

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

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Evanston
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Morton Grove
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Northwest Municipal Conference

Transportation Committee

Agenda

Thursday, May 26, 2022

8:30 a.m.

NWMC Offices and Video Conference

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86759932145?pwd=Mkp0TUdwNGRZMkloMG5vcXd0b3phQT09>

Meeting ID: 867 5993 2145

Passcode: TC052622

Dial by your location: (312) 626-6799 US

- I. **Call to Order/Introductions**
- II. **Approval of April 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**
Action Requested: Approval
- III. **Agency Reports**
 - a. **CMAP (Attachment B)**
 - b. **Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways**
 - c. **IDOT Highways (available upon request)**
 - d. **Illinois Tollway**
 - e. **Metra**
 - f. **Pace (Attachment C)**
 - g. **RTA (Attachment D)**
- IV. **ON TO 2050 Plan Update**

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) staff will present on the agency's federally required update to the ON TO 2050 regional plan. CMAP staff will provide information on updated specific issues and addressing how local stakeholders can provide input as the process moves toward an October 2022 conclusion.

Action Requested: Informational/Discussion
- V. **Meeting Dates for 2022-2023 (Attachment E)**

Staff will present the proposed meeting dates for 2022-2023 and requests Committee review and approval of the proposed schedule.

Action Requested: Approval
- VI. **Other Business**
- VII. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the NWMC Transportation Committee is scheduled for Thursday, September 22 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC Offices and via videoconference.
- VIII. **Adjourn**

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NWMC Transportation Committee
NWMC Offices and via Zoom Video Conference
Thursday, April 28, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Donna Johnson, Mayor, Village of Libertyville, Co-Chair
Rod Craig, Mayor, Village of Hanover Park, Co-Chair
Bob Benton, Trustee, Village of Deerfield,
Lou Arrigoni, Senior Civil Engineer, City of Park Ridge
Lara Sanoica, Alderman, Rolling Meadows
Karyn Robles, Transportation Director, Village of Schaumburg
Matt Farmer, Village Engineer, Village of Northbrook
Darren Monico, Village Engineer, Village of Buffalo Grove
Samantha Maximillian, Senior Engineer, Village of Skokie
Bob Israel, Trustee, Village of Northbrook
Peter Falcone, Assistant Administrator, City of Prospect Heights
Marie Hansen, Director of Development Services, Village of Barrington
Bill McLeod, Mayor, Village of Hoffman Estates
Tom Powers, Village Engineer, Village of Niles
Heather Lis, Village Engineer, Village of Barrington

Others Present

Cecilia Diaz, Transportation Planner, CCDOTH
Rick Mack, Community Affairs Administrator, Metra
Katie Renteria, Community Relations Representative, Metra
Mark Buwen, Senior Project Manager, Infrastructure Engineering, Inc.
Chastain & Associates LLC
Luke Bolzenius, Project Manager, Patrick Engineering
Daniel Knickelbein, Transportation Planner, TranSystems
Joe Cwynar, Senior Project Manager, Engineering Enterprises, Inc.
Mark Fowler, executive Director, NWMC
Larry Burry, Deputy Director, NWMC
Kendra Johnson, Program Manager for Transportation, NWMC
Eric Czarnota, Program Associate for Transportation, NWMC

I. Call to Order/Introductions

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. Approval of March 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Benton moved approval of the March 24, 2022 meeting minutes. Trustee Israel seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

III. Agency Reports

A. CMAP – Written report.

- B. **CCDOTH** – Ms. Diaz announced that a survey to help Cook County improve their regional transit plan is now open for public input.
- C. **IDOT Highways** –Ms. Johnson noted that the North Shore and Northwest IDOT highways reports are available upon request.
- D. **Illinois Tollway** – No Report.
- E. **Metra** – Mr. Mack reported that Metra enhanced their schedule in anticipation of higher ridership on the North and UP North lines. He requested any communities to submit any constructive comments that may have regarding the new schedule to Metra. He also announced that new ticket vending machines will be installed at every Metra station in the next 2-3 years. The first round of stations to receive the machines will on the UP-North line (Barrington, Cary, and Crystal Lake).
- F. **Pace** – No Report.
- G. **RTA** – Written report.

IV. Canadian Pacific/Kansas City Southern Merger Update

Hanover Park Mayor Rod Craig provided an update on the merger between the Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern railroads from the perspective of the Coalition to Stop CPKC members. Metra Community Relations representative Rick Mack provided an update from Metra's perspective on the issue, noting that if the Surface Transportation Board where to approve the application Metra would ask for five remediation's related to safety, cost, dispatching, scheduling and commuter needs. He also reported that the Canadian Pacific could alternatively use the Dubuque line; however it's only a single track line and when the capacity is reached on that line they would begin moving trains through the Chicago area on the Milwaukee West and North lines.

V. Flood Resilience Legislation (H.R. 481)

Village of Barrington Development Services Director Marie Hansen discussed flood resilience legislation recently introduced in the House (H.R. 481) requiring federal agencies to take extra measures to evaluate and mitigate risks of floods to federally funded projects. Ms. Hansen stated the most troubling of the language is if an agency doesn't think the storm water data is sufficient they can make developments add two to three additional feet on top of what the 100 year floorplan states. She noted that while this may be feasible for new construction this would be very detrimental to any existing infrastructure.

Mr. Powers brought a different viewpoint on the issue to the committee's attention that this may actually be a good thing because it would force IDOT's hand in addressing storm water and flood improvements along and around its routes. In the past they've told municipalities that this was a local issue and they weren't responsible for it.

VI. Joint Letter to IDOT – Agreement Processing

Staff presented the final version of a letter that was sent to the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding concerns with current agreement processing times and administrative hurdles. It was recommended by the

committee that a plan B be formed if IDOT doesn't get back to the Conference by the deadline set in the letter.

It was also suggested to recommend possible collaboration between municipal engineers and IDOT to help reduce wait time on some processes which have been delayed by IDOT's staffing problems.

VII. Other Business

None.

VIII. Next Meeting

Mayor Johnson announced the next meeting of the NWMC Transportation Committee is scheduled for Thursday, May 26 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC offices and via video conference.

IX. Adjourn

Trustee Israel moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 a.m. Trustee Benton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

CMAP Updates – May 16, 2022

CMAP News

The CMAP office is now open daily and [staff](#) have established hybrid work schedules. [CMAP committee meetings](#) may be held in-person or virtually, depending on the unique situations and requirements of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) that apply to each committee.

For general questions, you can send an email through our [contact form](#) and remember to stay up to date by subscribing to CMAP's Weekly Update emails or [viewing online](#).

Job Opportunities

CMAP is hiring for several positions: a [Principal, Public Private Partnerships, Senior Analyst, Senior Research Analyst](#), and [Research Analyst](#) in the Research, Analysis, and Programming division; a [Senior HR Generalist](#) and [Assistant Generalist](#) in the Finance Division; and a [Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, Policy Principal, Senior Policy Analyst, Senior, Intergovernmental Affairs, Associate Policy Analyst, and Assistant Policy Analyst](#) in the Plan Implementation and Legislative Affairs Division. Visit CMAP's [Careers page](#) to discover more job and internship opportunities.

The DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference is currently seeking a [Transportation Project Manager](#) to serve as the Planning Liaison for the DuPage Council.

CMAP Meeting Information: New Location!

CMAP has moved to a new system for sharing meeting information. You can now find meeting materials, webinar links, minutes, and recordings on [CMAP's Legistar page](#). Visit the page now to sign-up to receive notification of future CMAP meetings.

Provide input on the ONON TO 2050 regional plan update

[ON TO 2050](#), the region's long-range plan, was adopted by the CMAP Board in October 2018. The plan is guided by three principles: inclusive growth, resilience, and prioritized investment. CMAP is currently [updating the ON TO 2050 plan](#). The purpose of the update is to adjust our data to meet current situations, respond to adjustments in the regionally significant project status, and to refine the financial plan for our region's transportation system. We have confirmed about 70 [regionally significant projects](#) (major transportation projects to be implemented between now and 2050) totaling more than \$84 billion. CMAP invites input and discussion of the regional realities and trends that affect forecasting as the agency looks ahead to developing the next long-range plan. The draft of the plan update will be available for public comment in June, followed by a public hearing in August. Public comments also can be submitted to onto2050@cmap.illinois.gov.

FLIP Summer Program

CMAP is excited to announce this year's [Future Leaders in Planning \(FLIP\)](#) program. FLIP is a free leadership development program for high school students to explore the field of urban planning and learn about the issues that shape our region and communities.

Sessions will be held on Fridays, from July 22 to August 12, at CMAP's office in the Old Post Office. There also will be [field trips](#) around the region. Students who complete all four sessions will receive a certificate. Applications are due **Monday, June 20**. [Learn more](#) and [apply](#).

How northeastern Illinois can create greener spaces

Across northeastern Illinois, many communities have started transforming streets to create attractive and welcoming community spaces. Farther away, cities like Barcelona, Spain, have used these designs in

a much grander way to create greener spaces that put pedestrians first. As part of CMAP's [mobility recovery](#) project, CMAP is examining how the pandemic has changed public spaces in the region and learning from Barcelona and others on how innovation can help make spaces safer and easier for pedestrians. Learn more [here](#).

Program Status Updates

CRRSAA Program

On December 27, 2020, Title IV of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) was enacted. This Act included a local government component that resulted in the allocation of \$42,647,247 to be programmed and managed by CMAP. In the fall of 2021, the STP Project Selection Committee and local councils of mayors selected [33 individual project phases](#) to be fully or partially funded with CRRSAA funding. The [Regional CRRSAA Program Status Report](#) and [Regional CRRSAA Accounting Summary](#) were updated in February 2022.

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

Surface Transportation Program

The April 14, 2022 meeting of the [STP Project Selection Committee](#) meeting was cancelled. The committee's next meeting will be held on **June 23, 2022**. [Meeting Materials](#) will be posted on CMAP's Legistar page one week in advance. An additional meeting will be scheduled in July or August to replace the cancelled meeting. 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 are available on CMAP's [STP web page](#).

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

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Alternatives (TAP-L)

The latest CMAQ Project Selection Committee (PSC) meeting was held on April 14, 2022, and the committee's next meeting is scheduled for **June 23, 2022**. [Meeting materials](#) are posted on CMAP's Legistar page one week in advance of the meetings. Information for submitting change requests for CMAQ or TAP-L funded projects can be found on CMAP's [CMAQ web page](#).

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

Regional Safety Action Agenda

CMAP is continuing its work to improve traffic safety and address the growing number of fatalities and injuries. Staff is wrapping up a policy paper on speed management and continuing work on a bicycle and pedestrian safety policy paper. Our Safety Resource Group will meet early this summer to discuss implementation of the recommendations for speed management and initial bicycle and pedestrian safety policy recommendations. Three Local Technical Assistance safety projects are wrapping up in Calumet City, Bellwood and Riverdale, which will result in Safety Action Plans for each community, so that they can apply for implementation funding. The Regional Speed Data project is underway; speed data providers are currently submitting qualifications for consideration. This project will analyze speed probe data to understand patterns of speeding and target appropriate countermeasures to curb it. Staff is closely monitoring safety-related programs enabled by IIJA, including the Safe Streets for All funding opportunity to position our region to take advantage of these safety dollars.

Staff Contact: [Victoria Barrett](#) (312-386-8641)

CMAP Products and Data

Communities share ideas on improving local incentives

Recently, Economic Development directors throughout northeastern Illinois gathered for one of three meetings of the Collaborative on Local Incentives, a group of peer communities participating in conversations around the use of incentives, economic development, and business retention. The collaborative builds on [Improving local development incentives](#), a CMAP guide published in 2020 that provides local governments with clear strategies for more effective incentive use.

Staff Contact: [Dustin Calliari](#) (312-386-8612)

Community Data Snapshots

In August 2021, CMAP updated its [Community Data Snapshots](#) with [new data from the 2020 Census](#). These data-rich snapshots — one for each of the region's 284 municipalities, 77 Chicago neighborhoods, and seven counties — summarize demographics, housing, employment, transportation habits, and other key details. They help local leaders and the public track progress and make informed decisions in their communities.

The 2021 census data has been incorporated into the General Population Characteristics table, which includes information on total population, total households, average household size, and percent population change since 2010 and 2000. Raw data, including more detail, is available on the [Data Hub](#).

From Our Partners

RTA Launches Online Portal for Reduced, Free Ride Permits

The RTA launched Fare Programs Online, a web-based portal for reduced fare and ride free permits for seniors and customers with disabilities. The portal aims to increase access to these programs. Apply, replace, and renew at [Fares.RTAChicago.org](#).

Funding Opportunities

RTA Access to Transit

RTA announced a Call for Projects for their Access to Transit program, which funds small-scale capital projects that improve access to the regional transit system for pedestrians and bicyclists. Depending on the project type and funding request, selected projects will be bundled together into a single application for CMAQ funding in January 2023. [Application materials](#), a [program guide](#), [FAQ](#), and [recorded webinar](#) can be found on the RTA website. Applications are due by **Friday, May 20**. Contact [Michael Horsting](#), Manager of Local Planning, with any questions about the program.

\$2.9 billion in IIJA funding available for major projects

The U.S. Department of Transportation [announced](#) that \$2.9 billion in grant funding is available for major infrastructure projects of regional or national significance under the IIJA. State, regional, and local governments will be able to use a single application to pursue grant funding through three separate programs either established or reauthorized by the infrastructure law. Each of the funding opportunities has slightly different statutory rules that are described in detail in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#). Applications are due by **Monday, May 23**.

Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) call for applications

IDOT is now accepting funding applications for FY 2024 infrastructure safety projects aimed at reducing fatalities and serious injuries on roads within the local highway system. IDOT will continue to prioritize

the selection of projects that address the 2017 Illinois Strategic Highway Safety Plan emphasis areas such as roadway departures, hazardous intersections, and pedestrian conflicts. IDOT will also prioritize projects that protect Vulnerable Road Users such as pedestrians and bicyclists. IDOT intends to commit \$30.6 million for the FY 2024 cycle. The federal funding level per project remains at a maximum 90 percent of the total eligible improvement cost. Eligible phases include preliminary engineering, design, construction, and construction engineering. Applications are due by **Friday, June 17, 2022 at 5:00 PM**. More information can be found on [IDOT's HSIP web page](#).

Public Input

Engage with CMAP: Share your Thoughts on Planning Projects

Plans that reflect the values and priorities of their communities require meaningful public participation from residents and stakeholders. The [Engage with CMAP](#) website allows residents to share their thoughts, ideas, and concerns on current planning projects in the region, including these recently launched projects: [Waukegan Unified Development Ordinance](#) and [Avondale Neighborhood Plan](#). Stay informed and connected by checking out the site. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Northwest Municipal Conference**

May 2022

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Steven Andrews | (847) 997-1509 | Steven.Andrews@PaceBus.com
550 West Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005 • PaceBus.com

Proposed Fare Change Public Hearings

Pace is proposing several fare changes in 2022 that we believe will benefit our riders at a time when many are returning to the system. As part of a 6-month fare pilot project that started in December 2021, Pace, in coordination with the CTA, reduced the rates for several passes.

The 7-Day CTA/Pace Pass went from \$33 to \$25.

The 30-Day CTA/Pace Pass went from \$105 to \$75

The 30-Day CTA/Pace Reduced Fare Pass went from \$50 to \$35

With the pilot-period ending, Pace is now proposing to permanently adopt these reduced rates.

Additionally, in coordination with Metra and the CTA, Pace is proposing to reduce the monthly rate for the Metra Link-Up Pass from \$55 to \$30, with it being valid on Pace and CTA at any time. These changes would result in the pass being duplicative of the Pace PlusBus pass and, therefore, the Pace PlusBus pass would be discontinued.

The virtual hearings will take place between May 19 and May 26, 2022.

Thursday, May 19, 2022 (Cook County)

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Friday, May 20, 2022 (Lake County)

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Friday, May 20, 2022 (Kane County)

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Monday, May 23, 2022 (Will County)

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM



Thursday, May 26, 2022 (DuPage County)

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Thursday, May 26, 2022 (McHenry County)

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

To provide live comments during a virtual public hearing, pre-register for a hearing at <https://www.pacebus.com/public-meetings>. Attendees who are pre-registered can join a virtual hearing anytime within the scheduled hour. To view the hearing without making live comments, you can access the hearing (in view-only mode) at [PaceBus.com/streaming](https://www.pacebus.com/streaming) at the applicable time. Closed captioning of the hearing will be available.

In addition, any person wishing to comment on the proposed fare changes may do so at Pace's website <https://www.pacebus.com/public-hearing-feedback>, by email to public.hearings@pacebus.com, by telephone to 847-354-7943, or by mail to: Pace, Community Relations Department, 550 W. Algonquin Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60005-4412. All comments must be received by 6:00 pm on Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Pace Suburban Bus Employment Opportunities

Pace Bus is hiring bus operators and mechanics at our facilities across the suburbs to ensure that we can provide the level of bus service that our regional economy depends on. We seek your help in passing these opportunities along to your constituents who might be interested in a rewarding career in public service with great benefits. Working for Pace has many advantages:

- Competitive starting pay
- Paid on-the-job and on-going training
- Promotion from within
- Working close to home
- Health insurance benefits
- Retirement benefits
- Paid vacation and other paid time off
- Safe, clean work environment

If there are any opportunities to help Pace promote these openings, whether by including a message in an upcoming constituent newsletter, posting the attached flyer at your office(s), or making us aware of any upcoming job fairs that we can participate in, we would appreciate it. Applications can be found at [PaceBus.com/Careers](https://www.pacebus.com/Careers). Thank you for your help!

Pace Showcases First Electric Bus

Alternative first/last mile service initiatives also announced at May Board of Directors meeting



At their meeting yesterday, Pace's Board of Directors received a tour of Pace's first electric bus, a leased GILLIG Battery Electric Bus. "I am pleased to report that Pace has officially entered into the era of electrification," said Executive Director Melinda Metzger. "With the progress we are making on our [fleet and] facilities transition plan, the arrival of this bus could not have come at a better time."

Metzger went on to explain that the bus will allow staff to gain operational and maintenance experience and will also allow the agency to conduct bus familiarization training with fire departments. As the agency moves towards a more sustainable transportation system and its goal of a zero-emission fleet by 2040, Metzger also shared that the installation of electric charging stations at Pace facilities and park-n-rides had begun with Pace's headquarters receiving the first station this week.

Two new alternative service options were also announced at the meeting. VanGo is a new vanpool initiative aimed at increasing first/last-mile options for commuters. Scheduled to launch in June in Lake County, VanGo is a first-of-its-kind vanshare program that will allow commuters to reserve Pace-owned vans parked at Metra stations via remote access. Qualified participants will be able to use the vehicle to travel to worksites in the defined geographic zone. This new

option will address the need for first/last mile connections where the market doesn't warrant traditional bus service due to new and variable work schedules.

If successful, the VanGo may be expanded to other areas in the coming year. "But for Covid and less people going into work, we wouldn't have the availability to utilize these vans," said Chairman Rick Kwasneski. "These are vans that we already have, so it's a great idea." Kwasneski noted that Metra has been supportive of the idea and is working with Pace to designate parking spots at Metra stations for the vehicles.

VanGo will be a reservation-based vanpool service option that registered passengers can book online or call to reserve at least one day in advance or on Fridays for the weekend and Monday. Service will be available between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. for trips starting and ending in the designated service area. Drivers must be at least 23 years old, have a valid driver's license, a good driving record, must pass a physical and drug test, and must complete an online training class.



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May Update

Register now for the RTA's first Transportation Tuesday webinar on June 7

The RTA is bringing back [Transportation Tuesday](#), its popular four-part webinar series that in 2020 replaced the Annual Planning Workshop due to COVID-19. The free, virtual sessions will allow attendees to hear from experts, ask questions, and learn how the ongoing pandemic is shifting the way planners, economic development experts, and community stakeholders interact with transit.

The Transportation Tuesday series will take place from 1:00-2:30 p.m. each Tuesday in June, with the first event on June 7 focusing on COVID-19's impact on transit-oriented development (TOD). TOD has proven successful in bringing a mixture of residential, commercial, office, and public uses to transit station areas. The future of TOD, however, is uncertain given sustained ridership declines brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the Chicago region, declines were not uniform across all neighborhoods: While many transit stations and lines experienced ridership declines upwards of 70%, stations in primarily Black and Brown neighborhoods experienced declines that were less drastic. The panel—with representatives from Auburn Gresham, Skokie, Harvey, and Highwood—will examine how this new transit paradigm is changing the way we think about TODs and will dive into the importance of continuing to build near transit with an equity lens.

Participation is free, but [registration](#) is required.

Strategic Plan update

As part of ongoing development of the next regional transit strategic plan, the RTA has begun [convening working groups](#) made up of transit experts, riders, and other stakeholders. Three working groups kicked off in April and will meet through the summer to provide recommended goals, strategies, and performance measures.

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TO: NWMC Transportation Committee

FROM: NWMC Transportation Staff

DATE: May 26, 2022

RE: NWMC Transportation Committee Meeting Dates for 2022-2023

Below are the NWMC monthly Transportation Committee meeting dates for 2022-2023. All meetings will be held at the NWMC Offices at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Suite 0700 in Des Plaines, with videoconference options so that meetings can take place in a hybrid format.

Thursday	September 22, 2022	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference
Thursday	October 27, 2022	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference
Thursday	December 1, 2022	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference
Thursday	January 26, 2023	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference
Thursday	February 23, 2023	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference
Thursday	March 23, 2023	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference
Thursday	April 27, 2023	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference
Thursday	May 25, 2023	8:30 a.m. – NWMC Offices/videoconference