

# Transportation Newsletter

March 2020  
Volume 12 Issue 3

Northwest Municipal Conference  
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Cover Photo: Village of Elk Grove Village



Northwest Municipal Conference

## Dates to Remember:

Monday, March 16, 5:00 p.m. – Northwest & North Shore STP-L Calls for Projects Close

Thursday, March 26, 8:30 a.m. –  
Transportation Committee – *NWMC Offices*

**Note: The March 17 Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee meeting has been cancelled**

## One Week Left to Submit Northwest and North Shore Council STP-L Projects

The Northwest and North Shore Councils of Mayors calls for Local Surface Transportation (STP-L) projects close in one week. More information on project requirements can be found in both Councils' updated methodologies and individual applications, both of which are 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](mailto:kjohnson@nwmc-cog.org) (for Northwest Council projects) or Matt Pasquini, [mpasquini@nwmc-cog.org](mailto:mpasquini@nwmc-cog.org) (for North Shore projects).

## Transportation Committee Reviews Full Draft of Multimodal Plan

At its February 27 meeting, the NWMC Transportation Committee received an overview from staff of the full draft of the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan. Staff outlined the plan's development, structure and resources available to help the Conference and member communities implement policies that increase access to walking, biking, and transit throughout the region.

The plan was presented to the NWMC Executive Board on Wednesday, March 4, with the final plan to be considered by the Conference Board for adoption on March 11.

## Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Discusses E-Bikes, Micromobility

The NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met Tuesday, February 18 and received a presentation from *Evanston Transportation and Mobility Coordinator Jessica Hyink*. She reviewed the City's recently approved e-bike ordinance and experiences adapting to increasing modes of micromobility.

The presentation described the legal framework that currently regulates e-bikes and outlined important policy considerations for municipalities to embrace and manage emerging trends. For more information, please contact Jessica, [jhyink@cityofevanston.org](mailto:jhyink@cityofevanston.org).

## Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee Updates

On February 28, the Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee met to receive agency updates and discuss local Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) funding status. CMAP staff provided details on possible funding solutions for some FFY 2020 projects and noted grant opportunities currently open for applications. The Committee also heard from regional agency staff regarding current initiatives, such as Cook County's partnership with the Federal Railroad Administration to hold a [Rail Trespasser Safety Summit](#) in May and Metra's ongoing fare evasion mitigation efforts. The Northwest Council of Mayors' current STP-L Call for Projects will end on Monday, March 16 at 5:00 p.m. and project sponsors are encouraged to contact staff with any submittal related questions. The next Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 24, 8:30 a.m. at the *Barrington Village Hall*.





## **Active Transportation Alliance to Host Complete Streets Q&A with IDOT**

On Friday, March 13, the Active Transportation Alliance's Complete Streets Coalition is hosting its quarterly meeting. Staff from the Illinois Department of Transportation's District 1 office will participate in a Q&A to discuss the State's Complete Streets policy and how communities can best work with IDOT to incorporate walking and biking facilities into local and state road projects.

The meeting will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the CMAP office on the 8th floor of Willis Tower, 233 South Wacker Drive in Chicago. For more information and to register for the event, please visit the [registration website](#) or contact Maggie Melin, [maggie@activetrans.org](mailto:maggie@activetrans.org).

## **U.S. Department of Transportation Soliciting BUILD Program Applications**

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) recently announced through the Federal Register the solicitation of project applications for the competitive transportation grant program known as Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD).

BUILD Transportation grants invest in surface transportation infrastructure and are awarded on a competitive basis to projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. BUILD funding can support roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports or intermodal transportation.

Applications should be submitted to [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by 5:00 PM E.S.T. on Monday, May 18. The USDOT has hosted a series of webinars for interested applicants, the last of which will be held on Tuesday, March 10 at 10:00 a.m. More details and registration for the webinar are available on the [BUILD program website](#). Project sponsors can also refer to the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) or contact [BUILDgrants@dot.gov](mailto:BUILDgrants@dot.gov) with questions.

## **RTA Access to Transit, Call for Projects Open March 13**

The Regional Transportation Authority's (RTA) Call for Projects for its Access to Transit program will open next week. This program leverages RTA and local funds with federal funding to help implement recommendations from planning studies completed through the RTA's Community Planning program or CMAP's Local Technical Assistance program. New to this year, project sponsors can now apply for funding to go toward Phase I engineering as well as micromobility projects. Once the Call goes live on Friday, March 13, updated information, including the project application, will be available on the RTA's [Access to Transit Website](#). For more information, please contact Heather Mullins, [mullinsh@rtachicago.org](mailto:mullinsh@rtachicago.org) or Alex Devlin, [devlina@rtachicago.org](mailto:devlina@rtachicago.org).



City of Evanston

## One Week Left to Apply for Invest in Cook Funding

The fourth round of the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highway's 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 on the program, please visit the [Invest in Cook website](#) or contact Tim Egan, [tim.egan@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:tim.egan@cookcountyil.gov).

## Funding Opportunity for Statewide Planning and Research Funds

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for their Statewide Planning and Research funds. Eligible projects should be related to the state's Long Range Transportation Plan or one of its associated plans, performance based program development, asset management or benefit a disadvantaged or economically distressed community.

This call for projects opened February 3 and closes on Friday, March 13 at 11:59 p.m. For more information please see the [IDOT circular letter](#) or visit the [program website](#).



Village of Glenview

## Cook County CDBG Call for Projects Open

Cook County's 2020 Call for Projects for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is now open. Only communities within Cook County that do not administer their own allotment of CDBG funding are eligible to apply. Communities can submit an application to one of two programming areas – Capital Improvement/ Demolition/Economic Development or Public Service/Planning.

Applications must be submitted electronically through [Cook County's website](#) and are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13. More information is available in the [2020 CDBG Program Funding Application Guide](#), or by contacting Dominic Tocci, [dominic.tocci@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:dominic.tocci@cookcountyil.gov).

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