

**NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE**

1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016  
(847) 296-9200 • Fax (847) 296-9207  
[www.nwmc-cog.org](http://www.nwmc-cog.org)



*A Regional Association of Illinois  
Municipalities and Townships  
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

**Northwest Municipal Conference  
Transportation Committee**

**Agenda  
March 24, 2022  
8:30 a.m.**

**NWMC Offices and Zoom Video Conference**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81171027839?pwd=aytYM1RhVEtpVlBrS0lJUHIzZNOdz09>

**Meeting ID: 811 7102 7839**

**Passcode: TC032422**

**Dial by your location: (312) 626-6799 US (Chicago)**

- MEMBERS**
- Antioch
- Arlington Heights
- Bannockburn
- Barrington
- Bartlett
- Buffalo Grove
- Deer Park
- Deerfield
- Des Plaines
- Elk Grove Village
- Evanston
- Fox Lake
- Glencoe
- Glenview
- Grayslake
- Hanover Park
- Highland Park
- Hoffman Estates
- Kenilworth
- Lake Bluff
- Lake Forest
- Lake Zurich
- Libertyville
- Lincolnshire
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Mount Prospect
- Niles
- Northbrook
- Northfield
- Northfield Township
- Palatine
- Park Ridge
- Prospect Heights
- Rolling Meadows
- Schaumburg
- Skokie
- Streamwood
- Vernon Hills
- West Dundee
- Wheeling
- Wilmette
- Winnetka
  
- President*
- Nancy Rotering  
Highland Park
  
- Vice-President*
- Dan Shapiro  
Deerfield
  
- Secretary*
- Tom Dailly  
Schaumburg
  
- Treasurer*
- Anne Marie Gaura  
Lincolnwood
  
- Executive Director*
- Mark L. Fowler

- I. Call to Order/Introductions**
  
- II. Approval of February 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**  
*Action Requested:* Approval
  
- III. Agency Reports**
  - a. CMAP (Attachment B)**
  - b. Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways**
  - c. IDOT Highways**
  - d. Illinois Tollway**
  - e. Metra**
  - f. Pace (Attachment C)**
  - g. RTA**
  
- IV. Developing and Funding Bike Plans**  
Metropolitan Planning Council Director of Transportation Audrey Wennink will discuss efforts by MPC, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and the Active Transportation Alliance to gather feedback from communities on the barriers to the development of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and planning work.  
*Action Requested:* Informational/Discussion
  
- V. Joint Letter to IDOT – Agreement Processing (to be sent under separate cover)**  
Staff will present a draft letter to the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding concerns with current agreement processing time and administrative hurdles. Staff requests feedback from the Committee before finalizing and distributing for signature.  
*Action Requested:* Discussion
  
- VI. Other Business**
  
- VII. Next Meeting**  
The next meeting of the NWMC Transportation Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 28 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC Offices and via Zoom.
  
- VIII. Adjourn**

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**NWMC Transportation Committee  
NWMC Offices and via Zoom Video Conference  
Thursday, February 24, 2022  
Meeting Minutes**

**MEMBERS**

Antioch  
Arlington Heights  
Bannockburn  
Barrington  
Bartlett  
Buffalo Grove  
Deer Park  
Deerfield  
Des Plaines  
Elk Grove Village  
Evanston  
Fox Lake  
Glencoe  
Glenview  
Grayslake  
Hanover Park  
Highland Park  
Hoffman Estates  
Kenilworth  
Lake Bluff  
Lake Forest  
Lake Zurich  
Libertyville  
Lincolnshire  
Lincolnwood  
Morton Grove  
Mount Prospect  
Niles  
Northbrook  
Northfield  
Northfield Township  
Palatine  
Park Ridge  
Prospect Heights  
Rolling Meadows  
Schaumburg  
Skokie  
Streamwood  
Vernon Hills  
West Dundee  
Wheeling  
Wilmette  
Winnetka

*President*  
Nancy Roterling  
Highland Park

*Vice-President*  
Dan Shapiro  
Deerfield

*Secretary*  
Tom Dailly  
Schaumburg

*Treasurer*  
Anne Marie Gaura  
Lincolnwood

*Executive Director*  
Mark L. Fowler

**Members Present**

Donna Johnson, Mayor, Village of Libertyville, Co-Chair  
Rod Craig, Mayor, Village of Hanover Park, Co-Chair  
Bob Benton, Trustee, Village of Deerfield,  
Lou Arrigoni, Senior Civil Engineer, City of Park Ridge  
Sean Dorsey, Public Works Director, Village of Mount Prospect  
Eric Heiker, Civil Engineer, City of Des Plaines  
Matt Farmer, Village Engineer, Village of Northbrook  
Heather Lis, Village Engineer, Village of Barrington  
Darren Monico, Village Engineer, Village of Buffalo Grove  
Samantha Maximilian, Engineer, Village of Skokie  
Bob Israel, Trustee, Village of Northbrook  
Jeff Brady, Director of Community Development, Village of Glenview  
Thomas Powers, Village Engineer, Village of Niles  
Bill McLeod, Mayor, Village of Hoffman Estates  
Peter Falcone, Assistant Administrator, City of Prospect Heights  
Brendon Mendoza, Assistant to the Public Works Director, Village of Lincolnwood  
Karyn Robles, Director of Transportation, Village of Schaumburg  
Dan Kaup, Director of Public Works, Village of Wheeling  
Ramesh Kanapareddy, Director of Public Works, City of Highland Park

**Others Present**

Mark Buwen, Senior Project Manager, Infrastructure Engineering, Inc.  
Steven Andrews, Community Relations Representative, Pace Bus  
Rick Mack, Community Affairs Administrator, Metra  
Marie Hansen, Director of Development Services, Village of Barrington  
Cecilia Diaz, Transportation Planner, CCDOTH  
Sam Wright, Transportation Planner, CCDOTH  
Howard Killian, Municipal Services Director, Engineering Resource Associates  
Audrey Wennink, Staff Member, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Jeremy LaMarche, Director Governmental Affairs and Counsel, RTA  
Larry Bury, Deputy Director, NWMC  
Kendra Johnson, Program Manager for Transportation, NWMC  
Eric Czarnota, Program Associate for Transportation, NWMC

**I. Call to Order/Introductions**

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**II. Approval of January 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

*Trustee Israel moved approval of the January 27, 2022 meeting minutes. Trustee Benton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.*

### III. Agency Reports

#### A. CMAP – No Report

- B. CCDOTH** – Ms. Diaz provided details on the Invest in Cook and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs, noting that a recording of a training workshop held previously is available online for more information. She reported that the application deadline closes on March 16. Mayor Craig suggested that project evaluation should focus on project readiness as a major evaluation criteria. Ms. Diaz responded that the County continues to evaluate its scoring and she would pass along his suggestion.

Mayor Johnson asked about contact information and whether this information is available online? Ms. Diaz noted that contact info is available on the program website.

#### C. IDOT Highways – No Report

Mayor Johnson asked for information as to how IDOT staff are trying to improve their response time in the supplemental report.

#### D. Illinois Tollway – No Report

- E. Metra** – Mr. Mack reported that Metra ridership is around 27% of its pre-pandemic level, after dropping in January to 14-17% of previous ridership. Metra is planning to enhance its service in the spring in anticipation of people returning to work in the city and suburbs.

Mayor Craig reported on the Coalition to Stop CPKC, noting local concerns that the merger of Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern will increase the volume of freight trains that go through their towns.

- F. Pace** – Mr. Andrews reported that Pace and the RTA are studying the I-294 corridor for ways to coordinate with the tollway reconstruction. To incorporate on flex lanes and other infrastructure that could be used for Pace service now or in the future. They are soliciting feedback about the draft study areas using a survey on their website. He further reported that Pace is hosting a virtual job fair March 2 and is interested in attending any other member's job fairs. He added Pace started a partnership with Olive-Harvey College that will allow students to take a special 2 week course funded by Pace to prepare candidates to obtain a CDL permit. Which could potentially help alleviate their driver shortage. Mr. Andrews also mentioned that the Mask Mandate is still in effect on Pace busses as well as at Pace facilities and that bidding has opened for Pace's new northwest division in Wheeling.

Mr. Kanapareddy requested a status update on the conversion to a greener fleet by Pace. Mr. Andrews responded that internally Pace is currently evaluating next steps including conducting a system wide facility study. Mayor Johnson added that there needs to be a balance between impact on climate change and costs associated with the conversion.

- G. RTA** – Mr. LaMarche reported on the RTA Strategic plan. He added a document formalizing the initial framework based on feedback received over the last 6 months can be seen on the RTA website. He noted public comments are open until March 11, and would be considered at the March 17 RTA board meeting. Mr. LaMarche said to reach out to the RTA if you

had interest in participating in a work group to further develop elements of the plan. Mr. LaMarche reported on, Senate Bill 2848 and House bill 4608, which require CMAP in coordination with the RTA to develop a report that offers legislative recommendations on transit funding to help ensure the long term viability of the system. The bill also requires CMAP consider developing recommendations that the RTA, CTA, Pace, and Metra could use to better address racial equity, climate change and economic development. Mr. LaMarche finished by mentioning that on January 18, the RTA launched the FARE program online that allows customers with disabilities and seniors to apply for, replace and renew reduced fare ride permits.

Mayor Johnson asked who to contact if there is interest in joining a work group. Mr. LaMarche answered that there will be a form on the RTA website.

#### **IV. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

Ms. Johnson and Mr. Czarnota presented a summary of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act as it relates to transportation funding for local projects in Illinois and provided additional resources for communities to prepare for the upcoming funding opportunities.

Mr. Kanapareddy inquired if staff had information on any programs provided funding directly to local governments rather than through the state. Ms. Johnson said she has not heard of any formula funding going directly to local governments but she would look into it and distribute any information she could find.

#### **V. Other Business**

Ms. Johnson reminded the committee that the Call for Projects for the North Shore and Northwest Councils is currently open until March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Johnson recommended having transportation staff coordinate a draft letter to IDOT concerns brought forth by the committee. And if the draft letter is approved to create a task force if needed. *Mayor Craig moved approval of the recommendation. Mayor Mcleod seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.*

Trustee Israel brought up that in the past the IDOT issue was brought up in a past legislative agenda. Mayor Johnson said that this should also be included in the coordinated letter.

Trustee Israel then brought up that he was finishing up the ASCE report card for roads in Illinois, and it will be noted in the lack of responsiveness from IDOT.

Mr. Bury agreed that a coordinated letter to IDOT is a good idea and that legislators should be aware of how much project money is potentially lost by IDOT delays. He added that members should send staff any examples they have of delays from IDOT potentially causing a loss of funding or any actual loss of funding.

#### **VI. Next Meeting**

Mayor Johnson noted the next meeting of the NWMC Transportation Committee is scheduled for Thursday, March 24 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC offices and via Zoom Video conference.

**VII. Adjourn**

*Trustee Israel moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m. Trustee Benton seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.*

**CMAP Updates – March 7, 2022****CMAP News**

The CMAP office is now open daily and [staff](#) have established hybrid work schedules. [CMAP committee meetings](#) may be held in-person or virtually, depending on the unique situations and requirements of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) that apply to each committee.

For general questions, you can send an email through our [contact form](#) and remember to stay up to date by subscribing to CMAP's Weekly Update emails or [viewing online](#).

**Job Opportunities**

CMAP is hiring for several positions: a [Principal, Public Private Partnerships](#) in the Research, Analysis, and Programming division; an [Administrative Assistant](#) for the Executive Team; a [Senior HR Specialist](#) and a [Senior Accountant](#) in the Finance Division; a [Communications and Engagement Deputy Executive Director](#) and a [Digital Communications Senior](#) in the Communications and Engagement division; an [Associate Planner \(ADA\)](#), [Senior Planner \(ADA\)](#), and [Assistant Planner](#) in the Planning Division; and a [Director, Intergovernmental Affairs](#) in the Plan Implementation and Legislative Affairs Division. Visit CMAP's [Careers page](#) to discover more job opportunities.

The Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors is seeking a [Regional Planning Liaison/Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator](#). Full details on how to apply can be found on the Kane County [Employment](#) web page.

**CMAP Meeting Information: New Location!**

CMAP has moved to a new system for sharing meeting information. You can now find meeting materials, webinar links, minutes, and recordings on [CMAP's Legistar page](#). Visit the page now to sign-up to receive notification of future CMAP meetings.

**Regional collaboration to power electric vehicle development**

CMAP recently hosted more than 30 individuals from government agencies, community organizations, and businesses as part of a new collaborative initiative to plan for electric vehicle charging stations. CMAP will convene stakeholders throughout the region to develop a shared vision that can make electric vehicles and charging stations more accessible and equitable to use in northeastern Illinois.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act creates opportunities for big investments in electric vehicles and supporting infrastructure. The law devotes \$5 billion in funding to states to establish the infrastructure and includes another \$2.5 billion in competitive grants to support local electric vehicle charging development. Read more [here](#).

**CMAP begins transportation vulnerability work**

In early February, CMAP hosted the first in a series of workshops to develop a scope for northeastern Illinois' first regional transportation vulnerability assessment. Representatives from federal, state, and local transportation, stormwater, and emergency management agencies focused on objectives, transportation assets, and climate hazards and extreme weather to include in the assessment.

A [vulnerability assessment](#) will help our region identify weather-related risks to our transportation system and identify opportunities for coordination and adaptation. Creating a transportation vulnerability assessment is one of the strategies in [ON TO 2050](#).

**Open Request for proposals**

CMAP has several open requests for proposals (RFPs) including website migration and redesign; regional infrastructure accelerator and public-private partnership program management consultant; and

Americans with Disabilities Act transition plan and self-evaluation training. More information can be found [here](#).

Staff Contact: [Penny DuBernat](#), Procurement Officer

## **Program Status Updates**

### **CRRSAA Program**

On December 27, 2020, Title IV of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) was enacted. This Act included a local government component that resulted in the allocation of \$42,647,247 to be programmed and managed by CMAP. In the fall of 2021, the STP Project Selection Committee and local councils of mayors selected [33 individual project phases](#) to be fully or partially funded with CRRSAA funding. The [Regional CRRSAA Program Status Report](#) and [Regional CRRSAA Accounting Summary](#) were updated in February 2022.

Staff Contact: [Kama Dobbs](#) (312-386-8710)

### **Surface Transportation Program**

The next [STP Project Selection Committee](#) meeting will be held on **April 14, 2022**. [Meeting materials](#) will be posted on CMAP's Legistar page one week in advance. Program status reports for the STP Shared Fund, based on quarterly updates submitted by project sponsors and an accounting of available, programmed, and obligated funds for the region are available on CMAP's [STP web page](#).

Staff Contact: [Kama Dobbs](#) (312-386-8710)

The region's 11 Councils of Mayors and the City of Chicago are accepting applications through March for Surface Transportation Program projects for federal fiscal years 2023-2027. Projects may include maintenance, modernization, and expansion of the region's highways, bikeways, pedestrian, and transit systems.

More information about each of these unique programs is available on [CMAP's Surface Transportation Program web page](#). Questions should be sent to the listed contact for each council.

### **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Alternatives (TAP-L)**

The next CMAQ Project Selection Committee (PSC) meeting will be held on **April 14, 2022**. [Meeting materials](#) will be posted on CMAP's Legistar page one week in advance. Project change requests, including schedule and cost changes, to be considered for approval by the committee, are due **March 31, 2022**. Information for submitting change requests can be found on CMAP's [CMAQ web page](#).

Staff Contact: [Doug Ferguson](#) (312-386-8824)

### **Regional Safety Action Agenda**

CMAP is continuing its work to improve traffic safety and address the growing number of fatalities and injuries. Staff is wrapping up a policy paper on speed management and continuing work on a bicycle and pedestrian safety policy paper. Our Safety Resource Group met for the third time in October to discuss the initial recommendations for speed management and will convene again this spring to discuss implementation steps and initial bicycle and pedestrian safety recommendations. Three LTA safety projects are in progress in Calumet City, Bellwood and Riverdale to address multimodal traffic safety at intersections and along corridors. The Regional Speed Data project will begin this spring, which will

analyze speed probe data to understand patterns of speeding and target countermeasures. An update on the group's work was presented at the January 25, 2022 Council of Mayors [meeting](#).

Staff Contact: [Victoria Barrett](#)

## CMAP Products and Data

### Examining the prevalence of local development incentives

Local governments often use tax incentives to encourage development and strengthen their communities. But there can be drawbacks. ON TO 2050, the region's comprehensive plan, [calls for incentive reform](#) that will improve the transparency and effectiveness of these tools.

A new CMAP report, [Local development tax incentives](#) in northeastern Illinois, provides analysis on the prevalence of local incentives in the region. The report focuses on common types of incentives, including sales tax rebates, incentive classification systems, property tax abatements, and tax increment financing. It also recommends ways to reduce the need for incentives in the region and improve their use where they prove necessary.

The [findings](#) highlight the importance of using the best practices identified in CMAP's guide Improving local development incentives.

### Community Data Snapshots

In August 2021, CMAP updated its [Community Data Snapshots](#) with [new data from the 2020 Census](#). These data-rich snapshots — one for each of the region's 284 municipalities, 77 Chicago neighborhoods, and seven counties — summarize demographics, housing, employment, transportation habits, and other key details. They help local leaders and the public track progress and make informed decisions in their communities.

The 2021 census data has been incorporated into the General Population Characteristics table, which includes information on total population, total households, average household size, and percent population change since 2010 and 2000. Raw data, including more detail, is available on the [Data Hub](#).

## From Our Partners

### RTA Launches Online Portal for Reduced, Free Ride Permits

The RTA launched Fare Programs Online, a web-based portal for reduced fare and ride free permits for seniors and customers with disabilities. The portal aims to increase access to these programs. Apply, replace, and renew at [Fares.RTAChicago.org](#).

### Improving ADA paratransit services

Pace has launched its [DuPage Access Program](#), a pilot project with Uber to improve transportation for passengers eligible for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit services. The new program allows passengers to book trips (up to \$30) using the Uber app as an alternative option to dedicated paratransit services. ADA-eligible passengers who don't use a smartphone also can take advantage of the program by reserving by phone.

## Funding Opportunities

### 2022 RAISE Grants

On January 27, 2022 a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) was posted for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants.



Fiscal Year 2022 RAISE grants are for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure projects and will be awarded on a competitive basis to projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. The Department seeks to fund projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and are designed with specific elements to address climate change impacts.

Applications must be submitted by **5:00 PM Eastern on April 14, 2022** through Grants.gov. RAISE grant program staff can be contacted via e-mail at [RAISEgrants@dot.gov](mailto:RAISEgrants@dot.gov).

### **2023 Statewide Planning and Research (SPR) Funds**

The Illinois Department of Transportation announced today that \$10 million is available to distribute as grants for select projects and activities that help advance the state's long-range transportation and planning goals. The deadline to apply is **March 30**.

Applicants can include local and state agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, regional planning commissions and nonprofit entities with public sponsors. To receive the grants, successful applicants must agree to provide a funding match of 20%. Proposals that benefit disadvantaged or economically distressed communities will be given priority consideration and are eligible for full funding. Learn more and apply [here](#).

### **2022 Invest in Cook call for projects**

The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways has announced a sixth round of Invest in Cook funding. The \$8.5 million grant program covers some of the cost of planning and feasibility studies, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and construction associated with transportation improvements sponsored by local and regional governments and private partners. This program is seeking applications for improvements consistent with the five priorities of [Connecting Cook County](#).

The 2022 application period for Invest in Cook ends **Wednesday, March 16**. More information about the program and application as well as recordings from the virtual workshops can be found [here](#). Direct any questions to 312-603-1223 or [investincook.CC@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:investincook.CC@cookcountyil.gov).

## **Other Opportunities**

### **March Illinois Affordable Housing Forum**

Join the Illinois Housing Coalition for the [Illinois Affordable Housing Forum](#). This hybrid conference will include educational sessions streamed online and one day of limited in-person activities and networking. Virtual sessions for all attendees will take place from Tuesday, March 22, to Thursday, March 24. In-person conference activities will follow on Thursday, March 31, with sessions streamed online for attendees. Registration closes **Thursday, March 10**.

## **Public Input**

### **Chicago seeks comments on its climate action plan**

The City of Chicago is updating its climate goals to reduce carbon emissions with a strong focus on increasing household savings, advancing environmental justice, and improving community health. With historic investments coming in 2022, the city would like to know what is most important to community members. Share your thoughts on the [Chicago climate action plan](#).

## **Engage with CMAP: Share your Thoughts on Planning Projects**

## **CMAP Updates – March 7, 2022**

Plans that reflect the values and priorities of their communities require meaningful public participation from residents and stakeholders. The [Engage with CMAP](#) website allows residents to share their thoughts, ideas, and concerns on current planning projects in the region, including these recently launched projects: [Butterfield Road Corridor Plan](#) in Lombard, Downers Grove, Oak Brook and DuPage County and [Phoenix Planning Priorities](#) in the Village of Phoenix. Stay informed and connected by checking out the site. We look forward to hearing from you!



**Northwest Municipal Conference**  
February 2022

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Steven Andrews | (847) 997-1509 | [Steven.Andrews@PaceBus.com](mailto:Steven.Andrews@PaceBus.com)  
550 West Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005 • [PaceBus.com](http://PaceBus.com)

**Pace Board Names Melinda J. Metzger First Female Executive Director**

*Board also approves purchase of 20 electric buses and launches Racial Equity Program at March meeting*

At their March meeting earlier today, the Pace Suburban Bus Board of Directors appointed longtime employee Melinda J. Metzger as the agency's Executive Director. Metzger, who has led the agency in an interim capacity since December, previously served in top roles as the agency's head of operations. Her appointment follows a trailblazing career in transit that spans four decades.

"Melinda has been a leader at Pace since the beginning," said Pace Chairman Rick Kwasneski. "I am confident she will continue to serve the agency and its riders well during this time of change and opportunity."

Metzger began her career as an intern at NORTRAN, now Pace's Northwest Division, before leaving to manage operations planning for the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). Metzger then went to Pace, where she has been since its inception in 1984. She previously served as the agency's General Manager and Chief Operating Officer. Metzger, a WTS International Woman of the Year award recipient, is honored to be the first female head of the agency.

"Being named Pace's first female Executive Director during Women's History Month makes it even sweeter. Throughout my career I have followed in the footsteps of many trailblazing women who paved the way for those of us working in public transportation today. It has been an honor to serve the people of Northeastern Illinois and I will continue my commitment to support the essential service Pace provides and to push our system forward with innovation and service at the forefront," Metzger said.

Priorities for Metzger include focusing on the environment, equity, and efficiency. To that end, business at March's Board of Directors meeting included the approval of the agency's first order of battery-electric buses—20 vehicles and accompanying charging



infrastructure—as well as Pace’s participation in the transit industry’s national racial equity program.

As part of Pace’s priority initiative to transition to a zero-emission fleet by 2040, Pace will purchase off the State of Georgia’s existing contract with Proterra, Inc. for the purchase of 20 electric buses and the necessary charging infrastructure. Pace’s ability to tag onto the State of Georgia’s contract and purchase from Proterra, Inc. will allow Pace to expedite the procurement of electric vehicles. Pace expects to have the first vehicles in operation by 2023.

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) recently launched a two-year [Racial Equity Commitment Pilot Program](#) which provides members with a tangible roadmap for advancing racial equity as part of a comprehensive diversity, equity, and inclusion framework, beyond legal compliance with a focus on continuous improvement. The roadmap provides guidelines for implementing a formalized racial equity program, while offering enough flexibility to tailor the program to each member’s unique organizational and geographic characteristics.

“Through our participation in this pilot program, Pace will contribute to the body of knowledge on advancing racial equity in the transit industry, and ensure that diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility play a critical role in every decision our agency makes. We will have the opportunity to network with and learn from other APTA members and will serve as a resource for other transit agencies by sharing our agency’s progress,” said Metzger.

Unless otherwise noted, Pace Board Meetings are held in the Board room of Pace headquarters at 550 W. Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, IL, on the third Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. The meetings are live streams and past meetings are available for viewing on Pace’s [Board Meeting Video page](#).