Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Learns About New Modeling and Data

The NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met on November 19 to learn about the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning’s (CMAP) new Activity Based Model for travel demand data from Principal Analyst Craig Heither. Unlike traditional trip-based travel demand models, the new model distinguishes between many different types of modes including biking, walking and transit.

Mr. Heither also provided a brief overview of the Replica Analysis tool that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is making available to public agencies for planning and data analysis purposes. A sincere thanks goes to Mr. Heither and CMAP for providing information to the Committee about these valuable planning tools!
Transportation Committee Discusses RTA Budget

The Transportation Committee met on December 5 to round out 2019. Andy Plummer from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) gave a presentation overviewing the 2020 transit budget, which will go before the RTA Board for approval on December 19. The Committee learned about the RTA’s budget process and how it was impacted by the state capital bill passed earlier this year. NWMC thanks Mr. Plummer and the RTA for his informative presentation.

The Committee also discussed the progress of the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan. The Plan has gathered a great deal of valuable public feedback in the past few weeks and there are still additional opportunities for stakeholders to make comments and participate in the public outreach process. Two more pop-up workshops are scheduled for Deerfield’s Winter Celebration on December 6 and Morton Grove’s Indoor Farmer’s Market on December 7. Additional feedback will be gathered through an interactive sidewalk map that is expected to be released mid-December. Please visit the project website for pop-up workshop event details and more information about the plan.

North Shore Technical Committee Readies for 2020

The North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee met on November 13 to begin gearing up for the 2020 Call for Projects for locally programmed Surface Transportation funding (STP-L). The Technical Committee finalized the Council’s new application and set their 2020 meeting schedule, available on the North Shore Council of Mayors website.
Northwest Technical Committee Wraps up 2019

The Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee met on December 6 in preparation for the 2020 Call for Projects for locally programmed STP funding (STP-L). The Committee received status updates on several projects that were let at the end of FFY 2019 and approved the Northwest Council’s new STP-L application for the 2020 cycle.

Staff from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOTH), Metra, and Pace provided information regarding ongoing projects in Northwest Council communities. For more information on the Council’s latest activities, please visit their website.

NWMC to Host Surface Transportation Program Call for Projects Workshop

On January 10, NWMC transportation staff will facilitate a Call for Projects Workshop, designed to assist municipal staff in preparing for the upcoming 2020 STP-L application process. Staff will walk attendees through each application that pertains to their regional council (North Shore & Northwest) and highlight changes to the processes since updates were made to local methodologies. CMAP staff will also be on hand to review the new Active Program Management policies that will apply to the new programs. The workshop will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon in Room 1604 at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road in Des Plaines. To RSVP, please email Kendra Johnson, kjohnson@nwmc-cog.org.

FRA Accepting Applications for Railroad Trespassing Enforcement Grant Program

In October, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for their Railroad Trespassing Enforcement Grant Program, which provides funding for law enforcement agencies in an effort to mitigate trespassers. The application is open to state, county, municipal and regional law enforcement agencies with at least one mile of FRA-regulated railroad track within the agency’s jurisdiction. The FRA will give preference to applicants from one of 10 states with the highest incidence of casualties related to rail trespassing, which includes Illinois. Applications are due by Monday, December 23, 4:00 p.m. CST through the Grants.gov website. For more information, please contact staff, visit the NOFO online, or contact Michail Grizkewitsch, michail.grizkewitsch@dot.gov.
STP Project Selection Committee Moves Forward with New Call for Projects Recommendations

At their November 21 meeting, the Surface Transportation Program (STP) Project Selection Committee concurred with Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) staff’s recommendation to not implement a rolling focus for the 2021 Shared Fund call for projects. Additional discussions regarding eligible project types will occur as part of “lessons learned” discussions in early 2020. The Committee also determined that for the 2021 call for projects cycle, the deadline for projects to have Phase 1 Engineering (or equivalent) substantially complete will be the same date as the application deadline in March, as opposed to June 1, 2021. To help facilitate a consistently applied definition of substantially complete, additional application materials will be developed. Lastly, CMAP staff presented the finalized STP-Shared Fund Contingency Program, available on CMAP’s website. For more information, please contact Kama Dobbs, kdobbs@cmap.illinois.gov.
NWMC staff wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season and Wonderful New Year. A special thanks goes to both our Transportation and Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Members for their dedication throughout the year:

**Transportation Committee**
- Mayor Rod Craig, Co-chair
  Village of Hanover Park
- President Joan Frazier, Co-chair
  Village of Northfield
- Trustee Lester A. Ottenheimer
  Village of Buffalo Grove
- Trustee Robert "Bob" Benton
  Village of Deerfield
- Jessica Hyink
  City of Evanston
- Anne Marrin
  Village of Fox Lake
- Phil Kiraly
  Village of Glencoe
- Jeff Brady
  Village of Glenview
- Ramesh Kanapareddy
  City of Highland Park
- Mayor Bill McLeod
  Village of Hoffman Estates
- Andrew Letson
  Village of Lincolnwood
- Trustee Michael Zadel
  Village of Mount Prospect
- Sean Dorsey
  Village of Mount Prospect
- Trustee Bob Israel
  Village of Northbrook
- Matt Farmer
  Village of Northbrook
- Lou Arrigoni
  City of Park Ridge
- Peter Falcone
  City of Prospect Heights
- Alderman Lara Sanoica
  City of Rolling Meadows
- Mayor Tom Dailly
  Village of Schaumburg
- Karyn Robles
  Village of Schaumburg
- Mark Janeck
  Village of Wheeling
- Tim Frenzer
  Village of Wilmette

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee**
- Derek Peebles, Co-chair
  City of Des Plaines
- Nellie Beckner, Co-chair
  Village of Mount Prospect
- Andrew Binder
  Village of Barrington
- Maggie Jablonski
  Elk Grove Village
- Jessica Hyink
  City of Evanston
- Laura Linehan
  Village of Fox Lake
- Adriana Webb
  Village of Glenview
- Mike Hankey
  Village of Hoffman Estates
- Tim O’Brien
  Village of Niles
- AC Buehler
  Village of Northbrook
- Jim Baxa
  Village of Northbrook
- Alderman Lara Sanoica
  City of Rolling Meadows
- Patrick Knapp
  Village of Schaumburg
- President Billie Roth
  Village of Streamwood
- Sharon Caddigan
  Village of Streamwood
- Marcy Knysz
  Village of Wheeling