

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
Transportation Committee
Thursday, May 31, 2018
8:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices
1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700 Des Plaines**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/Introductions**
- II. Approval of April 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**
Action requested: Approval of minutes
- III. CMAP On To 2050 Mobility Chapter**
Elizabeth Irvin, CMAP Associate Planner, will discuss the draft Mobility Chapter of CMAP’s On To 2050 Regional Comprehensive Plan. The chapter focuses on improvements to the region’s transportation system. The full draft plan will released for public comment starting in June and can be found at: <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050/draft-committee-chapters#Mobility>
Action requested: Discussion
- IV. Illinois Tollway Project Updates**
Staff from the Illinois Tollway will update the committee on the status of projects in the NWMC area.
Action requested: Informational
- V. Surface Transportation Program (STP) Project Selection Committee Update**
Staff will provide an update on the latest STP Project Selection Committee meeting. The committee will establish active program management strategies for all STP projects and will determine the methodology for selecting projects to receive STP funds from the regional Shared Fund.
Action requested: Informational
- VI. CMAP Update**
An update on relevant activities from CMAP’s committees will be provided.
Action requested: Informational
- VII. Agency Reports (Attachment B)**
- VIII. Other Business**
- IX. Next Meeting**
The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 27 at 8:30 a.m. at NWMC offices.
- X. Adjourn**

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 26, 2018
8:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices
1600 E. Golf Road, Suite 0700
Des Plaines, IL**

Members Present:

Bill McLeod, Mayor, Village of Hoffman Estates, Co-Chair
Bob Benton, Trustee, Village of Deerfield
Jeff Brady, Director of Community Development, Village of Glenview
Bill Grossi, Trustee, Village of Mount Prospect
Bob Israel, Trustee, Village of Northbrook
Mark Janeck, Director of Public Works, Village of Wheeling
Ray Keller, Village Manager, Village of Lake Zurich
Al Larson, President, Village of Schaumburg (on phone)
Anne Marrin, Village Administrator, Village of Fox Lake
Matt Roan, Deputy Village Manager, Elk Grove Village
Greg Summers, Director of Development Services, Village of Barrington

Others Present:

Steve Andrews, Pace
Sean Dorsey, Village of Mount Prospect
Tavis Farmer, IDOT
Jane Grover, CMAP
Tim Grzesiakowski, TMA of Lake-Cook
Dan Jedrzejak, Chastain and Associates
Rick Mack, Metra
Brian Pigeon, NWMC
Katie Renteria, Metra
Mike Walczak, NWMC
Brian Witkowski, Thomas Engineering

I. Call to Order

Co-Chair McLeod called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and had those present provide introductions.

II. Approval of March 22, 2018 Meeting Minutes

On a motion made by Trustee Grossi, seconded by Trustee Benton, the committee voted to approve the March 22, 2018 meeting minutes.

III. CMAP On To 2050 Mobility Chapter

Mr. Walczak gave a brief presentation on the Mobility Chapter of the On To 2050 plan, which is still under development. He discussed the guiding principles, mobility recommendations and the next steps in the planning process. The draft plan will go out for comment in June, with an open house scheduled for July 19 in Mount Prospect. The full plan will be adopted in October. The committee recommended inviting CMAP staff to a future meeting to discuss the chapter and the plan in depth.

IV. Surface Transportation Program (STP) Project Selection Committee Update

Mr. Walczak and Mr. Pigeon discussed the upcoming meeting of the STP Project Selection Committee on May 2. CMAP staff will present draft scoring and rules for the Shared Fund, which is a new program to be administered by the committee and open to all suburban municipalities and the City of Chicago. They discussed feedback which the councils have shared with CMAP staff and the Council of Mayors representatives on the committee. The committee will be discussing potential eligible projects, the scoring system for project selection and how to administer the call for projects.

V. FY 2019 Planning Liaison Scope of Services and Budget

Mr. Walczak explained that the conference must annually approve a resolution to secure the federal funding used for transportation-related salaries and expenses. This year's scope has been expanded to update new responsibilities under the new STP Agreement and a funding increase of six percent has been recommended by CMAP's Unified Work Program Committee.

On a motion made by Trustee Israel, seconded by Ms. Marrin, the committee voted to approve the resolution for the FY 2019 Scope of Services and Budget

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Update

Mr. Pigeon updated the committee on the April 17 Bike/Ped Committee meeting, including the Active Transportation Alliance's new Trail Connect Chicagoland initiative, an update on the NWMC Bike Plan and an update on changes to the federal guidance governing Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons (RRFB).

VI. CMAP Update

Ms. Grover notified the committee that work continues on the drafting chapters of the On To 2050 plan and reminded the committee of the Plan's launch event scheduled for October 10.

VII. Agency Reports

Mr. Mack announced that the 2018 Metra construction program has been released and was distributed in the agenda packets. He also informed the committee that due to the implementation of Positive Train Control (PTC) and the impact it will have on turn-around times for trains, all of the current Metra schedules will be revised as PTC is implemented on each line. The first line will be the BNSF.

Mr. Andrews announced that the Edens Bus on Shoulder project is now open. He also announced that the North Shore Coordination Plan with CTA is nearly complete and implementation will begin soon.

Mr. Grzesiakowski told the committee that the TMA of Lake Cook Annual Meeting will take place on May 22 in Deerfield and that construction maps from the March meeting are now available online.

Mr. Farmer distributed IDOT's status sheets for North Shore, Northwest and Lake and discussed upcoming projects.

VIII. Other Business

Mr. Walczak announced that the RTA is now accepting applications for the 2018 Access To Transit program.

Trustee Benton requested an update of the Elgin O'Hare Western Access project at a future meeting.

Trustee Israel announced that he attended a American Society of Civil Engineers meeting in Springfield, and the organization gave the state of Illinois a grade of C-minus for infrastructure.

IX. Next Meeting

Co-Chair McLeod reported that the next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 31, 2018.

XII. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Israel, seconded by Mr. Roan, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Metra Board approves fare pilot programs

Day pass, outer zone consolidation to be tested for a year

CHICAGO (May 10, 2018) – The Metra Board of Directors has agreed to test a new day pass, the consolidation of Metra’s outer zones and the reassignment of certain stations to a closer zone as part of an effort to attract riders and simplify its fare structure. The ideas were among recommendations that emerged from a fare policy study that began in 2016.

The pilot programs will:

- Introduce “Round Trip Plus,” a day pass for unlimited travel between any two zones, available only on the Ventra App, priced at twice the cost of a One-Way Ticket.
 - The pass will increase customer convenience, simplify fare payment, save time and encourage use of the Ventra App.
 - 75 percent of riders in a survey said they were likely or very likely to use such a product.
 - Pilot will begin with the introduction of a new Ventra App in late summer.

- Consolidate Zones K and M (there is no Zone L) into Zone J, thereby capping fares for trips that exceed 45 miles (about 1 percent of Metra riders come from those zones). This will consolidate four Zone K stations (Kenosha, Antioch, McHenry and Woodstock) and one Zone M station (Harvard) with five existing Zone J stations (Round Lake Beach, Lake Villa, Long Lake, Ingleside and Fox Lake).
 - Consolidating Zones J, K and M will cap the fares to stations in those zones and potentially mitigate ridership declines for trips that are currently the most expensive for riders from stations that have less service.
 - Pilot will begin in July.
 - About 110 additional round-trip riders per day will be needed to recover the estimated revenue impact of \$380,000.

- Reassign some stations to different zones to adjust perceived inconsistencies between lines where nearby stations are in different zones. Specifically, on the Metra Electric Blue Island Branch, move Ashland, Racine, West Pullman, Stewart Ridge and State Street from Zone D to C. On the Metra Electric mainline, move 83rd Street and 87th Street from Zone C to B. On the Rock Island Beverly Branch, move 123rd Street from Zone D to C.
 - Station reassignments will provide more similar fares for customers who board at Metra stations on different lines, but with similar distances to downtown, and may encourage more local use of these stations.
 - Pilot will begin in July.

- About 60 additional round-trip riders per day will be needed to recover the estimated revenue impact of \$120,000.

The pilot programs will be evaluated after a year to determine if they resulted in ridership gains and if the changes should remain in place. Other recommendations from the fare study, including off-peak pricing, are still being evaluated for possible future action.

The fare study effort started in the summer of 2016, when Metra hired California-based Four Nines Technologies to study Metra's fare structure, determine opportunities for changes and develop a model to help Metra evaluate the potential changes.

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About Metra

Metra is one of the largest and most complex commuter rail systems in North America, serving Cook, DuPage, Will, Lake, Kane and McHenry counties in northeastern Illinois. The agency provides service to and from downtown Chicago with 242 stations over 11 routes totaling nearly 500 route miles and approximately 1,200 miles of track. Metra operates nearly 700 trains and provides nearly 290,000 passenger trips each weekday.

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