

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE
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*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, July 24, 2012
10:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices
1616 East Golf Road
Des Plaines, IL**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/Introductions**
- II. Approval of June 19, 2012 Meeting Notes (Attachment A)**
Action requested: Approval of minutes
- III. CMAP Local Technical Assistance Grant Opportunity - Des Plaines River Trail**
Several communities along the Des Plaines River Trail and the Active Transportation Alliance have discussed applying for a Local Technical Assistance grant from CMAP to study access to and through the trail. Staff and representatives from the communities will discuss the potential application and other projects that may be candidates for the LTA program.
Action Requested: Discussion
- IV. New Federal Transportation Bill**
The recently enacted MAP-21 legislation will have an impact on funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects, with less dedicated funding but more flexibility allowed at the state level. Staff will discuss the impact on current and future projects.
Action Requested: Discussion
- V. Local Project Updates**
- VI. Next Meeting Date**
The next meeting date is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on August July 17, 2012 at the NWMC offices.
- VII. Other Business**
- VIII. Adjournment**

**Northwest Municipal Conference
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Tuesday, June 19, 2012
Draft Meeting Notes
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
Matt Lawrie, Village of Mount Prospect
Scott Mangum, City of Des Plaines (alternate)
Ashley Monroe, Village of Hoffman Estates
Bob Pfeil, Village of Buffalo Grove

Others Present:

Nellie Beckner, Village of Mount Prospect
Carrie Haberstich, Village of Skokie
Brooke Jones, Village of Wheeling
Valbona Kokoshi, Lake County Division of Transportation
Kathy LeVeque, Village of Deerfield
Brigitte Mayerhofer, Village of Wilmette
John O'Neal, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Dan Persky, Active Transportation Alliance
Will Rockwell, Village of Vernon Hills
Harry Spila, Village of Palatine
Christopher Staron, Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC)
Chris Tomich, Village of Morton Grove
Stephen Vaughn, Cook County Highway Department

I. Call to Order/Introductions

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

II. Approval of the May 15, 2012 Meeting Minutes

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

III. Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordination

A. Lake County Division of Transportation

Ms. Kokoshi from the Lake County Division of Transportation provided an overview of multiple Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) applications for projects that overlap with NWMC regional bicycle corridors. She reported that Lake County submitted applications for the Russell Road Bike Path to connect the Des Plaines River Trail into Wisconsin; for the Hawley Street sidepath to connect the North Shore Bike Path and the Millennium Trail; for the Deerfield Road Shared-Use Path east of the Des Plaines River; and the Quentin Road sidepath. She said that a final application looks to

make enhancements to existing facilities, like wayfinding signage. She further reported that Lake County has a non-motorized travel policy to incorporated bicycle and pedestrian improvements on transportation projects.

Mr. Pfeil asked about the gap in the North Shore Bike Path and if there is municipal involvement. Ms. Kokoshi responded that it will be a county only project. Mr. O'Neil asked about the signage application. Ms. Kokoshi responded that the signage will be on existing paths like the McClory Trail and the Skokie Valley Trail. Mr. Lawrie asked about coordination with Cook County on the Quentin Road Project. Mr. Vaughn said that Cook County is considering a sidepath on Quentin Road, but stakeholders have varying views on how to proceed.

B. Cook County Highway Department

Mr. Vaughn from the Cook County Highway Department discussed the county's recent adoption of a Complete Streets ordinance. He said that the county has instituted an internal policy for implementing the ordinance. He explained that the internal policy is geared towards ensuring that future transportation projects consider all users of the roadway, including bicyclists and pedestrians. He said that the Active Transportation Alliance, in coordination with Cook County, produced a design manual that will help guide the bicycle and pedestrian facilities on county roadways.

The committee discussed opportunities for municipalities to coordinate with Cook County regarding projects in its multiyear program and in municipal bicycle and pedestrian plans. Mr. Buehler asked about coordination with the Forest Preserve District. Mr. Vaughn said that the Highway Department may be able assist on coordination regarding the complete streets policy. Mr. Spila asked how the county's ordinance interacts with the state's policy. Mr. Vaughn responded that Cook County is looking to enhance its relationship with IDOT.

IV. CMAQ Program Policy Changes

Mr. Staron reported that the attached document outlines the recently adopted CMAQ policies that are geared towards addressing the persistent problem of unobligated funding in the CMAQ program. He said that the changes will affect existing as well as future projects. For new projects, CMAQ funding will no longer cover Phase I Engineering, which is similar to how STP funding operates. He further reported that projects cannot be programmed until Phase I is complete or nearly complete. He noted that this is a higher hurdle for municipalities to enter the program, but CMAP is hoping for better scoped projects with a higher level of commitment. Mr. Staron explained that the benefit to municipalities is that Phase II Engineering, ROW Acquisition and Construction will all be eligible for 100 percent funding in most cases. He said that for existing projects there is an accomplishment sunset or deadline, which replaces the one-time moves. He explained each project phase has three years from the year it was programmed to accomplish the phase. He reported that if the phase is not accomplished, future phases move to a deferred project list. Mr. O'Neil reported that there is also an annual obligation goal in order to spend down the program balance.

V. ADA Transition Plans

Mr. Staron reported that the committee discussed ADA Transition Plans a couple months ago. He announced that CMAP has published a new webpage with a host of resources for

accessibility and transition plans. Mr. O'Neil noted that the accessibility requirements are not only a legal requirement, but also make for a better pedestrian environment. Mr. Tomich asked if there is a standard for a reasonable financial effort to meet accessibility requirements. Mr. O'Neil said that he did not know on any standards.

VI. Next Meeting Date

Chair Buehler announced that the next meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on July 17, 2012 at the NWMC offices.

VII. Other Business

Mr. Staron reported that the federal transportation legislation is still up in the air. He noted that the Safe Routes to School Program and Enhancement Program are two bicycle and pedestrian programs that may be consolidated or eliminated depending on the final bill. He announced that committee volunteers were sought through the mayors, presidents and managers. He instructed the committee to contact him if members wanted to continue to serve or join.

Mr. O'Neil announced that CMAP will be hosting a bikeways seminar on August 24 and a future accessibility workshop.

Mr. Vaughn reported that Cook County will be starting work on a long range transportation plan and will be working with the municipal councils of governments to provide an opportunity for municipal input.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Buehler adjourned the meeting.