

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, January 17, 2016

10:30 a.m.

NWMC Offices

1600 E. Golf Road, Suite 0700, Des Plaines

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/ Introductions**
- II. Approval of November 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**
Action Requested: Approval of Minutes
- III. NWMC Bike Plan Updates**
NWMC Staff will present a draft RFP for updates to the NWMC Bicycle Plan.
Action Requested: Discussion/ Approval
- IV. CMAQ/TAP Call for Projects**
NWMC staff will discuss the application process for the recently opened call for projects for the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects.
Action Requested: Informational
- V. Bike Share Updates**
NWMC staff will update the committee on municipal bike share initiatives.
Action Requested: Informational
- VI. Project Updates**
- VII. Other Business**
- VIII. Next Meeting**
The next meeting of the NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee will be scheduled for February 21, 2017.
Action Requested: Informational
- IX. Adjournment**

**Northwest Municipal Conference
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Tuesday, November 15, 2016
Draft Meeting Minutes
10:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices**

Committee Members Present:

Arlene Juracek, Chair, Village of Mount Prospect
AC Buehler, Vice Chair, Village of Northbrook
Jim Baxa, Village of Northbrook
Nellie Beckner, Village of Mount Prospect
Andrew Jennings, Village of Wheeling
Brooke Jones, Village of Wheeling
Joe Kenney, Village of Glenview
Mike Hankey, Village of Hoffman Estates
Natalie Ossowski, Village of Barrington
Derek Peebles, City of Des Plaines

Others Present:

Tim Gustafson, Alta Planning and Design
Matt Lawrie, Village of Mount Prospect
Dan Randolph, Village of Niles
Briget Schwab, Village of Arlington Heights
Bruce Sylvester, Village of Niles
Terry Witt, Spin Doctor Cyclewerks
Brian Pigeon, NWMC
Mike Walczak, NWMC

I. Call to Order/ Introductions

Trustee Buehler called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and asked those present for introductions.

II. Approval of August 16, 2016 & September 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes.

On a motion by Mayor Juracek, seconded by Mr. Peebles, the committee voted to approve both sets of minutes as presented.

III. CMAQ and TAP Call for Projects

Mr. Walczak presented the draft application for CMAQ and TAP projects noting that the call for projects would open January 6th. He added that applications would be due to the planning liaisons (Mr. Walczak and Mr. Pigeon) for review by February 17th with final submittal to CMAP due March 3rd. He added that the projects would be considered by the CMAQ project selection committee in July, with final approval by the CMAP

Board scheduled for October and that CMAQ funds would be programmed for fiscal years 2018-2022 while TAP would be programmed for fiscal years 2018-2019.

Mr. Walczak and Mr. Pigeon discussed existing and recently completed CMAQ projects in the Northwest and North Shore Council areas including bike lanes, bike parking, pedestrian improvements, intersection improvements and signal interconnect projects. Mr. Pigeon noted that unlike previous calls for projects, this time Phase II Engineering would not be eligible for signal interconnect projects.

Mr. Walczak discussed the Phase I requirements for all CMAQ/TAP applications and added that bicycle projects are required to be included in an adopted plan of some sort (municipal, regional or CMAP).

IV. NWMC Bike Plan Update

Mr. Walczak described the technical language of an RFP for updating the NWMC Bicycle plan and said that staff was seeking input from the committee regarding the scope of the plan update. He discussed possibilities for the scope of the plan update including: a plan update, full review, adding pedestrian planning, and adding a multi-modal component.

Mayor Juracek said that she would like the plan to include a way to disseminate guidance on pedestrian crossing. Mr. Peebles was in favor for a full active transportation plan, encouraged highlight the issue of crossings at Pace bus stops as well as highlighting existing tools such as NAACTO.

Trustee Buehler said he felt the pedestrian component needed to be included in the plan update as it has become a more important part of the network region-wide. Mayor Juracek added that with redevelopment in downtown Mt Prospect, the pedestrian component should be included in the scope.

Mr. Hankey asked how the plan update would be funded. Mr. Walczak replied that it would be funded through the NWMC Special Projects fund, pending NWMC Board approval and could be funded through CMAP's Local Technical Assistance Program.

Trustee Buehler asked what the timeline for the plan would be. Mr. Walczak replied roughly 12 months. Mr. Walczak then asked if a steering committee should be set up for this plan and whether other agencies should be included. He noted that during the development of the Des Plaines River Trail plan (DPRT) NWMC reached out to the agencies for comments. Mayor Juracek said she felt a comment period would be adequate for agency input.

Mr. Walczak then discussed route prioritization noting that the 2010 plan included a 3-tier system. He asked if the 2017 plan should include high priority projects.

Mr. Jennings asked if it was possible to measure projects based on best value per dollar. Mr. Walczak said that CMAP was working to develop such a tool.

Mr. Peebles noted that the City of Chicago's bike plan includes major roads as routes but they are not comfortable to ride. Mr. Baxa noted that the 2010 plan included routes on busy roads that will never be built given the traffic on those roads (Dundee). Mr. Walczak clarified that the old plan identified rough outlines for where a route should go.

Mr. Jennings said that a project like the Skokie Valley Trail is a good value because it creates a route and requires few crossing signals. He added that the committee should consider removing Dundee as a route.

Mr. Walczak emphasized the need to balance short-term routes with creating a line on the map that can guide future projects (i.e. IDOT performing major reconstruction).

Mr. Witt said he felt the corridor routes are helpful and municipalities respond to their existence citing the Elgin to Evanston route in the 2010 plan.

Mr. Walczak asked what sort of public involvement should the plan update include. He noted that the 2010 plan had no public involvement but the DPRT plan included stakeholder interviews, an online survey and a trail rider survey. Mayor Juracek said the update should include the public. Mr. Jennings said the stakeholder outreach was helpful. Mr. Lawrie suggested reaching out to Union Pacific. Mr. Jennings suggested going past the staff level with outside agencies and getting top-down direction from forest preserve superintendents, county commissioners, etc. Mayor Juracek suggested outreach via social media. Mr. Peebles added that the plan will likely run into budget constraints and staff will have to prioritize certain aspects of the update.

V. Wilmette Bikeway Master Plan

Mr. Pigeon discussed the recent meeting of a steering committee to update the Village of Wilmette's bike plan. He noted that the update would include pedestrian elements but the village does not currently have dedicated funding set aside. Mr. Peebles asked if anyone from the Village had attended the recent workshop with Mark Fenton. Mr. Pigeon replied that several of the steering committee members had participated that the recent event held at the Chicago Botanic Gardens and that Mr. Fenton led a walking assessment of downtown Wilmette.

VI. Project Updates

Mr. Walczak noted several updates from the Village of Skokie. Mr. Peebles discussed ongoing negotiations with Union Pacific in Des Plaines. Ms. Schwab noted improvements in Arlington Heights along intersections with Dundee, Northwest Highway and that the Arlington Heights Bike and Pedestrian plan final comments had been sent to CMAP.

Mr. Witt provided updates on the Bartlett bike committee, the Wayne Township bike plan, ongoing work with Ride Illinois and the recently held Kickstand Classic race.

Mr. Baxa noted that Lake and Cook Counties would be holding a public meeting on the Skokie Valley Trail bridge over Lake Cook Road.

Mayor Juracek noted that in light of the fatality on Central Rd, the Secretary of State will be updating driver's manuals to include rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) and IDOT may try an experimental crossing that is not yet MUTCD approved and a center median has been installed. Mr. Lawrie added that Mt. Prospect has added 18 miles of marked bike routes.

Mr. Randolph reported that an RRFB project on Howard St in Niles would be postponed in light of IDOT's actions regarding Central. He asked if there had been any progress on HAWK signals being approved. Mayor Juracek said that may be part of the experimental solution but it would be best for Niles to wait. Mr. Peebles added that a HAWK was granted CMAQ funding in Oak Park.

VII. Other Business

Mr. Pigeon discussed the most recent meeting of the Chicagoland Complete Streets Coalition and its recent presentation on winter road maintenance. He highlighted two snow removal guides and said he would email the committee links to those guides.

VIII. Next Meeting

Trustee Buehler announced that the next meeting was scheduled for December 20.

IX. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Hankey, seconded by Mr. Peebles the committee voted to adjourn at 11:35 a.m.