

# Transportation Newsletter

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Northwest Municipal Conference  
1600 E. Golf Rd. Suite 0700 Des Plaines, IL 60016  
Phone: 847-296-9200      [www.nwmc-cog.org](http://www.nwmc-cog.org)  
Cover Photo: Village of Fox Lake



Left: NWMC's Kendra Johnson with Congressman Brad Schneider at Highland Park's National Night Out

## NWMC Staff Promote Multi-Modal Plan at Community Events Around the Region

Throughout the summer NWMC staff have attended various members' community events to share information about the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan with residents and local stakeholders. In August, staff attended *Highland Park's* National Night Out and *Mount Prospect's* Family Bike Ride.

Participation in these events is part of the Conference's effort to roll out the Multimodal Plan and increase awareness and support for the initiatives contained in the Plan. A huge thank you to our member communities who have hosted us this summer, including *Hanover Park*, *Highland Park*, *Lake Bluff*, *Mount Prospect* and *Niles*.

Right: Mount Prospect Family Bike Ride



## Safe Routes to School Call for Projects Now Open

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has opened the call for projects for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, which runs until Thursday, September 30. This year's cycle will award funding to infrastructure projects only, and the maximum award per project has been raised to \$250,000 with a 20 percent required local match. To help local agencies prepare for SRTS applications, the Active Transportation Alliance and Illinois Public Health Institute will host two webinars for interested applicants, one of which has already occurred and a recording has been posted. Please see registration and recording info below:

Webinar #1: SRTS Grant Guidelines – [Webinar Recording](#) – [Slides](#)

[Register HERE for Webinar 2:](#) SRTS Grant Q&A – Wednesday, September 8, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

More information is available in [Circular Letter 2021-20](#), on [IDOT's website](#) or by contacting [DOT.SafeRoutes@illinois.gov](mailto:DOT.SafeRoutes@illinois.gov).

## Dates to Remember:

Thursday, September 16, 8:30 a.m. —  
*NWMC Transportation Committee*

Tuesday, September 22, 10:30 a.m. —  
*NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee*

\*\*\*Meetings will be held in a hybrid in-person/  
virtual format\*\*\*



## Invest in Cook Awards Announced

The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOH) released the [2021 Invest in Cook program](#), which funds various transportation projects across the county. The program is designed to solicit applications for improvements consistent with the five priorities of Connecting Cook County, which guides how the county invests in transportation to attract and retain businesses, people, capital and talent.

Over 30 projects were selected for a total of \$8,502,580 in funding assistance, \$1.6 million of which was awarded to NWMC members, including *Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Glenview, Lincolnwood, Niles, and Skokie*. For more information, please visit [Cook County's website](#).



## **IDOT Accepting Applications for Illinois Special Bridge Program**

In August, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Illinois Special Bridge Program (ISBP). Candidate projects should be existing deficient bridges eligible for Surface Transportation Program-Bridge funding that carry a highway. Only construction and construction engineering phases will be eligible for funding, with a minimum total project cost of \$1 million inclusive of all phases. Local agencies who are awarded funding are responsible for a 20 percent local match toward eligible costs. If a bridge is not under the jurisdictional responsibility of the local agency, the agency can still apply for funding so long as it executes an agreement with the responsible entity for a jurisdictional transfer. Applications are due by Tuesday, October 5 via email to the appropriate IDOT District Local Roads office. For more information and to submit an application, please refer to the instructions included in [Circular Letter 2021-19](#) or contact Melinda Kos, [Melinda.Kos@illinois.gov](mailto:Melinda.Kos@illinois.gov).

## **Metra Announces Minor Schedule Changes for North Central Service**

On August 30, Metra announced new schedule adjustments on two of its lines, including the North Central Service (NCS). Adjustments were made in response to analysis of customer requests, ridership patterns and operational performance. Changes on the NCS will add running time on one outgoing and one inbound train per day to more accurately reflect actual operating conditions. For more information and to view the new schedules, please visit [Metra's website](#).



Village of Barrington

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