover Park*, *Highland Park*, *Hoffman Estates*, *Kenilworth*, *Mount Prospect*, *Palatine*, *Schaumburg*, *Streamwood* and *Wilmette*. For more information about International Walk to School Day and how to participate, please visit www.walkbiketoschool.org.



IDOT Releases SMART & ATTAIN Grant NOFOs

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) and Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) grants. SMART grants will offer up to \$100 million annually over the next five years for projects that use data and technology to solve real-world challenges facing communities today. ATTAIN grants will have \$60 available million to promote advanced technologies to improve safety and reduce travel times for drivers and transit riders and that can serve as national examples.

Public agencies interested in applying for SMART grants should submit application packages by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 18 via [Valid Eval](#), an online submission proposal system used by USDOT. Public agencies interested in applying for ATTAIN grants should submit application packages by 10:59 p.m. on Friday, November 18, through www.Grants.gov.

As both a courtesy and to assist IDOT in tracking applications submitted, please inform Local Program Development Engineer Stephane B. Seck-Birhame, 217-782-3972 or Bablibile.Seck@illinois.gov and/or contact him with any questions.



IDOT Announces Truck Access Route Program

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is accepting applications for the \$7 million [Truck Access Route Program \(TARP\)](#). Applications should include information pertaining to prior IDOT commitments, a description of industries, municipalities and truck generators along the proposed route, projected growth in the area and the number of trucks using the proposed route. Completed project applications and location maps should be submitted to the appropriate IDOT District Local Roads and Streets office no later than Monday, November 28. Project award notifications are anticipated to be announced during the week of December 19.

Applications and more information can be found by visiting the [IDOT website](#). Any questions regarding TARP funding should be directed to Local Program Development Engineer Stephane B. Seck-Birhame, 217-782-3972 or Bablibile.Seck@Illinois.gov. Questions regarding design issues should be addressed to the appropriate District Local Roads Field Engineer.



Village of Buffalo Grove

New Data Available for Localized Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) has updated the [greenhouse gas emissions inventory](#), which shows that between 2010 and 2019, overall emissions in northeastern Illinois decreased by 9 percent — or about 1 percent each year. While this is progress, CMAP notes that the region has a shared goal of reducing emissions by 5 percent annually through 2050.

While total emissions decreased, transportation emissions increased by 2 percent, showing the need for increased action in that sector. For the first time, CMAP released [individualized data](#) summaries by county, community and Chicago neighborhood that provide a snapshot of emissions from building, transportation and waste sectors. For more information, please visit [CMAP's website](#) or contact Jared Patton, jpatton@cmap.illinois.gov.

Submit Nominations for Regional Excellence Awards

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's (CMAP) annual Regional Excellence Awards will return in Spring 2023. The program offers a unique opportunity for municipal leaders, nonprofits, transportation agencies and advocates to have their exceptional work recognized by peers from across northeastern Illinois. CMAP is seeking nominations for individuals and projects that prioritize equity, strengthen the resiliency of the region's 284 communities and make them more economically competitive. If interested in submitting a community, agency or partner organization deserving of recognition, please see [CMAP's website](#) for the award categories and [make a nomination](#) by 5:00 p.m. Friday, December 16.

USDOT Launches New Thriving Communities Program

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is seeking applications for its new Thriving Communities Program. The program will provide two years of technical assistance to communities that are under-resourced and disadvantaged, supporting them with developing and delivering projects that can encourage revitalization.

Nonprofits, state, local or tribal governments can apply now for the capacity builder portion of the program. Capacity builders can apply individually or as a team through Tuesday, November 22. Capacity builders funded through the program will assist selected communities with developing projects. Additionally, state, local, tribal governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and transit agencies are eligible to receive program assistance when applying with community partners. Groups can submit a letter of interest to participate in the Thriving Communities Program by Tuesday, December 6.

The Department will host a [series of upcoming webinars](#), which will be recorded, about the Thriving Communities Program for both interested communities and capacity builders. For more information, please visit the [USDOT's website](#).

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Phone: 847-296-9200 | www.nwmc-cog.org

Kendra Johnson: 847-296-9200 ext. 131
KJohnson@nwmc-cog.org

Eric Czarnota: 847-296-9200 ext. 128
ECzarnota@nwmc-cog.org

CMAP to Host Free ADA Training

On Tuesday, November 15, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is hosting a free [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) Compliance training session. This workshop is part of a pilot program whereby ADA coordinators, municipal staff and community leaders can help shape CMAP's future training program and resources. Participants can expect to learn about the ADA and Title II requirements, how to complete self-evaluations, the role of an ADA coordinator and how to develop transition plans.

The workshop will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the CMAP office, 433 W. Van Buren Street in Chicago. Please note that a light breakfast will be served. Advance registration is required via this [online form](#), please contact CMAP staff, accessibility@cmap.illinois.gov, with any questions.



Village of Highland Park