



NWMC Transportation Newsletter

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Dates to Remember

September 19-20	Illinois Bike Summit and NACTO Training (See Page 2) <i>Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Normal</i>
September 20	NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee - 10:30 a.m. <i>NWMC Offices</i>
September 22	NWMC Transportation Committee - 8:30 a.m. <i>NWMC Offices</i>
September 28	North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee - 8:30 a.m. <i>Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street</i>



Northwest Council Issues Call for Projects

The Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee met August 11 at the *Barrington Village Hall* and approved a call for new Surface Transportation Program (STP) projects.

Applications are due by Friday, September 30 and will be presented to the Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee at their October 21 meeting. Please direct all applications as well as any questions to Mike Walczak. Please visit <http://www.nwmc-cog.org/Transportation/Northwest-Council-of-Mayors.aspx> to access the project application.

Under the new policy, the committee will be holding biannual calls for new

projects. The next call for projects will be held in February 2017. New project applications will no longer be accepted outside of these official calls.

In addition to the call for projects, the committee approved moving *Elk Grove Village's* Lively Boulevard resurfacing project into the Council's Fiscal Year 2017 program and approved additional construction funds for *Hanover Park's* Barrington Road at Walnut Avenue intersection improvement project. The committee also approved functional classification request changes from *Palatine* for Smith Road, Rohlwing Road, Cunningham Drive and Illinois Avenue. The next committee meeting

will be held on Friday, October 21 at 8:30 a.m. at the *Barrington Village Hall*.

North Shore Council Update

The North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee will meet Wednesday, September 28 at 8:30 a.m. at the *Skokie Village Hall*. In addition to the usual topics, staff will discuss the upcoming call for CMAQ and TAP projects. Please submit any agenda items to North Shore Council Planning Liaison Brian Pigeon by Wednesday, September 14.



Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Discusses Priorities, Plans and Grants

The NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met August 16 to consider potential meeting topics and committee priorities for the upcoming year. The committee expressed a desire to learn more about pedestrian crossing options, particularly along 4-lane roads, as well as community bike share programs. Recently, several communities in the region have begun implementing bike share systems. The committee plans to explore the challenges and opportunities involved in implementing such a system in a suburban context. NWMC staff announced plans to update the 2010 NWMC Bike Plan and the committee identified items they would like the update to address.

NWMC staff also presented grant opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian projects. The Regional Transit Authori-

ty (RTA) Access to Transit Improvement Program is currently accepting applications until October 30. In January, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) will open a call for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects (see article below). The CMAQ and TAP applications will require Phase I Engineering to be underway at the time of application. For more information on any of these opportunities or to schedule a kick-off meeting with IDOT, please contact NWMC staff. Finally, staff noted that Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) fund awards will be announced in October.

The next Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee is scheduled for September 20 at 10:30 a.m. at NWMC offices.



New Details on CMAP/TAP Call for Projects

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) will issue a call for new projects for the CMAQ and TAP programs on January 6, 2017. Applications from municipalities will be due to Council Planning Liaisons by February 17.

Both programs require that Phase I design approval must be given by IDOT before a project can receive funding. By June 1, 2017, projects must have received design approval, have IDOT certify that a final Project Development Report (PDR) has been submitted for signatures, or have IDOT certify that a preliminary PDR has been received with an accurate cost and clear scope established.

If your municipality has any potential projects for either program, please contact your Council's Planning Liaison to schedule a meeting with IDOT to scope the project and determine how long the design approval process will take. Environmental clearances on projects which involve state right-of-way can take between six months to one year, so planning now will put your project in a better position when applications are officially released.

More information on the programs, including eligible project types, can be found by visiting: <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/mobility/strategic-investment/regional-transportation-programs>.

Register Now for 2016 Illinois Bike Summit and NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Training

From Ride Illinois Chief Programs Officer Ed Barsotti:

Registration is now open for the 2016 Illinois Bike Summit. Learn from experts, earn continuing education credits, and network with advocates, planners, civil engineers, public health researchers, business leaders, and elected officials from all corners of the state. Leave inspired and better equipped to improve bicycling in your community and beyond as we focus on Better Biking for All.

**Monday, Sept 19, 9:30am - 3:30pm
Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel**

Sessions will include:

- Your Bikeway Toolbox
- Trail Tools & Economic Impacts
- Multi-use Corridors
- Collecting & Using Data
- Motorist Directed Signage
- Trail-building Corps
- Bicycle Friendly Community Designation
- Health Department Partnerships
- Rolling Toward Equity
- Mobile Workshop
- Advocacy
- IDOT Secretary Blankenhorn

**NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Training
Tue, Sept 20, 8:30am - 3pm
Normal Public Library
6 PDH or AICP CM credits**

A national-level training on NACTO's Urban Bikeway Design Guide and related suburban/rural content for professional planners and engineers. Limited to 45 participants.

Register at <http://rideillinois.org/events/2016-illinois-bike-summit/>

CMAP Investigates Future Trends for 2050 Plan

On August 30, experts and stakeholders from a variety of disciplines across the region met at the offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) for a working session entitled "Alternative Futures." The session was a part of the ongoing outreach for On To 2050, the region's next comprehensive plan.

Over the summer, CMAP staff identified twenty trends that have the potential to shape the Chicago region. The trends were selected on their plausibility, impact and policy links. Attendees of the working session broke into groups based on their area of expertise and assessed the likelihood and potential impact of trends related to the environment, land use, governance, demographics, regional economy and transportation.

CMAP staff will use the results of this session to further refine the goals of On To 2050. Outreach for the On To 2050 plan will continue through October 2018 and beyond. For more information on upcoming events or hosting an event for the plan, please visit www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050.



O'Hare Truck Routing Plan Kicks-Off

Representatives from municipalities, counties and other affected agencies met on August 31 at the offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) for the first O'Hare Subregion Truck Routing Plan Policy Committee meeting. The plan, led by Cambridge Systematics, Sam Schwartz Consulting and CMAP staff seeks to identify ways to improve the flow of truck traffic and reduce the negative effects of that traffic in the communities surrounding O'Hare airport. The study area will include: Bellwood; Bensenville; *Des Plaines*; *Elk Grove Village*; Franklin Park; Itasca; Maywood; Melrose Park; Northlake; Schiller Park; and, Wood Dale. Communities adjacent to the study area are welcome to submit comments as well.

The committee identified key origin points, destinations, freight corridors, areas with noise concerns, geometric challenges, regulatory and operational issues and general areas of concern. The plan process is expected to take approximately one year with the Policy Committee to meet in the fall to discuss existing conditions in the study area, in the winter to discuss desired future conditions and in the spring to discuss needed actions. A Technical Committee will separately discuss logistical issues related to the trucking industry. The Policy Committee will be the venue for municipal comments to be heard. NWMC staff plans to bring the project consultants to a future Transportation Committee meeting.



RTA Seeking Access to Transit Projects

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) has released a call for projects for the Access to Transit Improvement Program. The program is open to applicants that have completed (or are in the process of completing) a study through the RTA's Community Planning program or CMAP'S Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program.

The Access to Transit Improvement Program is intended to leverage RTA and local funds with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funding to help im-

plement small-scale projects that increase pedestrian and bicycle access to the transit system.

Applications are due to the RTA by Thursday, October 20. The long application period is intended to give applicants adequate time to initiate or complete the Phase I engineering aspect of the project.

For more information, visit <https://www.rtachicago.com/plans-programs/grants-projects/access-to-transit>.



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