

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

1616 East Golf Road
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
- Carpentersville
- Cary
- Crystal Lake
- Deer Park
- Deerfield
- Des Plaines
- Elk Grove Village
- Evanston
- Glencoe
- Glenview
- Grayslake
- Hanover Park
- Highland Park
- Hoffman Estates
- Kenilworth
- Lake Forest
- Lake Zurich
- Libertyville
- Lincolnshire
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Mount Prospect
- Niles
- Northbrook
- Northfield
- Northfield Twp.
- Palatine
- Park Ridge
- Prospect Heights
- Rolling Meadows
- Schaumburg
- Skokie
- Streamwood
- Vernon Hills
- Wheeling
- Wilmette
- Winnetka

President

Sandra E. Frum
Northbrook

Vice-President

Elizabeth B. Tisdahl
Evanston

Secretary

Tom Rooney
Rolling Meadows

Treasurer

Wally Bobkiewicz
Evanston

Executive Director

Mark L. Fowler

**Northwest Municipal Conference
Transportation Committee
Thursday, December 19, 2013**

8:30 a.m.

NWMC Offices

1600 E. Golf Road, Suite 0700, Des Plaines

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order – Chair Braiman**
- II. Approval of November 21, 2013 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**
Action requested: Approve Minutes
- III. Transit Governance Update**
Staff will provide an update on the Governor’s Transit Task Force.
Action Requested: Discussion
- IV. Illinois Route 53/120 Update**
Staff will provide an update on the work of the Finance Committee for the Illinois Route 53/120 project, including possible funding sources to narrow the project’s more than \$2 billion funding gap.
Action Requested: Discussion
- V. Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) Commute Options Program Update**
Since late 2010, MPC has spearheaded a Commute Options pilot with 16 regional employers (including 3 in the Northern suburbs), surveying more than 6200 employees total on how they choose to get to work, and why. MPC has recently issued a report “Chicago Demand Transportation Management-The Case for TDM in Chicagoland”, which describes what was learned in the pilot, and makes a case for a formalized Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program in the Chicago area. Tim Grzesiakowski, Project Manager-Commute Options at MPC, will give a presentation about the pilot, and possible next steps for TDM in the Chicago area.
Action Requested: Informational
- VI. Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Update**
NWMC staff will provide an update on the Des Plaines River Trail Corridor Plan and other initiatives of the Committee.
Action Requested: Informational

VII. CMAP Update

An update on relevant activities from CMAP's committees will be provided.

Action requested: Informational

VIII. Other Business

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on January 30 at the NWMC Offices.

(please note, this meeting will be held on the fifth Thursday of the month)

Action Requested: Discussion

X. Adjournment

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 21, 2013
8:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices
1600 E. Golf Road, Suite 0700
Des Plaines, IL

Members Present:

Jeffrey Braiman, President, Village of Buffalo Grove, Chair
Dean Argiris, President, Village of Wheeling
Rod Craig, Mayor, Village of Hanover Park
Peter Falcone, Assistant to the Administrator, Village of Morton Grove
Don Owen, Deputy Village Manager, Village of Glenview
Greg Summers, Village of Barrington

Others Present:

Bunny Anderson, Illinois Tollway
Steve Andrews, Pace
Larry Bury, Deputy Director, Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC)
Barb Cornew, Congressman Brad Schneider
Kama Dobbs, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Marnie Hooghkirk, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
June Johnson, Village of Schaumburg
Rick Mack, Metra
Earl Jandacek, Bowman Consulting
Mike Pagones, Village of Arlington Heights
Homayoon Pirooz, City of Evanston
Andy Plummer, Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)
Robert Sabo, Village of Prospect Heights
Chris Staron, NWMC
Mike Walczak, NWMC

I. Call to Order

Chair Braiman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. Approval of October 24, 2013 Meeting Minutes

On a motion made by President Argiris, seconded by Mr. Owen, the committee voted unanimously to approve the October 24, 2013 meeting minutes.

III. Transit Governance Update

Mr. Staron reported that the Legislative Committee reviewed the transit governance positions that the Transportation Committee forwarded last month. He said that in recommending priorities, the transit governance issue fell just outside the top three in large part because it is still unclear how this issue will develop moving forward. He reported that the Legislative Committee did make this an issue of high concern because reform proposal may have a significant impact on transit in municipalities.

IV. RTA Funding Overview

Mr. Plummer delivered a presentation on the current structure of RTA funding and proposals that were recently presented to the RTA Board by a consultant. He reported that the RTA funding relies on a formula that essentially has two parts: the original distribution and additional formula for the revenue from the RTA reform in 2008. He explained that the capital funding is separate and determined by a federal formula. He reported that in 2003, the operating budget for the RTA system was \$3.806 billion, with approximately one-third coming from sales tax, real estate transfer taxes and state PTF. He said that operating revenue covers less than one-third of the operating budget.

Mr. Plummer also provided a brief overview of the consultant proposed options for funding distributions. He explained the range of options such as instituting a competitive program, performance-based program, asset management focus or sub-area equity program. He informed the committee that even with a different method of funding distribution, the region has a substantial capital funding shortfall. He said that capital funding must more than double to reach a state of good repair in ten years.

The committee discussed the funding contributions from various geographies and the fairness of the current system.

Mr. Plummer said that the RTA anticipates a ruling from the Supreme Court today affecting the sales tax avoidance agreements being used by a number of businesses and communities outside the Chicago region. He said the ruling will provide direction for the RTA in order to know how to pursue the issue going forward.

V. Pace 2014 Budget Presentation

Mr. Andrews provided a short report on the Pace budget for 2014 and highlights from 2013. He said that ridership increased 2.5% in 2013. He reported that Pace saw impressive growth on the bus-on-shoulder service and coordinated with the CTA to provide additional service during the Red Line rehabilitation. He said that Pace is going through Ventra implementation and going through some of the same growing pains being reported about the CTA. He said that Pace implemented the first phase of the I-90 service enhancement in coordination with the Illinois Tollway's construction project. He said that Pace continues to move forward on implementation of Arterial Rapid Transit, with Milwaukee Avenue as the first planned route within the next couple of years. He reported that the 2014 budget is balanced and Pace will be spending \$57 million in capital.

VI. Metra 2014 Budget Presentation

Mr. Mack reported that Metra's budget includes no fare increases or service reductions in 2014. He said the Board continues to recognize the need to keep up with inflation and will consider rate increases as necessary. He said the budget includes \$728 million in operations and over \$200 million in capital spending. He reported that ridership did go up 1% in 2013. He said that Metra will continue bridge work on the UP-North line and purchase new cars for the Metra Electric line. He said that Metra will start working towards a regional fare system in 2014 with pilots on implementing Ventra. Mr. Mack highlighted that Metra faces a sizable backlog in capital projects to bring the system into a state of good repair.

VII. Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Update

Mr. Walczak said that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee continues to focus on the Des Plaines River Corridor Plan. He said that staff met with the Forest Preserve of Cook County and IDOT to get initial feedback on the findings for the existing conditions report. He said that initial recommendations are anticipated in December or January.

VIII. CMAP Update

Ms. Dobbs reported that the CMAQ program was approved in October and successful sponsors are being informed through letters. She said a project initiation meeting is scheduled for early December. She said that proposed Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is out for public comment while the Safe Routes to School program is now accepting applications.

IX. Other Business

Mr. Argiris asked about Ventra implementation issues. Mr. Plummer said that there are some problems with the system, but the technology is working well in most cases and CTA and Pace are now giving time to get things operating properly. Mr. Andrews added that there have been issues that have prompted the change in implementation dates. He said that the current system is outdated and needed to be updated.

Ms. Anderson provided a construction update on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90). She said most of the construction work has been to the west, but work will transition to the east with the increase in Pace service and the eventual demolition of the Des Plaines Oasis. She reported on the Elgin O'Hare – Western Access groundbreaking (I-390) and the twentieth anniversary of I-PASS.

X. Next Meeting

Chair Braiman reported that the next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 19.

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by Mayor Craig, seconded by Mr. Owen, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.