

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*

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**Northwest Municipal Conference
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Tuesday, October 16, 2012
10:30 a.m.
Mason Park
Florence Ave and Church St
Evanston, IL**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/Introductions**
- II. Approval of September 18, 2012 Meeting Notes (Attachment A)**
Action requested: Approval of minutes
- III. CMAQ Application Update**
Municipalities representing the Skokie Valley Trail and the Northwest Highway Bikeway have met and discussed applying for Phase I Engineering funds during the upcoming CMAQ Call for Projects. Staff will provide an update.
Action Requested: Informational
- IV. CMAP Community Planning Program Update - Des Plaines River Trail**
On October 10, CMAP's MPO Policy Committee will vote on the recommended program of projects for the agency's Community Planning Program, including the NWMC's application for improvements to the Des Plaines River Trail Corridor. Staff will provide an update.
Action Requested: Informational
- V. Next Meeting Date**
Staff is requesting a discussion of the November meeting date. Options for the meeting are November 20 and November 27.
Action Requested: Establish November Meeting Date
- VI. Other Business**
- VII. Evanston – Church Street Protected Bike Lanes Tour**
Staff from the City of Evanston and the Active Transportation Alliance will lead the group in a tour of the first protected bike lanes in the suburbs. The existing section of the lanes is from Dodge to Ridge and the corridor will eventually go east to the lakefront. Participants are encouraged to bring their own bike or walk along the corridor.
- VIII. Adjournment**

**Northwest Municipal Conference
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Tuesday, September 17, 2012
Draft Meeting Minutes
10:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices**

Committee Members Present:

A.C. Buehler, Trustee, Village of Northbrook (Acting Chair)
Richard Bascomb, Village of Schaumburg
Andrew Jennings, Village of Wheeling
Kevin Kramer, Village of Barrington
Derek Peebles, City of Des Plaines (alternate)
Bob Pfeil, Village of Buffalo Grove
Harry Spila, Village of Palatine

Others Present:

Jim Baxa, Village of Northbrook
Nellie Beckner, Village of Mount Prospect
Barb Cornew, Active Transportation Alliance
Brooke Jones, Village of Wheeling
Matt Lawrie, Village of Mount Prospect
Paul Lippens, Active Transportation Alliance
Scott Mangum, City of Des Plaines
John O'Neal, CMAP
Mike Walczak, NWMC

I. Call to Order/Introductions

Acting Chair Buehler called the meeting to order at 10:35.

II. Approval of the July 24, 2012 Meeting Minutes

On a motion from Mr. Bascomb, seconded by Mr. Pfeil, the committee unanimously voted to approve the meeting minutes.

III. Complete Streets, Complete Networks Design Manual

Paul Lippens from the Active Transportation Alliance gave a presentation on the recently completed Complete Streets, Complete Networks design manual. He provided background on Complete Streets including growing regional and national adoption of Complete Streets policies. In response to a question from Mr. O'Neal, Mr. Lippens explained that a Complete Streets ordinance carries more weight than a resolution or executive order. The Committee also discussed the basics of IDOT's Complete Streets policy.

Mr. Lippens explained the development and adoption of Cook County's Complete Streets ordinance, which also included the development of an internal policy necessary to implement Complete Streets. The Committee discussed the ambitious goal of having 50 percent of all trips in Cook County taken by transit, biking or walking by 2030.

Finally, Mr. Lippens described the design guidelines, definitions, and best practices in the manual. He explained that the manual does not duplicate existing engineering documents such

as AASHTO or MUTCD but rather provide a high level justification for implementing Complete Streets. He also described various ways municipalities can use it the guide: by adopting it into a list of reference guides for engineers; modifying portions of it to fit their needs; or referring a consultant to the guide for a specific project. He stressed that it is a free resource which should be used as needed. The Committee agreed that the guide could be helpful to justify incorporating Complete Streets into a project to engineers or elected officials.

Mr. Spila asked how ATA could help a municipality move towards adopting a Complete Streets policy. Ms. Cornew responded that in order to achieve the end goal, all stakeholders in the community must buy into the policy, including education through presentations and meetings. Trustee Buehler added that support must come from the general public to convince municipal officials of a policy chance, not just from staff or appointed boards.

IV. CMAP Local Technical Assistance and Community Planning Applications – Des Plaines River Trail

Mr. Walczak reported that NWMC staff, with the assistance of staff from Wheeling, Des Plaines and Mount Prospect as well as the Forest Preserve District of Cook County and the Active Transportation Alliance, submitted a grant application to CMAP for a plan to review the existing access to and through the Forest Preserves along the Des Plaines River Trail and to review regional and community plans for non-motorized transportation in the area. The CMAP Transportation Committee recommended funding the project under the Community Planning program. The recommendation next goes to the MPO Policy Committee for final approval on October 10. Bike plans from Evanston and Niles and a comprehensive plan from Prospect Heights were also among the recommended projects.

V. Local Project Updates

Mr. Walczak announced that a Cook County reconstruction project along Shoe Factory Road in Hoffman Estates will include a sidepath that closes a gap in the Golf Road Corridor.

Mr. Walczak also noted that a CMAQ call for projects is anticipated for December for funding in 2017-2018. New guidelines now require a project to have a final Project Development Report submitted to IDOT to be eligible for CMAQ funding. He urged communities to look at projects which may be in an engineering phase now or which will have a simple Phase I and consider those for the program.

Ms. Cornew announced that ATA is planning an event in Evanston to showcase the City's new separated bike lanes and will include the Committee on its invitation list.

VI. Next Meeting Date

Chair Buehler announced that the next meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on October 16, 2012 at the NWMC offices.

VII. Other Business

There was no other business.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Buehler adjourned the meeting.