

**NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE**

1616 East Golf Road  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016  
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www.nwmc-cog.org



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

**MEMBERS**

- Antioch
  - Arlington Heights
  - Barrington
  - Bartlett
  - Buffalo Grove
  - Carpentersville
  - Cary
  - Crystal Lake
  - Deerfield
  - Des Plaines
  - Elk Grove Twp.
  - Elk Grove Village
  - Evanston
  - Fox River Grove
  - Glencoe
  - Glenview
  - Grayslake
  - Golf\*
  - Hanover Park
  - Harwood Heights
  - Hawthorn Woods
  - Highland Park
  - Hoffman Estates
  - Inverness
  - Kenilworth
  - Lake Barrington
  - Lake Forest
  - Lake Zurich
  - Libertyville
  - Lincolnshire
  - Lincolnwood
  - Morton Grove
  - Mount Prospect
  - New Trier Twp.
  - Niles
  - Northbrook
  - Northfield
  - Northfield Twp.
  - Palatine
  - Park Ridge
  - Prospect Heights
  - Rolling Meadows
  - Roselle
  - Schaumburg
  - Skokie
  - Streamwood
  - Vernon Hills
  - Wheeling
  - Wilmette
  - Winnetka
- President*  
George Van Dusen  
Skokie
- Vice-President*  
Anthony Arredia  
Des Plaines
- Secretary*  
Jill Brickman  
Northfield Township
- Treasurer*  
Timothy Schuenke  
Park Ridge
- Executive Director*  
Mark L. Fowler

**NWMC Board  
Minutes  
Wednesday, September 13, 2006  
7:00 p.m.  
Radisson Hotel Northbrook  
2875 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Northbrook/Prospect Heights, IL**

**I. Call to Order**

President Van Dusen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Diane Kopterski called the roll.

**Members Present**

- Arlington Heights, Manager Bill Dixon
- Barrington, President Karen Darch
- Buffalo Grove, President Elliott Hartstein
- Des Plaines, Mayor Tony Arredia
- Elk Grove Township, Trustee Lou Petrone
- Evanston, Mayor Lorraine Morton
- Fox River Grove, Trustee Duane Figurski
- Glencoe, President Scott Feldman
- Glenview, President Kerry Cummings
- Hanover Park, Trustee Wesley Eby
- Hoffman Estates, Manager Jim Norris
- Lincolnwood, Mayor Gerald Turry
- Morton Grove, President Rick Krier, Administrator Joe Wade
- Mount Prospect, Mayor Irvana Wilks
- New Trier Township, Supervisor Patricia Cantor
- Niles, Trustee Louella Preston
- Northbrook, President Eugene Marks
- Prospect Heights, Mayor Rodney Pace
- Roselle, Administrator Jeff O'Dell
- Schaumburg, Mayor Al Larson
- Skokie, Mayor George Van Dusen, Trustee Randall Roberts
- Streamwood, Manager Gary O'Rourke
- Wheeling, President Greg Klatecki
- Wilmette, President Christopher Canning
- Winnetka, Trustee David Abell

\*Affiliate Member

### **Members Absent**

Antioch	Kenilworth
Bartlett	Lake Barrington
Carpentersville	Lake Forest
Cary	Lake Zurich
Crystal Lake	Libertyville
Deerfield	Lincolnshire
Elk Grove Village	Northfield
Golf	Northfield Township
Grayslake	Palatine
Hawthorn Woods	Park Ridge
Highland Park	Rolling Meadows
Inverness	Vernon Hills

### **Others in Attendance**

Larry Bury, NWMC Policy Analyst  
Kristi DeLaurentiis, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director  
Chalen Hunter, NWMC Program Associate  
Diane Kopterski, NWMC Executive Secretary  
Larry Noller, Village of Harwood Heights  
Diane Palmer, RTA  
Andy Plummer, RTA  
Jim Reilly, RTA  
Mike Walczak, NWMC Program Associate  
Kay Whitlock, Christopher Burke Engineering  
Larry Widmer, NWMC Deputy Director  
Lerisa Wilkins, NWMC Program Associate

### **III. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Van Dusen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **IV. Approval of Minutes – May 10, 2006**

Motion to approve the Minutes of the May 10 Meeting was made by President Marks. It was seconded by Mayor Larson and approved by membership.

### **V. President's Report – George Van Dusen, NWMC President and Mayor, Village of Skokie**

#### **A. Village of Harwood Heights Membership Request**

President Van Dusen stated that the Village of Harwood Heights petitioned for membership and the Executive Board recommended approval of the membership petition.

Motion to approve the membership petition of the Village of Harwood Heights was made by President Hartstein. It was seconded by President Larson and approved by membership.

#### **B. September Board Meeting Program: Moving Beyond Congestion**

President Van Dusen introduced Jim Reilly, Chairman of the RTA, who discussed Moving Beyond Congestion, a comprehensive regional strategic planning effort by the CTA, Metra and Pace to solve the current transit funding challenge, ensure financial viability and accountability as well as meet the future needs of the region. Mr. Reilly stated that the RTA's goal is to take an integrated regional approach to transportation planning and form a regional consensus in order to move forward or else it will fail.

Mr. Reilly stated that in October they will release the Situation Analysis which compares our regional transit system to various transit systems in the country. The Analysis will detail what it would cost to bring the present system into a good state of repair and the consequence of having to live with the current revenue. He stated that additional federal funds are needed to develop an expanded transit network. The RTA will seek comments from the public on the growth scenario during the remainder of this year and seek funding in the new year. Mr. Reilly then took comments from membership and answered questions on the various aspects of the planning process.

Mr. Fowler stated that there was a resolution in the membership packet which identified the NWMC as a partner in transit in the Moving Beyond Congestion project and that the Executive Board recommended approval of the resolution.

Mr. Norris made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Trustee Preston and approved by membership.

**C. CMAP Strategic Report**

Mr. Fowler reported that the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning has released its Strategic Plan to the governor and General Assembly. This is the merger of NIPC and CATS into one agency originally called the Regional Planning Board. Presidents Hartstein and Larson serve on the board of directors of CMAP and Randy Blankenhorn is the executive director.

Mr. Fowler stated that the NWMC Executive Board discussed the original draft report and had four concerns. One was the continued role of the Councils of Mayors and the planning and programming of local transportation funds. Second there were some concerns about the language regarding the regional view of local zoning issues and language in the report regarding an oversight role by CMAP over local zoning issues. Some clarifications have been made in the report now that seem to take care of that issue. Third, they discussed role of special interest groups being advisory and that the role of the elected officials should not be diminished. Fourth, stable funding is needed by CMAP and the options should be outlined for the General Assembly to consider.

Mr. Fowler stated that CMAP will have some clean-up legislation in the Fall veto session dealing with the merger of the two organizations and in the Spring session they are looking for a more comprehensive package to include finances. Mayor Larson stated that there never was intent by CMAP to usurp the power of local governance concerning land use and zoning and feels it will not be compromised. President Hartstein stated that the report is a work in progress and the goal is to move forward with the report and seek the support of the entire region.

**D. Draft Cook County Stormwater Management Plan**

Mayor Arredia stated that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC) has released the draft Cook County Stormwater Management Plan. The Plan identifies by ordinance the rules and regulations for floodplain and stormwater management in the county. He also stated our COG must list its projects by priority and it would be advisable to submit them soon so they could be included in the MWRD budget.

Mr. Fowler stated that the regional councils of government requested an extension to the end of October to review the draft Cook County Stormwater Management Plan because of the magnitude of this document and to allow local governments sufficient time to conduct a full analysis of the plan. He stated that there are some provisions on regulatory concepts and the watershed development ordinance, restricting floodway development, and mitigating floodway construction activities. There are also implementation and enforcement provisions in the plan and he strongly encouraged the Cook County municipalities to have their managers and engineers thoroughly review the plan.

**E. Project Lightspeed Update**

Mr. Fowler stated that the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus negotiating team came very close to having a model agreement with AT&T that would allow AT&T to implement Project Lightspeed while protecting the level playing field statutes. AT&T would not agree to build out provisions which led to a breakdown of discussions with the MMC. The Caucus negotiating team has decided to forge ahead and draft up a model cable video service agreement that provides protection for municipalities. The MMC negotiating team will make one more attempt to sit down with AT&T to resolve the build out issue, but they are not confident it will be resolved.

Mr. Fowler stated that there is federal legislation pending that would allow AT&T to obtain federal cable franchises. The bill would make the FCC the arbiter for any complaints or problems experienced with the cable company. AT&T is also seeking legislation this spring before the General Assembly that calls for a statewide franchise. Mr. Bury stated that the federal legislation passed the House and is now in the Senate.

President Marks stated that Northbrook is close to an agreement with AT&T and Mr. Norris stated that Hoffman Estates is also close to an agreement with AT&T. They will keep the Conference apprised of their progress.

**F. Com Ed Electric Auction**

Mr. Fowler stated that Commonwealth Edison's reverse electricity auction has been completed and the Illinois Commerce Commission needs to sign off on the rate. Com Ed then has a number of days to publish their rates. Once the new rates are finalized, customers will have 50 days to find an alternate supplier or remain with Com Ed. On the residential side, increases are estimated to be in the range of 17% to 23%.

**G. FY06-07 Membership Meeting Schedule**

President Van Dusen stated that a list of the NWMC monthly meeting dates and locations for 2006-2007 were provided with the board packet. The next monthly board meeting is on October 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Chicago Northwest in Arlington Heights.

**H. FY06-07 NWMC Committee List**

President Van Dusen stated that the Executive Committee recommended approval of the FY06-07 NWMC Committee list.

Motion was made by Mayor Arredia to approve the FY06-07 Committee List. It was seconded by Mayor Pace and approved by membership.

**VI. Priority Issues**

**A. Legislative Committee – Elliott Hartstein, President, Village of Buffalo Grove, Co-Chair and Karen Darch, President, Village of Barrington, Co-chair**  
*Pension Response Update*

President Hartstein thanked members for submitting their ideas for the Conference's legislative priorities for the upcoming year. He stated that one of the things they want to do this year is to respond and make headway in the pension arena. The IML pension study which was to be used as a springboard is not ready yet. However, an actuary is on board to help prepare a response if legislation emerges.

Mr. Bury stated that in terms of the pension response team, they have about a dozen towns on board and several councils of government for a coordinated response to the pension issue. He stated that the media and public relations education on the impact of potential pension legislation will be done when hard data is available.

*TIF Update*

Mr. Fowler stated that he sent an editorial letter to the Chicago Tribune in response to Cook County Commissioner Quigley's call for a moratorium on TIFs. Commissioner Quigley has two resolutions that he planned to introduce to the County Board. The first is an in-house resolution requesting that the county's representative on the joint review board take direction from the county board and if there is no formal direction from the board they are to abstain. The second resolution calls on the General Assembly to amend the state's TIF legislation to refocus the program on its regional purpose of helping truly blighted areas and to establish a role for all affected taxing bodies in the governance and oversight of TIF districts and distribution of TIF funds. Commissioner Quigley's issue with TIFs concerns the City of Chicago's declaration of the LaSalle Street TIF which he feels doesn't meet the definition of blight and the spirit of the original TIF legislation. Mr. Fowler has also sent an email to Conference Cook County municipalities asking them to send letters to their Cook County representatives opposing Commissioner Quigley's resolution.

**VII. Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Mayor Arredia to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by Mayor Pace and approved by members. The following items were approved on the Consent Agenda:

- Monthly Budget Report & Warrant List for July 2006
- TIP change requested by Village of Northbrook for the Skokie Boulevard LAPP project

**VIII. Other Business**

Trustee Preston requested that an item on the smoking ban be placed on the October agenda. She further requested that the municipalities who currently have ordinances send them to the NWMC and that staff prepare an analysis of the ordinances that have been passed, and report to the Board at the October meeting. Trustee Preston also requested that the mayors of the towns that have ordinances give a summary on how they arrived at their ordinances.

**IX. For the Good of the Order**

None.

**X. Next Meeting**

President Van Dusen stated that the next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11, at 7:30 p.m, at the Sheraton Chicago Northwest in Arlington Heights.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Pace. It was seconded by Mayor Arredia and approved by membership. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.