

Transportation Newsletter

January 2020
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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 Elk Grove Village



Northwest Municipal Conference

Dates to Remember:

Friday, January 10, 8:30 a.m. – North Shore
Council of Mayors Technical Committee –
NWMC Offices

Friday, January 10, 9:00 a.m. - noon – STP-L
Call for Projects Workshop – *Oakton
Community College, Room 1604*

Wednesday, January 15 – **STP-L Call for
Projects Opens**

Tuesday, January 21, 10:30 a.m. – Bicycle
and Pedestrian Committee – *NWMC Offices*

Thursday, January 23, 8:30 a.m. –
Transportation Committee – *NWMC Offices*

Last Call to Register for Call for Projects Workshop

To prepare for the 2020 Call for Projects for the Local Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) opening later this month, NWMC staff will host a workshop to review the new applications and submittal process for the North Shore and Northwest Councils of Mayors. Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) staff will also present an overview of Active Program Management policies and requirements that will be in effect for this cycle.

The workshop will be held on Friday, January 10, from 9:00 a.m. to noon in Room 1604 at Oakton Community College in *Des Plaines*. Please RSVP by Monday, January 6 to Kendra Johnson, kjohnson@nwmc-cog.org or 847-296-9200, ext. 131.

NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan Moving Toward Completion

As part of the final steps in completing the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan, the project team released a [new online map](#) that shows missing sidewalk gaps throughout the region. The map assigns priority to sidewalk gaps based on their proximity to schools, transit, mixed use and commercial areas, job centers, as well as the street's classification. These segments were separated into three priority tiers, which can be viewed on the map. A draft of the full plan will be released to the project steering committee in the next few weeks, with the final plan on track to be completed by the end of the month. For more information, please visit the [project website](#) or contact Kendra Johnson, kjohnson@nwmc-cog.org.



NWMC
Multimodal
Transportation
Plan

VIEW THE

SIDEWALK
MAP

ICC Grade Crossing Protection Fund Applications Due January 15, 2020

Last week, the Illinois Commerce Commission announced that its Transportation Bureau will accept Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) project applications until January 15, 2020 for the FY2021-2025 program. Approximately \$39 million is available annually to fund safety improvements at highway-rail crossings on local roads and streets. Funds cannot be used for improvements at crossings on the state road or highway system.

The GCPF is typically used to help pay for: warning device upgrades; new/reconstructed grade separations; vertical clearance improvements at grade separations; pedestrian grade separations; interconnects; highway approaches; connecting roads; remote monitoring devices; crossing closures; and, crossing surface renewals. Projects are prioritized by several criteria, including the relative safety of the existing crossing, as well as the volume and types of existing train and highway traffic. The Grade Crossing Protection Fund Project Application form and Resource Guide may be accessed under Rail Safety on the [ICC website](#).

U.S. DOT Announces Funding for Safety Data Tools

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) recently announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to help local agencies develop data tools to improve roadway safety. The USDOT estimates that between \$250,000 and \$500,000 will be available to each successful applicant to fund the development and implementation of tools to address local roadway safety issues. Applications are due by 3:00 p.m. on January 17, 2020. For more information and to apply, please refer to the [NOFO available online](#).

IDOT Releases Bridge Preservation Guide

On December 10, the Illinois Department of Transportation announced the release of their first [Bridge Preservation Guide](#), which provides a framework for the state to preserve bridges as well as for local public agencies in developing their own preservation programs. Since the guide was approved by the FHWA, all activities included within it in the state of Illinois are eligible for federal funding. For more information, please see the [IDOT circular letter](#), or contact William Beisner, Bridge Management and Inspection Unit Chief, DOT.BBS.BridgeMgmt@illinois.gov.



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Village of Glencoe