

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016
(847) 296-9200 • Fax (847) 296-9207
www.nwmc-cog.org



*A Regional Association of Illinois
Municipalities and Townships
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

MEMBERS

Antioch
Arlington Heights
Bannockburn
Barrington
Bartlett
Buffalo Grove
Deer Park
Deerfield
Des Plaines
Elk Grove Village
Evanston
Fox Lake
Glencoe
Glenview
Grayslake
Hanover Park
Highland Park
Hoffman Estates
Kenilworth
Lake Bluff
Lake Forest
Lake Zurich
Libertyville
Lincolnshire
Lincolnwood
Morton Grove
Mount Prospect
Niles
Northbrook
Northfield
Northfield Township
Palatine
Park Ridge
Prospect Heights
Rolling Meadows
Schaumburg
Skokie
Streamwood
Vernon Hills
West Dundee
Wheeling
Wilmette
Winnetka

President
Tom Dailly
Schaumburg

Vice-President
Rodney Craig
Hanover Park

Secretary
Donna Johnson
Libertyville

Treasurer
John Lockerby
Skokie

Executive Director
Mark L. Fowler

Northwest Municipal Conference Transportation Committee

Agenda

March 28, 2024

8:30 a.m.

NWMC Offices and Video Conference

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89288288252>

Meeting ID: 892 8828 8252

Passcode: 376101

Dial by your location: (312) 626-6799

I. Call to Order

II. February 29 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)

Action Requested: Approve Minutes

III. Agency Reports

- a. **CMAP (Attachment B)**
- b. **Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways**
- c. **IDOT Highways**
- d. **IDOT Local Roads (Attachment D)**
- e. **Illinois Tollway**
- f. **Metra**
- g. **Pace (Attachment E)**
- h. **RTA (Attachment F)**

IV. RTA – Safety Summit

RTA staff will present lessons learned from their cross-sector Public Transit Safety and Security Summit that was hosted last month with CTA, Metra, Pace, the City of Chicago, State of Illinois and other municipal and social service partners.

V. Upcoming Funding Deadlines (Attachment G)

NWMC staff will share upcoming transportation funding opportunities that will close prior to the next committee meeting.

- a) **IDOT Statewide Planning and Research Funds**
- b) **Climate Pollution Reduction Grants**

VI. Other Business

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NWMC Transportation Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 25 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC offices and via videoconference.

VIII. Adjourn

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016
(847) 296-9200 • Fax (847) 296-9207
www.nwmc-cog.org



*A Regional Association of Illinois
Municipalities and Townships
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

MEMBERS

Antioch
Arlington Heights
Bannockburn
Barrington
Bartlett
Buffalo Grove
Deer Park
Deerfield
Des Plaines
Elk Grove Village
Evanston
Fox Lake
Glencoe
Glenview
Grayslake
Hanover Park
Highland Park
Hoffman Estates
Kenilworth
Lake Bluff
Lake Forest
Lake Zurich
Libertyville
Lincolnshire
Lincolnwood
Morton Grove
Mount Prospect
Niles
Northbrook
Northfield
Northfield Township
Palatine
Park Ridge
Prospect Heights
Rolling Meadows
Schaumburg
Skokie
Streamwood
Vernon Hills
West Dundee
Wheeling
Wilmette
Winnetka

President
Tom Dailly
Schaumburg

Vice-President
Rodney Craig
Hanover Park

Secretary
Donna Johnson
Libertyville

Treasurer
John Lockerby
Skokie

Executive Director
Mark L. Fowler

**Northwest Municipal Conference
Transportation Committee**

Minutes

Thursday, February 29, 2024

NWMC Offices and Video Conference**Members Present**

Donna Johnson, Mayor, Libertyville, Co-Chair
Rodney Craig, Mayor, Hanover Park, Co-Chair
Heather Lis, Village Engineer, Barrington
Kyle Johnson, Deputy Public Works Director/Village Engineer, Buffalo Grove
Bob Benton, Trustee, Deerfield
Eric Heiker, Civil Engineer, Des Plaines
Bill McLeod, Mayor, Hoffman Estates
Terri Gens, Trustee, Mount Prospect
Sean Dorsey, Director of Public Works, Mount Prospect
Bob Israel, Trustee, Northbrook
Mayor Lara Sanoica, Rolling Meadows
Brian Bieschke, Trustee, Schaumburg
Samantha Maximillian, Senior Engineer, Skokie

Others Present

Marie Hansen, Barrington
Maggie Jablonski, Elk Grove Village
Eric Schmidt, Elk Grove Village
Jeff Brady, Glenview
Tim O'Brien, Niles
Jack Bielak, Northbrook
Sidney Kenyon, Schaumburg
Lindsay Bayley, CMAP
Ryan Ruehle, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
Joe Seymour, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
Reed Panther, Illinois Tollway
Katelyn Dote, Metra
Steven Andrews, Pace Suburban Bus
Zachary Braun, RTA
Joe Cwynar, Engineering Enterprises
Mark Fowler, NWMC
Larry Bury, NWMC
Brian Larson, NWMC

I. Call to Order

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

II. **January 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Trustee Benton moved approval of the January 25, 2024 minutes. Trustee Israel seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

III. **Agency Reports**

a. **CMAP**

CMAP was unable to attend but provided a written report prior to the meeting.

b. **Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways**

Mr. Ruehle shared that there was no report this month, but the County plans to provide quarterly reports starting in March. Mr. Ruehle also encouraged communities to apply to the [Invest in Cook](#) program, which is accepting applications.

c. **IDOT Highways**

No written report.

d. **IDOT Local Roads**

No written report.

e. **Illinois Tollway**

Mr. Panther shared that the Tollway is continuing the conversion from transponders to sticker tags. Mayor Johnson asked how users will be notified about the conversion process. Mr. Panther responded that customers would receive notice when the existing transponder is expiring, but they can exchange them out beforehand too.

Trustee Israel asked where the transponders can be returned. Mr. Panther said they can be discarded in the trash.

Mr. Panther added that Tollway is beginning outreach on its new capital program.

Trustee Benton added that Jewel stores will issue Tollway stickers.

f. **Metra – Katelyn Dote**

Ms. Dote shared that Metra continues to see ridership improve, with weekend service increasing quicker than weekday. Metra is also updating schedules for the Milwaukee District – North line to reflect current service, with an increase in offpeak service to hourly intervals.

Ms. Dote also followed up on questions raised at the prior Transportation Committee about Metra's rollout of ticket vending machines, that the current rollout of machines at all stations only accept credit cards, as delivery of the cash machines are currently delayed.

Ms. Dote discussed the rollout of [Metra's Bike Car 1.5](#), as well as deployment of [new battery cars](#) for more off-hour service. Trustee Benton asked whether the new battery cars would be double deck. Ms. Dote responded that the new cars would have multiple floors, with two sets of doors at each end, and level service to the platform. Mayor Craig added that the federal grant received by Metra will extend their purchase capability.

Mayor Johnson asked about potential for train car manufacturing delays affecting delivery of the battery cars. Ms. Dote is not aware of any but there are production delays across the board.

Trustee Israel asked about the status of the Ventra app following the rollout problems encountered. Ms. Dote responded that the Ventra app is at 80% functionality and work is ongoing. Mayor Craig added that Hanover Park is developing Metra customer response teams at the stations to help address these concerns.

g. Pace – Steven Andrews

Mr. Andrews shared that Pace is hosting a bus driver hiring event at Harper College on March 19, with a CDL course for potential hires on April 23. He added that every Thursday is a Hire on the Spot event at Pace headquarters in Arlington Heights.

Mr. Andrews shared that the [On Demand zone for Arlington Heights/Rolling Meadows/Mount Prospect](#) has now expanded.

Mr. Andrews shared that Pace is introducing its Rideshare Access Program on March 11 for all paratransit travel. This program will provide a subsidy for ADA paratransit customers to use rideshare services to expand customer access. ADA paratransit customers will also no longer be charged fare for fixed route services.

Mayor Sanoica shared that Rolling Meadows is collecting feedback on the On Demand Service and thanked Commissioner Trevor for their work advocating for the change. Mayor Sanoica shared that current feedback shows a student who needs to access Harper College encounters delays and difficulty by needing to transfer at the Pace Northwest Transportation Center.

h. RTA

Mr. Braun shared that systemwide ridership is up from last year. Additionally, he shared that the Metra Access Pilot program is now live, providing SNAP recipients with reduced fares on Metra. He added that pending additional state funds, the Access Pilot will be expanded to include Pace and CTA service.

The RTA also recently hosted a Safety Summit with various local leaders to share experiences from LA Metro. Mr. Braun shared that [posting and recordings are available online](#).

Mr. Braun encouraged communities to apply for the RTA's [Community Planning Program](#), whose Call for Projects is now open. He shared that RTA staff is available for a presentation on the application process.

IV. CMAP Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) Update

Mr. Larson shared an update on the status of the CMAP Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART). CMAP, through Director Aleman, had a brief meeting with state legislators regarding PART, but no additional action or introduction of legislation has yet occurred.

V. Safe Travel for All Roadmap (STAR)

Ms. Bayley presented on the [Safe Travel for All Roadmap \(STAR\)](#). STAR was created to address increasing numbers of roadway deaths, with an people cycling and walking representing an increasing share. STAR will provide a framework for safety research and programs within northeastern Illinois.

Ms. Bayley shared that CMAP is still onboarding the Cook County consultant for the STAR review, and that each municipality will be assigned to a county. CMAP will be reaching out to the communities that straddle county boundaries to identify which county the communities want to be associated with.

Mayor Johnson raised concerns about aggressive driver behavior.

Trustee Israel asked about speed studies, and how a community could get that process changed. Ms. Bayley responded that IDOT leadership has said they're committed to safety, so there is a need to identify where there are barriers to making roads safer. Trustee Israel mentioned that a lawsuit was filed against IDOT regarding an issue, although it was unsuccessful.

Trustee Israel recommended the book [Traffic: Why Humans Drive the Way They Do](#) as a behavioral study, and use of smaller vehicles to address danger of larger vehicles.

Mayor Johnson raised concern about E-Bike speeds for younger riders and their risk.

Mayor Craig mentioned House Bill 4976 as creating limitations on police enforcement of traffic violations.

VI. Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Demonstration Grants

NWMC staff shared information about the federal Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant program, which has opened for applications with a focus on temporary street design demonstration projects. NWMC staff offered to share examples of the types of projects that could be implemented.

Ms. Bayley shared that CMAP spoke with the FHWA team that leads the SS4A program and the FHWA recommended that all applications tie back to an identified safety issue. Ms. Bayley used the example of the Niles bike lane project as an applicable grant project because its curbs were technically removeable, and the grant program doesn't require the community to remove it. Ms. Bayley added that SS4A grants are up to \$10 million each.

VII. Winter Weather Infrastructure Clearance Policies

NWMC staff initiated a discussion regarding regional winter weather clearance policies and asked what member communities do to maintain transit, pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure access following severe weather events.

Mayor Johnson shared that Libertyville Public Works clears Metra access corridors and downtown pathways.

VIII. Other Business

Mr. Fowler shared that NWMC will put out a survey on winter weather policies to supplement the clearance policies discussion.

Trustee Israel asked about advance notice for the Illinois Municipal League (IML) lobby day on April 17. Mayor Sanoica summarized the conversation with Senator Villivalam during the NWMC Legislative days. Mr. Fowler said the NWMC will be down in Springfield before IML Lobby Day to work on various issues.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NWMC Transportation Committee is scheduled for Thursday, March 28 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC offices and via videoconference.

X. Adjourn

Trustee Israel moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m. Trustee Benton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

March 18, 2024

CMAP News

The CMAP office is open daily and [staff](#) have established hybrid work schedules. All CMAP committee meetings are held in-person, and a quorum of committee members must be physically present. CMAP continues to provide options for non-member attendees to participate in meetings virtually. Meeting materials, webinar links, minutes, and recordings can be found on [CMAP's Legistar page](#). For general questions, complete our [contact form](#). Subscribe to updates from CMAP on transportation, the economy, climate and more [here](#).

Job Opportunities

CMAP is hiring for several full-time positions: a [GIS Specialist](#) in the Research, Analysis, and Programming division; a [Senior Accountant](#) and [Accounts Payable](#) in the Finance division; a [Planner](#) in the Planning division. Visit CMAP's [Careers page](#) to discover more job opportunities.

Additionally, the Kane County DOT is seeking a [Bicycle/Pedestrian Planner](#).

Program Status Updates

Surface Transportation Program

The [STP Project Selection Committee](#) last met on November 2, 2023. The committee is scheduled to meet next on **April 11, 2024**, at 9:30 am. [Meeting Materials](#) are posted on CMAP's Legistar page one week in advance of the meetings. Program status reports for the STP Shared Fund, based on quarterly updates submitted by project sponsors and an accounting of available, programmed, and obligated funds for the region were updated in February and are available on CMAP's [STP web page](#).

Staff Contact: [Kama Dobbs](#) (312-386-8710)

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Carbon Reduction (CRP), and Transportation Alternatives (TAP-L)

The most recent [CMAQ Project Selection Committee](#) (PSC) meeting was held on February 15, 2024. The committee's next meeting is scheduled for **April 11, 2024**, at 11:00 am. [Meeting materials](#) are posted on CMAP's Legistar page one week in advance of the meetings. Information for submitting change requests for CMAQ, CRP, or TAP-L funded projects can be found on CMAP's [CMAQ web page](#).

Staff Contact: [Doug Ferguson](#) (312-386-8824)

Safe Travel for All Roadmap (STAR)

CMAP's STAR program continues to work to improve regional travel safety with assistance, resources and policy development. CMAP's Speed management paper is in the final stages of review to share with partners and the public. Our *Safe Streets and Roads for All* Regional Safety Action Plan program is starting, with six county-led safety action plans across the region. Staff initiated the contract process with six vendors; Kane, McHenry, and DuPage have executed contracts and kick off meetings scheduled or completed. The Regional Equity and Engagement consultant will be notified once the three remaining contracts are executed.

Technical assistance work also includes:

- Glendale Heights Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (Draft plan development phase)
- Round Lake Beach Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (Recommendations phase)
- Alsip Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (existing conditions phase)

March 18, 2024

- Richmond Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (initiation phase)
- West Cook Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (initiation phase)
- Greater Ashburn Safety Action Plan (anticipated start early February)

Staff Contact: [Lindsay Bayley](#) (312-386-8826)

CMAP News, Products, and Data

Improving Accessibility in the Region

CMAP has launched a program to help communities in northeastern Illinois improve accessibility for their residents and visitors with disabilities. This [CMAP webpage](#) provides communities and partners with essential information about improving accessibility and complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Sign-up to receive the Accessible Communities newsletter by updating your subscriber preferences [here](#).

CMAP also conducts a series of free ADA trainings, which cover ADA and Title II requirements, completing a self-evaluation, the role of an ADA coordinator, and developing a transition plan. Training slides and recordings from previous sessions are available on the [CMAP website](#). Registration is now open for spring [2024 ADA trainings](#), which will cover the following topics:

ADA self-evaluation and design standards

Monday, April 15, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ADA transition plans

Tuesday April 16, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)

Wednesday, May 1, 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. (PROWAG I), 1:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (PROWAG II)

Illinois Accessibility Code

Thursday, May 2, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Additionally, the U.S. Access Board has released a [series of videos](#) on PROWAG. These videos review the accessibility requirements to make sidewalks, crosswalks, shared use paths, on-street parking, and other pedestrian facilities accessible to people with disabilities.

2024 Northeastern Illinois Priority Transportation Investments

CMAP recently released [Northeastern Illinois Priority Investments](#), a blueprint documenting the highest-priority projects across the region for 2024. It reflects collaboration between CMAP and our partners at the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Chicago Department of Transportation, the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra, Pace, the region's seven counties, and the CREATE Program partners.

Our region has a vision, reflected in [ON TO 2050](#), the long-range plan for northeastern Illinois. As a legacy transportation system, implementers are working to maintain historic infrastructure while meeting current challenges with innovative and sustainable solutions. The projects described in this booklet reflect efforts to improve the lives of those who live, work, travel, and conduct business in

March 18, 2024

northeastern Illinois. Additional [online resources](#) to provide communities and partners with the essential information they need to know about IIJA and its benefits to the region are also available.

Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART)

At the direction of the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee, CMAP delivered the PART report to the Governor and Illinois General Assembly. The final PART report can be found, [here](#) and a recording of the PART launch event can be found [here](#).

Next steps? The 132-page report includes legislative options that the agency will distill for state legislators to guide their work for a responsive and sustainable public transit system for northeastern Illinois. CMAP will also share that legislative guide with county and municipal officials. CMAP will continue to provide updates about legislative initiatives related to the PART report and the future of public transit in northeastern Illinois. Please contact Jane Grover (jgrover@cmmap.illinois.gov) if you would like a briefing on the PART report.

2024 Priority Climate Action Plan Released

CMAP collaborated with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to prepare the [Priority Climate Action Plan](#) that will set the region on a path to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and allow communities in northeastern Illinois to compete for investments from the U.S. EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program.

The plan supports equitable investment in policies, practices, and technologies that can enhance the quality of life in our region. The goal is to reduce pollutant emissions, create high-quality jobs, and spur economic growth.

Up next, CMAP will work on the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. Due in June 2025, the plan will provide an overview of major regional sources and sinks of emissions, develop emissions scenarios and targets, and recommend strategies to reduce emissions. Learn more about this work by watching [this presentation](#) from the March CMAP Board meeting.

Proposed FY2025 Budget and Work Plan

Every day, CMAP serves our region in an effort to make northeastern Illinois a stronger, more resilient place to live. Our work is strategically planned in the region's long-range plan and in its annual budget and work plan. The CMAP Board recently approved the [proposed FY2025 Budget and Work Plan](#) for the next fiscal year starting July 1, 2024.

[Watch this 7-minute video](#) that highlights our work to strengthen the region's transportation system, economy, and resiliency to climate impacts. In addition, read our informative budget document to understand who we are, what we do, how we serve the region, where the money comes from and where it goes, our governance structure, and more.

Explore the CMAP data hub

CMAP's [Data Hub](#) provides vetted and trustworthy information about northeastern Illinois so local governments, community organizations, academic researchers, businesses, and more can learn and make informed decisions about their communities. The Data Hub allows you to search or browse by categories and tags. You can find tables or shapefiles for transit routes and stops, greenhouse gas emissions, economically disconnected and disinvested areas, bikeway inventory system, and more!

March 18, 2024

Public Participation Plan

CMAP's Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee approved a new [public participation plan](#) for the agency at its January meeting. CMAP creates a public participation plan every four years to inform regional stakeholders about opportunities to guide the agency's work and to commit to best practices for proactive, meaningful, and inclusive public engagement. The public participation plan guides CMAP's proactive engagement of the residents and stakeholders of northeastern Illinois and provides residents with guidance on participating in regional policy development and decision-making processes.

2023 Community Data Snapshots

Updated CMAP [Community Data Snapshots](#) are now available. The annual snapshots provide data-driven profiles for every county, municipality, and Chicago Community Area (CCA) in our region. The snapshots include updated demographic, socioeconomic, and employment data from the American Community Survey (ACS) datasets, updated land use summaries using data from the [Land Use Inventory](#), and updated estimated vehicle miles traveled per household. Staff has also created a [toolkit](#) to help communities share this information.

2023 CMAP Annual Report

The [Annual Report](#) highlights progress toward our region's shared vision and ON TO 2050 goals to make northeastern Illinois a stronger, more resilient place to live. In the past year, our region has made great strides toward our shared transportation, climate, and economic goals. These 2023 successes spotlight a strong, thriving, and resilient northeastern Illinois. We will share the report with the Illinois General Assembly and other key stakeholders. Copies will be made available for communities to distribute to their constituencies.

CMAP Legislative Update

During the March Board meeting the CMAP Board voted to approve language that modernizes the Regional Planning Act (RPA), CMAP's enabling legislation. CMAP is also seeking a \$5 million appropriation from the Illinois General Assembly to support our work that stretches beyond the transportation sector. Additionally, the Illinois Municipal League (IML) is pursuing changes to the Open Meetings Act (OMA) that would allow more flexibility for public bodies to meet remotely. CMAP staff is evaluating the possibility of working with IML to provide amendatory language that would add federally designated metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) with jurisdiction over a specific geographic area of more than 4,000 square miles to the legislation.

From Our Partners

IDOT BLRS Circular Letter 2024-08: Updated Joint Funding Agreements Due to Public Act 102-1092

On March 1, IDOT BLRS issued [Circular Letter 2024-08](#) outlining updates to joint funding agreements (BLR 05310 suite of agreements) due to Public Act 102-1092 that are **effective immediately**. The new suite of agreements replaces the existing GATA Uniform Intergovernmental Grant Agreement (UIGA) with three agreement types, dependent on the phase of the project and funding source: [BLR 05310 PE](#) should be used for federally-funded engineering work, [BLR 05310 C](#) for federally-funded construction and construction engineering work, and [BLR 05310 S](#) for state-funded work. For all federally-funded projects, an LRS Federal Funds Risk Assessment (Schedule 3) and Attestation on Single Audit Compliance (Schedule 4) must be completed when submitting draft joint funding agreements for review. These

March 18, 2024

schedules are included in the 5310 series forms. See the CL for details and always remember to download current forms from IDOT's [website](#) before submitting!

IDOT BLRS Circular Letter 2024-04 Phase I Engineering Forms Update

On February 13, IDOT BLRS issued [Circular Letter 2024-04](#) outlining changes to a number of phase 1 engineering forms. These forms are **effective immediately** and are required for all new projects initiated after March 1, 2024. See the CL for details and always remember to download current forms from IDOT's [website](#) before submitting!

IDOT BLRS Circular Letter 2024-05 QBS Threshold Limit Adjustment

On February 16, IDOT BLRS issued [Circular Letter 2024-05](#) amending the Qualified Based Selection (QBS) threshold value for procurement of engineering and professional services from \$40,000 to \$49,011 in Chapter 5 of the BLRS Manual, effective immediately.

Regional Transit Ridership Reached Post-Pandemic Highs in 2023

Ridership across the Chicago region's transit system continued to increase throughout 2023, according to the latest data from the CTA, Metra, and Pace. The region's fixed route system finished out the year with a total of 326.6 million rides, marking the first time since the pandemic that ridership was above 300 million. Adding 45 million rides over 2022 represents an increase that is equal to the annual transit ridership of Dallas. Read how ridership has changed in the [RTA Connections Blog](#).

Pace's First Electric Bus Enters Service

On Friday, January 19, Pace Suburban Bus debuted its inaugural battery-electric bus. The state-of-the-art GILLIG bus is now operational on [Route 381 95th Street](#) serving riders in the southwest suburbs, including Evergreen Park, Oak Lawn, Chicago Ridge, Bridgeview, Hickory Hills, and Palos Hills, and providing connections between the CTA Red Line and Moraine Valley College.

Pace, with its commitment to environmental stewardship as a key priority of the agency's [Driving Innovation](#) strategic vision plan, is actively working to reduce its carbon footprint and enhance air quality. Pace's ambitious initiative, [Project Zero](#), aims to convert its entire fleet of over 700 buses to zero-emission vehicles by 2040.

IDOT 2022 Pavement and Structure Data

Pavement and structure condition data, collected in 2022, is available on the IDOT website [here](#). At the bottom of the page, you can download a zip file, which contains Excel and GIS layer packages containing the data.

Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment (VRUSA)

The IDOT [Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment \(VRUSA\)](#) has been completed and is now available for download and use. The VRUSA contains the Department's efforts to help stakeholders identify programs and projects to address vulnerable road user safety through stakeholders' engagement and data analysis. It also outlines safety strategies based on the safe system approach with a profound consideration for equity principles. It is our intention for this document to be an important tool for stakeholders to continue to address the needs of VRU's in their communities.

To assist in the use of the VRUSA for the planning of future projects that address the safety of VRUs, a [VRUSA Dashboard](#) has been created that allows the user to view the results of the VRUSA data analysis

March 18, 2024

in a way that can be filtered to specific areas of the state. The final document, recordings of the webinars, and more information can be found at the [VRU webpage](#).

FHWA Publishes Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Highway Safety Improvement Program

On February 21, 2024, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register [[89 FR 13000](#)] to update the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) regulations under [23 CFR Part 924](#). The NPRM addresses provisions in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (also known as the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” (BIL)) and reflects current agency priorities and state-of-practice. The comment deadline is **April 22, 2024**.

Funding Opportunities

CMAP 2024 Technical Assistance Call for Projects Opens February 26

CMAP and the RTA are partnering to host this year’s call for projects to receive planning support to make roads safer, increase accessibility, and improve connections for all users. The online application covers the different program offerings and asks interested applicants a series of questions to identify their project goals and strategies. Communities may submit through **noon Friday, March 22**. For questions about the application process, please email applications@cmapp.illinois.gov.

The planning assistance opportunities offered through the call are meant to support communities as they continue to collaborate, innovate, and plan for a more prosperous future post-pandemic. Communities selected for projects will have opportunities to strengthen planning capacity, cultivate innovative transportation approaches, and better prepare for the many funding opportunities available under the IIJA. Visit the [call for projects web page](#) to learn more about this opportunity.

Federal Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Application Opening Soon

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has issued a NOFO for [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#) grant funding. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries, including CMAP’s [Safe Travel for All Roadmap](#). There are multiple application deadlines for different grant types, starting **April 4, 2024**.

Need help understanding USDOT grants?

- USDOT offers resources for applicants including the [DOT Navigator](#) and [Project Readiness Checklist](#).
- [Local Infrastructure Hub](#) offers courses to help small and mid-sized cities develop competitive infrastructure grant applications, including a [Grant Application Bootcamp](#) for SS4A.

Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

On March 4, 2024, IDOT BLRS issued [Circular Letter 2024-09](#) announcing a NOFO for the annual Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) Funds Program to external partners. SPR funds are federal funds for planning and research activities. Approximately \$7 Million is available for FY 2025. A 20 percent non-federal match is required except in certain circumstances including if the project benefits a disadvantaged/economically distressed community.

All proposed projects should be related to studying or implementing a goal, strategy or objective within the state’s [Long Range Transportation Plan](#) (LRTP) or one of its associated plans, implementing performance-based program development, implementing asset management or benefiting a

March 18, 2024

disadvantaged/economically distressed community. Detailed program guidance is available on IDOT's [Planning Website](#).

The application deadline for the funding opportunity is **Sunday, April 14 at 11:59pm**. Awards are anticipated to be announced in summer 2024.

Illinois National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program Funding Announced

On March 15, 2024, IDOT released a [NOFO](#) for Round One of the Illinois National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program, which will provide up to \$50 million for the construction of 46 charging stations across the state.

The Illinois NEVI program aims to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles by providing reliable access to charging on Illinois interstates and is part of a series of comprehensive initiatives to achieve the state's goal of becoming a leader in manufacturing and deploying electric vehicles.

Applications for funding must be submitted by May 7, 2024 at 5 p.m. A webinar recording on the funding opportunity, application materials, and how to apply is posted on IDOT's [Drive Electric Illinois](#) website for reference throughout the application period. For more information, contact IDOT at dot.driveelectric@illinois.gov.

Cook County Accepting Invest in Cook and Community Development Block Grant applications

Applications are officially open for the Department of Transportation and Highways (DoTH) [Invest in Cook](#) grant program to assist communities with transportation infrastructure improvements. If you have any questions, are interested in finding out if Invest in Cook is a good fit for a potential project or need help applying, please email InvestinCook.CC@cookcountyil.gov.

In conjunction with Invest in Cook, the Bureau of Economic Development (BED) is also accepting [Community Development Block Grant](#) (CDBG) applications to support economic development in Cook County through capital improvements, public service and Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) programs. If you have any questions, please email info.edev@cookcountyil.gov.

The application deadline for all grant opportunities is **Friday, March 22 at 5 p.m.**

Training Opportunities

FHWA Learning Management System

FHWA's National Highway Institute launched its [Blackboard Learning Management System \(LMS\)](#) to provide a more interactive and user-friendly platform, offering easier access to course information, simplified course registration, transcript viewing, and online management of profile information and passwords.

March 18, 2024

IDOT BLRS 2024 MFT Eligibility and Spending Process T2 Training

IDOT's T2 Center has announced that a new, informative 2024 MFT [training](#) is now available for live access. For more information on how to navigate this training, along with 35+ additional trainings offered by T2 Center, please reference the [Getting Started Guide](#). New users will need to contact Barry.Kent@illinois.gov for credentials.

USDOT Climate Change Center 2024 Webinar Series

The USDOT Climate Change Center is hosting a webinar series on climate change and transportation topics, ranging from greenhouse gas reduction strategies to climate resilience activities to research and technology advancements. Register for all webinars and learn more about the [USDOT Climate Change Center](#).

March 18, 2024

Federally-Funded Project Implementation and Active Program Management Reminders – March/April 2024

- 3/28/2024: CMAQ, TAP-L, and CRP change requests due for the April 11, 2024, PSC meeting
- 3/29/2024: Conformity TIP changes due (for MPO Policy Committee approval in June 2024)
- 3/31/2024: Quarterly status updates due for all projects (active, contingency, and deferred) funded with STP, CMAQ, CRP, and/or TAP-Local funds.
- 4/12/2024: Pre-final plans due for projects targeting the September 2024 state letting
- 4/16/2024: TIP changes due (June 2024 state letting and other changes)

###

This information is compiled from these official sources:

- IDOT Bureau of Local Roads and Streets Region One Letting Schedule (latest version available from IDOT District 1 BLRS staff)
- CMAP's TIP Due Dates and Master Transportation Schedule (latest version posted [here](#))
- [STP Active Program Management Policies](#)
- CMAP's call for projects [web page](#) (Refreshed prior to each call)
- CMAP's [CMAQ and TAP-L Program Management and Resources web page](#)

If there are any discrepancies in dates, the dates listed on the official sources above should be used. Consult with your planning liaison to resolve any questions or concerns.

Local Agency/ Section	Project Route/ From/ To/ Scope of Work 1/ Scope of Work 2/	Current CE3 Estimate	T.I.P. NO. FFY/Fund/Cost/Fed Cost/Authorized	Environ- mental Approval	Public Hearing Status	Design Appv Requested CD Est/Act CD DT	ROW Req CD DT	Plans to CO CD DT	Target Let/ Low Bid/ Award Date Award Amt	E1/E2 Consultant	Jntagmt Cd Dt RR Agmt Cd Dt 404 Permit Cd Dt	A-95 Review STATE * NIPC *
Record id												
1	ARLINGTON HTS 230021900SP	FAU2633 - Wilke Rd Kirchoff Rd to W Kirchoff Rd SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS GUARDRAIL	175,000	03-23-0005	CE 1 4 / 1 / 2023	NR	No		6/14/2024	AH CR HLR	NR	* * * * * * * * * *
3255			E1: / / / / E2: / / / / RW: / / / / C: FFY24 / HSIP / 175,000 / 131,000 /		REMARKS:							
2	BARRINGTON 110008700GS	FAP0305 - US14 IL 59 to E Valencia Ave GRADE SEPARATION	43,000,000	03-14-0010	CE 2 8 / 29 / 2014	NR	Yes		8/2/2024	AH CR Civiltech	NR	* * * * * * * * * *
3202			E1: / / / / E2: / / / / RW: / / / / C: FFY24 / STPL / 43,000,000 / 34,000,000 / / ILL / 4,500,000 / / / / /		REMARKS: Letting dependent upon ROW and RR Clearance (9-22-23).							
3	BARRINGTON 110008701PV	MS1000 - Lake Zurich Rd Citizen's Park Dr to US Route 14 RECONSTRUCTION/BIKEPATH INTERSECTION IMPRVMT/TS	3,487,000	03-14-0010			Yes		1/1/2050	AH CR Civiltech		* * * * * * * * * *
2538			E1: / / / / E2: FFY16 / STPL / 371,926 / 185,963 / A / ILL / 92,982 / / A RW: FFY17 / STPL / 1,826,000 / 913,000 / A / ILL / 456,500 / / C: MYB / STPL / 3,487,000 / 2,789,600 / / ILL / 348,700 / / / / / /		REMARKS: DA under GS project by State. PE2 kick-off meeting held 1/13/16. Anticipated schedule due to ROW (3-13-19).							
4	COOK CO. FP 18F300028BT	Off - Des Plns Rvr Tr N of Golf Rd to S of Central Rf BIKEWAYS PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS	4,512,000	03-19-0042	CE 1 3 / 16 / 2020	NR	Yes		8/2/2024	AH CR Terra	NR	* * * * * * * * * *
3253			E1: / / / / E2: FFY21 / GCPF / 136,000 / / / / / / RW: / / / / / / / / C: FFY24 / CMAQ / 3,162,000 / 2,529,000 / / GCPF / 1,350,000 / / / / / /		REMARKS:							

Local Agency/ Section	Project Route/ From/ To/ Scope of Work 1/ Scope of Work 2/	Current CE3 Estimate	T.I.P. NO. FFY/Fund/Cost/Fed Cost/Authorized	Environ- mental Approval	Public Hearing Status	Design Appv Requested CD Est/Act CD DT	ROW Req CD DT	Plans to CO CD DT	Target Let/ Low Bid/ Award Date Award Amt	E1/E2 Consultant	Jntagmt Cd Dt RR Agmt Cd Dt 404 Permit Cd Dt	A-95 Review STATE * * *	NIPC
Record id													
5	ELK GROVE VILL 190007000BR	MS - WIngtn/Leicstr Lake Cosman	3,300,000	03-19-0007	CE 1	NR		Yes	6/14/2024	AH CR B & W	NR	NR	*
			E1: FFY20 / BRPP / 156,219 / 124,219 / A									*	NR
			/ / / 0 /									*	
		CULVERT REPLACEMENT	E2: FFY21 / BRP2 / 260,000 / 208,000 / A								NR	*	
			/ / / /									*	
			RW: FFY23 / BRPR / 400,000 / 320,000 /								Yes	*	
			/ / / /									*	
			C: FFY24 / BRP / 3,300,000 / 2,640,000 /	REMARKS:								*	
	2951		/ / / /									*	
			/ / / /									*	
6	ELK GROVE VILL 220007800RS	FAU1333 - Landmeier Rd 950 ft w/o IL 83 (Busse R to 50 ft e/o Cambridge Dr RESURFACING	932,970	03-20-0037				No	1/17/2025	AH CR Eng Enter	NR	NR	*
			E1: / / / /									*	NR
			/ / / 0 /									*	
			E2: / / / /									*	
			/ / / /									*	
			RW: / / / /									*	
			/ / / /									*	
			C: FFY25 / STPL / 932,970 / 415,050 /	REMARKS:								*	
	3230		/ / / /									*	
			/ / / /									*	
7	MOUNT PROSPECT 230017800RS	FAU1300 - Central Rd Westgate Rd to Wolf Rd RESURFACING	990,000	03-22-0029	CE 1	NR		No	1/19/2024 986,318	AH CR	NR	NR	*
			E1: / / / /									*	NR
			/ / / 0 /									*	
			E2: / / / /			E					NR	*	
			/ / / /			9 /30/2023						*	
			RW: / / / /								No	*	
			/ / / /									*	
			C: FFY24 / STPL / 990,000 / 565,000 /	REMARKS:	Item No. 87. Builders Paving, LLC.							*	
	3215		/ / / /									*	
			/ / / /									*	
8	NILES 130011800WR	FAP0341 - Touhy Ave Gross Point Rd	3,177,016	03-09-0072	CE 2	NR		Yes	3/10/2023 3,923,898	AH CR	NR	NR	*
			E1: / / / /					A				*	NR
			/ / / 0 /									*	
		INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT	E2: FFY21 / STPL / 224,000 / 112,000 /			A					NR	*	
			/ SO / 100,974 /			3 /20/2020						*	
			RW: FFY21 / LAO / 553,000 /								No	*	
			/ / / /									*	
			C: FFY22 / STPL / 3,177,016 / 2,500,000 /	REMARKS:	Item No. 78. Alliance Contractors, Inc.							*	
	3074		/ SO / 563,559 /									*	
			/ / / /									*	

Local Agency/ Section	Project Route/ From/ To/ Scope of Work 1/ Scope of Work 2/	Current CE3 Estimate	T.I.P. NO. FFY/Fund/Cost/Fed Cost/Authorized	Environ- mental Approval	Public Hearing Status	Design Appv Requested CD Est/Act CD DT	ROW Req CD DT	Plans to CO CD DT	Target Let/ Low Bid/ Award Date Award Amt	E1/E2 Consultant	Jntagmt Cd Dt RR Agmt Cd Dt 404 Permit Cd Dt	A-95 Review STATE * * *	Review NIPC	
Record id														
9	NILES 180013100SW	Var - Various See Notes	4,383,445 03-19-0040 E1: / / / / / / / 0 / E2: / / / / / / / / RW: / / / / / / / / C: FFY23 / HSIP / 1,040,000 / 909,000 / / CMAQ / 862,945 / 636,577 / / STE / 2,480,500 / 1,984,400 /	CE 1 12/10/2020	NR		Yes		6/14/2024	AH CR HR Green	NR	NR	* * * * * * * * *	NR
3194		SIDEWALKS INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT				REMARKS: Golf Rd/Greenwood Av/Milwaukee Av. 11/17/23 No. 9 WDRWN. Rebid 1/19/24 Item 150: Rejec ted. Rebid: 6/14/2024					No			
10	PALATINE 170010200PV	FAU1285 - Palatine Rd to Quentin Rd Smith Rd RECONSTRUCTION ADDITIONAL LANES/BIKEWAY	10,304,500 03-16-0008 E1: FFY18 / STPL / 380,000 / 190,000 / A / / / 0 / E2: FFY23 / STPL / 958,000 / 479,000 / / / / / RW: FFY24 / STPL / 506,000 / 253,000 / / / / / C: FFY26 / STPL / 10,304,500 / 2,874,500 / / / 6,711,375 / / / / / /	CE 2 3/17/2022	NR	A 3/17/2022	Yes		11/7/2025	AH CR BLA	NR	NR	* * * * * * * * *	NR
2885						REMARKS: Max STPL for E2/R: \$732k. Max for C/CE: \$2,874,500.					No			
11	PALATINE 190010500BR	MS0505 - North Baldwin R Buffalo Creek BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION	1,034,000 03-19-0020 E1: FFY20 / BRPP / 128,100 / 102,480 / / / / 0 / E2: FFY22 / BRP2 / 158,600 / 126,880 / / / / / RW: FFY23 / BRPR / 10,000 / 8,000 / / / / / C: FFY24 / BRP / 1,034,000 / 827,200 / / / / / / / / /	CE 1 12/8 /2021	NR		Yes		1/17/2025	AH CR Ciorba	NR	NR	* * * * * * * * *	NR
3250						REMARKS:					No			
12	PALATINE 220011200RS	MS4480 - Illinois Ave S Quentin Rd to Plum Grove Rd RESURFACING	1,807,000 03-23-0040 E1: / / / / / / / 0 / E2: / / / / / / / / RW: / / / / / / / / C: FFY24 / STPL / 1,807,000 / 830,000 / / / / / / / / /	CE 1 1/26/2023	NR		No		1/19/2024 1,540,000	AH CR BLA	NR	NR	* * * * * * * * *	NR
3214						REMARKS: Item No, 86 A. Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc.					No			

Record id	Local Agency/ Section	Project Route/ From/ To/ Scope of Work 1/ Scope of Work 2/	Current CE3 Estimate	T.I.P. NO. FFY/Fund/Cost/Fed Cost/Authorized	Environ- mental Approval	Public Hearing Status	Design Appv Requested CD Est/Act CD DT	ROW Req CD DT	Plans to CO CD DT	Target Let/ Low Bid/ Award Date Award Amt	E1/E2 Consultant	Jntagmt Cd Dt RR Agmt Cd Dt 404 Permit Cd Dt	A-95 Review STATE * * *	* NIPC
13	ROLLING MEADOWS 090009800CH	- Algonquin Road at New Wilke Road INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT MODERNIZE TRAFFIC SIGNALS	2,700,000	03-06-0006 E1: / / / / / / / 0 / E2: / / / / / / / / RW: MYB / STPL / 600,000 / 300,000 / / / / / C: MYB / STPL / 2,700,000 / 1,890,000 / / / / / / / / /	CE 2 9 /27/2021	E PM		Yes		1/1/2025	AH CR CBBEL		Exempt * * * * * * * * * *	Exempt
14	ROLLING MEADOWS 190012300BT	various - Eucltd/Hicks W of Vemont to Hicks to Euclid to N of Kirchoff BIKEWAYS	982,200	03-22-0002 E1: / / / / / / / 0 / E2: FFY22 / STE2 / 162,000 / 129,600 / / / / / RW: FFY23 / STER / 96,000 / 48,000 / / / / / C: FFY23 / STE / 982,200 / 785,760 / / / / / / / / /	CE 1 9 /10/2021	NR		Yes		6/14/2024	AH CR	NR No	NR * * * * * * * * * *	NR
15	ROLLING MEADOWS 200012400CH	FAP0339 - Algonquin Rd New Wilke Rd INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT	4,142,000	03-06-0006 E1: / / / / / / / 0 / E2: FFY22 / STPL / 304,000 / 152,000 / / / / / RW: FFY23 / STPL / 70,000 / 35,000 / / / / / C: FFY24 / STPL / 4,142,000 / 3,313,000 / / / / / / / / /	CE 1 9 /27/2021	NR		Yes		8/2/2024	AH CR CBBEL	NR No	NR * * * * * * * * * *	NR
16	SCHAUMBURG 180013100PV	FAP0559 - Knollwood Dr Bode Rd to Golf Rd RECONSTRUCTION	3,821,250	03-19-0035 E1: / / / / / / / 0 / E2: / / / / / / / / RW: / / / / / / / / C: MYB / STPL / 3,821,250 / 3,057,000 / / / / / / / / /	CE 1 10/12/2018	NR		No		7/31/2026	AH CR Thomas	NR No	NR * * * * * * * * * *	NR

Record id	Local Agency/ Section	Project Route/ From/ To/ Scope of Work 1/ Scope of Work 2/	Current CE3 Estimate	T.I.P. NO. FFY/Fund/Cost/Fed Cost/Authorized	Environ- mental Approval	Public Hearing Status	Design Appv Requested CD Est/Act CD DT	ROW Req CD DT	Plans to CO CD DT	Target Let/ Low Bid/ Award Date Award Amt	E1/E2 Consultant	Jntagmt Cd Dt RR Agmt Cd Dt 404 Permit Cd Dt	A-95 Review STATE * * *	NIPC
17	SCHAUMBURG 190013300BT	FAU2585 - Meacham/Golf American Ln to Higgins Rd to Meacham to Roosevelt Bl BIKEWAYS	1,400,000	03-19-0022 E1: / / / E2: FFY21 / CMAQ / 239,201 / 191,360 / A RW: FFY23 / CMAQ / 345,000 / 276,000 / C: FFY24 / STE / 1,440,000 / 1,120,000 /	CE 1 12/19/2019	NR		Yes		8/2/2024	AH CR Civiltech	NR No	NR * * * * * * * *	NR
3206				/ / /			REMARKS: E2/ROW: CMAQ; C/CE: ITEP.							
18	STREAMWOOD 100005502WR	FAU1321 - Irving Park Rd E of Schaumburg Rd to IL 59 RECONSTRUCTION	5,737,000	03-09-0073 E1: / / / E2: FFY21 / STPL / 468,000 / 234,000 / A RW: / / / C: FFY24 / STPL / 5,737,000 / 3,150,000 /	CE 1 9 /22/2015	NR		No		9/20/2024	AH CR H R Green	NR No	NR * * * * * * * *	NR
3212				/ / /			REMARKS: 1/19/2024 Item No.151 Rejected. Re-bid 9/20/2024 per LPA.							

Free Rides on Pace Fixed Routes for ADA Certified Riders

Starting February 19, 2024

Beginning February 19, riders with disabilities who are certified for ADA Paratransit by the RTA can ride for free on Pace fixed route buses.

Did you know that all of Pace's fixed route buses are fully accessible for seniors and riders with disabilities? These routes can connect you to train stations, schools, hospitals, jobs, and other important destinations throughout the suburbs, and don't require a reservation to ride.

Pace's fixed route buses feature ramps, dedicated seating areas, audio and visual stop announcements, and other accessibility features. Certified ADA Paratransit customers can now ride these fixed route buses for free!



To ensure your ride is free, **DON'T TAP** your ADA Paratransit card on the Ventra reader. Simply show your card to the driver when you board.

On Demand and Pace Connect rides are not included in the free fare program. This program does not cover Metra, CTA, or ADA Paratransit rides.



For more information on Pace's accessible fixed route service, visit PaceBus.com/Accessible-Fixed-Routes



Ride Pace fixed route buses for free

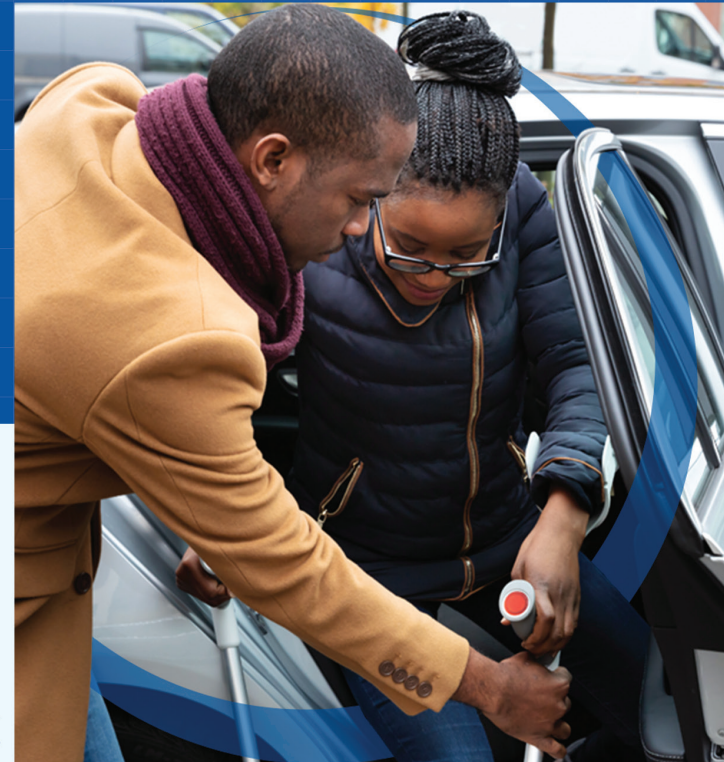
New affordable transit option for ADA Riders

Starts March 11!

Pace's new Rideshare Access Program (RAP) connects eligible riders with Uber or UZURV rides for only \$2.

Pace ADA-eligible riders now have access to subsidized Rideshare services within the ADA service area. You can now choose this more convenient and less expensive option to get around your community.

- RAP is a great option for last-minute trips because you can schedule a ride at a moment's notice, instead of booking rides a day in advance.
- RAP is less expensive than a Paratransit ride. Pace will subsidize ADA-eligible rider's Rideshare trip cost up to \$30 at a maximum 8 trips per day.
- Booking can be done on your smartphone, just like a traditional Uber or UZURV ride scheduled within the company's app.



How to use RAP, Pace's new rideshare subsidy

- ✓ Make sure you have an active Uber or UZURV account. You will then enroll in RAP by completing the required form available on the Pace website at **PaceBus.com/RAP**. If you have questions on how to enroll, please contact us at **RAP@PaceBus.com**. Uber and UZURV will not be able to help you enroll in RAP.
- ✓ You can only get the Pace RAP subsidy for trips on a single service, either Uber or UZURV.
- ✓ Schedule trips directly with your chosen ride provider by using that company's mobile app.
- ✓ Once you are enrolled, you'll see RAP as an option within your app to take advantage of the Pace subsidy for eligible trips. Only trips within Pace's designated ADA Paratransit service area are eligible for the \$2 fare.

Visit **PaceBus.com/RAP** to get started and book your next \$2 ride!





Local Government Update

175 W Jackson Blvd
Suite 1550
Chicago, IL 60604
312 913 3200
rtachicago.org

March 2024 Update

RTA Safety & Security Summit explores holistic solutions to improving safety on transit

Following up on a key action item from *Transit is the Answer*, the region's transit strategic plan, the RTA hosted the [Public Transit Safety and Security Summit](#) on February 27. The event offered an opportunity to learn best practices and policies from peer transit systems, including Los Angeles and Minneapolis, in improving safety and the rider experience. In partnership with the Service Boards, *Transit is the Answer* Coalition members, and representatives from local and state governments, the half-day, cross-sector workshop explored key rider issues related to personal safety and identified potential solutions for northeastern Illinois' transit network. Recordings from the summit will be posted online, and a full recap of the discussions will be published on RTA's [Connections Blog](#) series.

Community Planning program call for projects open through March 22

The RTA [Community Planning program](#) provides funding and technical assistance to local governments to help foster the growth of sustainable, equitable, walkable, and transit-friendly communities. Projects funded by the program include transit-oriented development planning, transit corridor planning, neighborhood mobility hub and mobility improvement, curb management studies, special financing districts, engagement with developers, and zoning code updates. New this year, the program will accept applications for small-scale station activation projects, intended to support community-based partnerships to activate space in and around stations, conduct outreach, and add infrastructure that enhances safety. The current call for projects will close on Friday, March 22. More details, including the application and instructions are available on the RTA's [Community Planning website](#).



Local Government Update

175 W Jackson Blvd
Suite 1550
Chicago, IL 60604
312 913 3200
rtachicago.org

RTA Citizens Advisory Board adds new rider representatives

Last year, the RTA Board approved changes to the RTA Citizens Advisory Board (RTACAB) Bylaws, in line with recommendations from [*Transit is the Answer*](#) to expand the role of the RTACAB to strengthen the rider voice and help track progress of the implementation of the goals of the plan. Shortly after the new bylaws were approved, RTA staff began the recruitment process seeking transit rider representatives from across the region. More than 70 people responded to the RTA's request for applications, ultimately resulting in 8 new rider representatives chosen to represent each county and the City of Chicago. More information on the role of the RTACAB and its new members can be found on the [RTA's website](#).

...Statewide Planning and Research Funds

ATTACHMENT G

Spring 2024 call for projects is underway February 29 through April 14, 2024

Statewide Planning & Research (SPR) funds are used to support planning and research activities. The funds are used to establish a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive framework for making transportation investment decisions and to carryout transportation planning and research activities throughout the State.

Eligible activities include:

- Planning studies
- Data purchase, collection, and/or analysis
- Research activities
- Program development activities
- Performance management activities
- Coordination/outreach activities

These funds are eligible to internal and external parties. Statewide Planning & Research funds are used to support planning and research activities. The funds are used to establish a cooperative, continuous and comprehensive framework for making transportation investment decisions and to carryout transportation planning and research activities throughout the state.

IDOT evaluated proposed projects based on the following criteria:

- Studying or implementing a goal strategy or objective within the state's Long Range Transportation Plan or one of the Department's associated plans.
- Implementing a performance-based program development process.
- Implementing asset management.
- Benefiting a disadvantaged/economically distressed community
- Climate Change/Carbon reduction
- Equity
- Resiliency Improvement Planning
- Discretionary Grant Program Development

The program schedule is as follows, which includes a link to register for an Informational Webinar:

- **February 29, 2024** - Call for Projects Opened
- **March 13, 2024** – Informational Webinar 10:00-12:00 p.m. ([Webinar](#))
- **April 14, 2024** - Applications due 11:59:59 CDT
- **Summer 2024** - Awards Announced
- [Program Guidance](#)
- [Application](#)
- [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO)
- [Informational Webinar](#)
- [Webinar Slides](#)

Upon Receiving an Award Letter, Grantees will be required to send the following information:

Local Public Agency (LPA). GATA Exempt grantees will be required to complete the following forms/processes:

- [BoBS 2831](#) – Conflict of Interest form
- [IDOT Uniform Grant Application](#)
- [IDOT GATA Exempt Budget](#)
- [BoBS 2835](#) - GATA Exempt Risk Assessment

State Agency, Universities, and Other. Nonexempt grantees will be required to complete the following forms/processes:

- [BoBS 2831](#) – Conflict of Interest form
- [GATA Application](#)
- [GATA Budget Template](#)
- [GATA Programmatic Risk Assessment](#)

Announcements

Illinois has released its Priority Climate Action Plan. See below for a link to the plan.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program provides funding for states to develop and implement climate action plans that aim to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Phase I

Under the planning phase of CPRG, U.S. EPA has provided funds to interested states, metropolitan areas, tribes and territories to design climate action plans that incorporate a variety of measures to reduce GHG emissions. The plan is to focus on six sectors (electricity generation, industry, transportation, buildings, agriculture/natural and working lands, and waste management). A Priority Climate Action Plan must be submitted to USEPA by March 1, 2024, with a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan due two years after the planning grant award.



Priority Climate Action Plan

[Illinois Priority Climate Action Plan](#)

[Illinois PCAP Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#)

Under the implementation phase of CPRG, U.S. EPA is offering grants between \$2 million and \$500 million for state and local governments and other entities to implement emissions reduction measures outlined in the Priority Climate Action Plan.

The Illinois EPA will be submitting an application for a Phase II grant and is seeking potential projects to include in its application. U.S. EPA encourages applicants to seek funds for projects that will significantly reduce cumulative GHG emissions by 2030 and beyond, and that will accelerate decarbonization across one or more major sectors responsible for GHG emissions. U.S. EPA will score applicants with an emphasis on the magnitude of near-term GHG reductions that will be achieved. Please review the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for more information. If you have a project proposal that meets these criteria, please fill out the form below. The Illinois EPA is accepting project proposals until January 19, 2024.

Documents and Recordings

[Sliddeck - Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Public Listening Sessions - February 2024](#)

[Listening Session #1](#) - February 27, 2024, 12:30 CT

[Listening Session #2](#) - February 27, 2024, 5:30 CT

Contact

EPA.CPRG@illinois.gov

Links

[USEPA - Climate Pollution Reduction Grants](#)