



MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

AGENDA

Thursday, September 15, 2022
667 Ware Road, Woodstock, IL 60098
Conference Room A&B, 2nd Floor
9:00 AM

16111 Nelson Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
T: 815.334.4642

ALGONQUIN

BARRINGTON HILLS

BULL VALLEY

CARY

CRYSTAL LAKE

FOX RIVER GROVE

GREENWOOD

HARVARD

HEBRON

HOLIDAY HILLS

HUNTLEY

JOHNSBURG

LAKE IN THE HILLS

LAKEMOOR

LAKEWOOD

MARENGO

McCULLOM LAKE

McHENRY

OAKWOOD HILLS

PORT BARRINGTON

PRAIRIE GROVE

RICHMOND

RINGWOOD

SPRING GROVE

TROUT VALLEY

UNION

WONDER LAKE

WOODSTOCK

1.

CALL TO ORDER

- A. Roll Call/Introductions (Sign-In Sheet)
- B. Agenda Changes/ Announcements

2.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 21, 2022

3.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4.

AGENCY REPORTS

- A. IDOT Highway Report – Katie Herdus
- B. Pace Report – Edward Gallagher
- C. Metra Update – Katie Dote
- D. RTA Update – Anthony Cefali
- E. McHenry County Division of Transportation Update – Scott Hennings
- F. Illinois Tollway Update – Kelsey Passi
- G. IDOT STP Local Program Update – Gerardo Fierro
- H. CMAP Report – Kama Dobbs

5.

PRESENTATION - RTA 2023 AGENDA FOR ADVOCACY AND ACTION

- A. RTA Strategic Plan 2023 Agenda for Advocacy and Action

6.

DISCUSSION - MCHENRY COUNTY 2050 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

7.

PLANNING LIAISON REPORT

8.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Upcoming Grant Opportunities

9.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

- A. Thursday, November 17, 2022
- B. 9:00 am; Location: TBD

10.

ADJOURNMENT

**MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, July 21, 2022
9:00 AM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mack called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

A. Roll Call/Introductions (Sign-In Sheet)

The meeting had a quorum (minimum of 7 members).

Council Members Present:

1. Village of Algonquin – Michele Zimmerman
2. Village of Bull Valley – Emily Berendt
3. Village of Cary – Erik Morimoto
4. Crystal Lake – Abby Wilgreen
5. Greenwood – Frank Cuda
6. City of Harvard – Dave Nelson
7. Village of Johnsburg – Claudett Sofiakis
8. Village of Lakewood – Jean Heckman
9. City of McHenry – Troy Strange
10. Village of Richmond – Jon Schmitt
11. Village of Ringwood - Rick Mack, Chair
12. Village of Spring Grove – Mike Lee
13. McHenry County – Scott Hennings

Staff Present:

1. McHenry County Council of Mayors – Jazmin Vega, Planning Liaison
2. McHenry County Council of Mayors – Jon Paul Diipla, Executive Director

B. Agenda Changes/ Announcements

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 19, 2022

Approval of the minutes for the May 19, 2022 McHenry County Council of Mayors meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Heckman and seconded by Ms. Wilgreen to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously. A list of the votes can be found on the last page.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

4. AGENCY REPORTS

- A. IDOT Highway Report – Katie Herdus
Ms. Herdus was not present, update was provided in the meeting packet.
- B. Pace Report – Edward Gallagher
Mr. Gallagher was not present, update was provided in the meeting packet.
- C. Metra Update – Katie Renteria
Ms. Renteria reported current Metra ridership, including 1.9 million trips conducted in April 2022.
- D. RTA Update – RTA Staff
Not present, report provided in packet.
- E. McHenry County Division of Transportation Update – Scott Hennings
Mr. Hennings provided an update on the McHenry County Moves 2050 long range transportation plan.
- F. Illinois Tollway Update – Kelsey Passi
Ms. Vega provided an update. She reported that whenever possible, the Tollway uses traffic shifts and shoulders to keep as many lanes open during peak hours as were available before construction. However, at times lane closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate traffic. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to scheduled lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits. Work zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present.
- G. IDOT STP Local Program Update – Gerardo Fierro
Not present, report provided in meeting packet.
- H. CMAP Report – Mary Weber
Ms. Weber reported that the CMAP office is now open daily and staff have established hybrid work schedules. CMAP recently launched a new online resource providing communities and partners with the essential information they need to know about IJA and its benefits to the region. She reported that the Active Transportation Alliance and Illinois Public Health Institute are working in partnership with IDOT to host a 3-part webinar series to help communities apply for funding from the Illinois Transportation and the next webinar is on Wednesday, August 24th at 9:30 am.

5. APPROVAL - MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – LOCAL: STAFF RECOMMENDED PROGRAM

Mr. Cuda presented on the Village of Greenwood project scope reduction. He reported the cost changes and requested that the Council consider the changes of STP-L funding from Phase I awarded funding of \$21,115 to \$10,600 and Phase II funding of \$363,565 to \$225,150. Ms. Vega requested that the Council consider these changes reflected in the staff recommended program. A list of the votes can be found on the last page.

6. APPROVAL – MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS SURFACETRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – LOCAL: FY 2023-2027 PROGRAM

The final FY 2023-2027 STP-L program draft was presented to the Council. A list of the votes can be found on the last page.

7. APPROVAL – SFY 2023 PLANNING LIAISON CONTRACT

Mr. Diipla provided the SFY 2023 Planning Liaison contract to the Council. A list of the votes can be found on the last page.

8. PLANNING LIAISON REPORT

No report was provided.

9. OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUCEMENTS

10. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting is September 15, 2022 and will likely be held in-person.

11. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

COMMUNITY	NAME	VOTE
Village of Algonquin	Michele Zimmerman	APPROVE
Village of Bull Valley	Emily Berendt	APPROVE
Village of Cary	Erik Morimoto	APPROVE
Crystal Lake	Abby Wilgreen	APPROVE
Greenwood	Frank Cuda	APPROVE
City of Harvard	Dave Nelson	APPROVE
Village of Johnsburg	Claudett Sofiakis	APPROVE
Village of Lakewood	Jean Heckman	APPROVE
City of McHenry	Troy Strange	APPROVE
Village of Richmond	Jon Schmitt	APPROVE
Village of Ringwood	Rick Mack	APPROVE
Village of Spring Grove	Mike Lee	APPROVE
McHenry County	Scott Hennings	APPROVE

APPROVAL OF SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – LOCAL: FY 2023-2027 PROGRAM

COMMUNITY	NAME	VOTE
Village of Algonquin	Michele Zimmerman	APPROVE
Village of Bull Valley	Emily Berendt	APPROVE
Village of Cary	Erik Morimoto	APPROVE
Crystal Lake	Abby Wilgreen	APPROVE
Greenwood	Frank Cuda	APPROVE
City of Harvard	Dave Nelson	APPROVE
Village of Johnsburg	Claudett Sofiakis	APPROVE
Village of Lakewood	Jean Heckman	APPROVE
City of McHenry	Troy Strange	APPROVE
Village of Richmond	Jon Schmitt	APPROVE
Village of Ringwood	Rick Mack	APPROVE
Village of Spring Grove	Mike Lee	APPROVE
McHenry County	Scott Hennings	APPROVE

APPROVAL OF SFY 2023 PLANNING LIAISON CONTRACT

COMMUNITY	NAME	VOTE
Village of Algonquin	Michele Zimmerman	APPROVE
Village of Bull Valley	Emily Berendt	APPROVE
Village of Cary	Erik Morimoto	APPROVE
Crystal Lake	Abby Wilgreen	APPROVE
Greenwood	Frank Cuda	APPROVE
City of Harvard	Dave Nelson	APPROVE
Village of Johnsburg	Claudett Sofiakis	APPROVE
Village of Lakewood	Jean Heckman	APPROVE
City of McHenry	Troy Strange	APPROVE
Village of Richmond	Jon Schmitt	APPROVE
Village of Ringwood	Rick Mack	APPROVE
Village of Spring Grove	Mike Lee	APPROVE
McHenry County	Scott Hennings	APPROVE

McHenry County Council of Mayors

Pace Report – 9/15/22

My apologies for not being able to join you in person today. I am attending the Illinois Public Transportation Association's annual fall conference, which is being held in O'Fallon IL. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

If your community has any questions regarding Pace services or the below report please let me know and I would be happy to discuss them further with you.

I can be reached by email at Edward.gallagher@pacebus.com or by phone at 224-833-2646

Ridership Updates

Pace fixed route ridership as a whole continues to see growth and riders returning to the system compared to this time last year.

Overall ridership in August was at 56% compared to prior to the pandemic (2019) and was up 6% compared to 2021 levels

New Contract Awarded For ADA Paratransit

At its August meeting, the Pace's Board of Directors approved an ordinance authorizing the award of a two-year contract to UZURV Holdings, Inc., a transportation network company (TNC), to provide additional Pace ADA paratransit service throughout the City of Chicago, Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties.

This service implementation will provide additional transportation options for riders without diverting operators from existing bus and taxi carriers currently providing Pace service. This contract will help increase regional service capacity, address operator shortages, and accommodate projected regional ridership growth.

ADA Advisory Committee Vacancies

There are two ADA Advisory Committees who advise the Pace Board of Directors on issues relating to service for customers with disabilities—including fixed route service and paratransit. One is comprised of Chicago residents and the other is comprised of suburban residents. Each committee has fifteen members who meet bi-monthly.

The Suburban ADA Advisory Committee currently has a few openings and Pace is actively looking for ADA riders interested in serving on the committee.

If you know of someone who may be interested in serving please share with them Pace's ADA Committee website to learn more and apply. That webpage is:

<https://www.pacebus.com/ada-advisory-committees>

Pace Suburban Bus Employment Opportunities

Pace is still hiring bus operators and mechanics at our facilities across the suburbs. There continues to be a nationwide driver shortage – Recruitment continues to be one of our top priorities this year.

If there are any opportunities to help Pace promote these openings, whether by including a message in an upcoming constituent newsletter, posting our flyer at your office, or making us aware of any upcoming job fairs that we can participate in, we would appreciate it.

Last but not least, if you know anyone looking for a job please share with them our career page so they can explore the great opportunities here at Pace:

www.Pacebus.com/careers

Pace Route 550 Update

As mentioned at the PTAC meeting in May, Pace continues to be open to exploring changes to route 550 but after the strong feedback against the previous proposed changes in 2019, it is vital to ensure any revisiting of routing would be done so with the collective support of both the City of Crystal Lake and McHenry County.

An initial meeting was held with the City and County following the May PTAC meeting. It was a productive meeting with some new ideas discussed but there are no changes set for Route 550 at this time.

Pace continues to encourage community input and is open to hearing recommendations from the public to ensure our services are accessible and greater utilized by local residents.

There are 3 ways to submit recommendations or route change idea. The first is via email to Customer Relations team at Passenger.services@PaceBus.com. The second is by calling Pace at 847-364-7223 Ext 3. Last but not least, through our online Bus Stop Appeal Form at www.pacebus.com/bus-stop-appeal.



175 W. Jackson Blvd.
Suite 1550
Chicago, IL 60604
312-913-3200
www.rtachicago.org

September 2022 Update

Strategic plan working groups release items for action and advocacy

The RTA Strategic Plan Stakeholder Working Groups have concluded, and the RTA is sharing the [2023 Agenda for Advocacy and Action](#) that outlines priorities for the future of transit in northeastern Illinois. The RTA is seeking feedback on these items and the strategic planning process ahead of publishing the draft strategic plan this fall. A survey is [available](#), and the RTA has developed a [toolkit](#) for survey promotion.

RTAMS launches Capital Projects Dashboard

As part of the RTA's continued commitment to transparency, the agency has launched a new [Capital Projects Dashboard](#), mapping more than 150 capital projects throughout the region. The dashboard includes a map that displays the location of projects in the 2022-2026 RTA Regional Capital Program as well as those being monitored by the [Project Management Oversight](#) team, providing a unique opportunity to see the distribution of capital projects throughout the region.

RTA selects projects for Access to Transit program

The RTA has [selected](#) ten projects for its Access to Transit program, which provides funding to municipalities to complete engineering and construction for small-scale capital improvements, such as filling sidewalk gaps and installing covered bicycle parking, that improve pedestrian and bicycle connections to transit. This group of new projects will be the sixth group accepted to the program, which has funded 37 projects since the program began.

Highlights from the 2022 Access to Transit program include bicycle and pedestrian improvements in Harvey to connect to Metra and Pace, shared-use bicycle access to Pace stations in Plainfield, and a pedestrian access study in Ford Heights.

2022 RTA Community Planning call for projects, 2021 RTA Local Planning implementation report

Every year, the RTA's Local Planning department assists local governments throughout northeastern Illinois on projects that build on the strength of the region's transit system through two programs: [Community Planning](#) and [Access to Transit](#). These programs provide funding and technical assistance for local governments to plan for pedestrian friendly, multi-modal, equitable, and accessible communities. The 2022 Community Planning call for projects will open on September 26 with applications due on October 14. The new program of projects will be presented to the RTA Board in February, and project initiation begins in March 2023.

To demonstrate the impact of the Community Planning and Access to Transit programs, the RTA recently published its [2021 Local Planning Implementation Story Map](#). This interactive report highlights 21 RTA-supported projects around the region that are starting soon, in progress, or recently completed. You can learn more about Community Planning and Access to Transit, including application details, on the RTA [website](#).

Pace, Metra, and CTA receive Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds

Pace, Metra, and CTA recently received grants associated with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Pace and Metra were [awarded](#) a \$20 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant for the Harvey Transportation Center to modernize the facility and provide a better connection to the Metra station. Among other planning projects done in Harvey, the RTA recently completed a [Transit-Oriented Development Plan Update](#).

CTA received two grants to electrify its fleet and modernize operations. First, the agency was [awarded](#) \$28 million from the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Low- and No-Emission Grants. The funds will be used to purchase electric buses and to upgrade infrastructure at the Humboldt Park bus garage. Second, the City of Chicago [received](#) a \$4 million grant to fund the Chicago Centralized Transit Signal Priority Project from the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) program, which will help deploy signal timing technology to prioritize CTA buses at lights in the central business district.

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. Meeting materials, webinar links, minutes, and recordings can now be found on [CMAP's Legistar page](#).

For general questions, you can send an email through our [contact form](#). You can also subscribe to updates from CMAP on transportation, the economy, climate and more [here](#).

Job Opportunities

CMAP is hiring for several positions: a [Director](#) and [Deputy](#) in the Transportation division; a [Deputy](#) in the Regional Policy and Implementation Division; two [Senior Planners \(ADA\)](#) and two [Associate Planners \(ADA\)](#) in the Planning Division; and an [Accounting Associate](#) in the Finance and Administration Division. CMAP is also hiring for several Program Lead positions, including: [Climate, Air Quality and Water Resources](#), [Data Science Program](#), [MPO Active Project Management](#), and [Safe and Complete Streets](#).

Visit CMAP's [Careers page](#) to discover more job and internship opportunities.

IIJA resources for communities

CMAP has launched an [online resource](#) to provide communities and partners with the essential information they need to know about IIJA and its benefits to the region. This includes funding estimates for existing transportation programs as well as new programs that can make our regional transportation system stronger and more resilient for the next generation of users.

Applications open for new CMAP equity program

Community-based organizations are invited to apply for the [Community Alliance for Regional Equity](#). This is a new program to create deeper partnerships between communities and CMAP. The program makes our investment processes more equitable and strengthens community collaboration. Community Alliance members will contribute their expertise and lived experiences to projects co-developed with CMAP. To compensate them for their time and expertise, each member organization will receive a \$10,000 honorarium. Apply by **September 19, 2022**, on CMAP's website.

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 July 2022.

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

Surface Transportation Program

An [STP Project Selection Committee](#) meeting was held on September 1, 2022. [Meeting Materials](#) were posted on CMAP's Legistar page. The next meeting is scheduled for **November 3, 2022**. 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)

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

The latest CMAQ Project Selection Committee (PSC) meeting was held on September 1, 2022, and the committee's next meeting is scheduled for **November 3, 2022**. [Meeting materials](#) are posted on CMAP's Legistar page one week in advance of the meetings. Information for submitting change requests for CMAQ or TAP-L funded projects can be found on CMAP's [CMAQ web page](#).

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

Regional Safety Action Agenda

CMAP is in the process of expanding the agency's safety work to become the Safe and Complete Streets program. This program will increase the capacity and work related to improving the region's traffic safety environment. It will continue and build on the work of the Safety Action Agenda and align the effort with new federal funding opportunities including: the development of policy related to speed management, bicycle and pedestrian safety; the creation of safety action plans for qualifying local partners, the dedication of resources to planning and implementing complete streets projects and the creation of data resources for partners to better address safety. The Safety group is also developing a regionally coordinated application for the US DOT's Safe Streets for All program, which would fund the development of county-wide Safety Action Plans and position our local partners for implementation funding in the future. We will be sharing more information about the new program this fall.

Staff Contact: [Victoria Barrett](#) (312-386-8641)

CMAP Products and Data

Community Data Snapshots

CMAP has refreshed its [Community Data Snapshots](#) with updated 5-year American Community Survey (ACS) data, and employment and tax base tables. 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. Raw data, including more detail, is available on the [Data Hub](#).

From Our Partners

IDOT accepting electronic signatures on Bureau of Local Roads forms

On August 19, 2022 IDOT issued [circular letter 2022-21](#) announcing updates to more than twenty local roads forms to accommodate the use of electronic signatures. A list of the affected forms and instructions for electronically signing forms is included in the circular letter.

Updated PPI Form

The IDOT District 1 PPI form, PI0004, has been updated as of August 31, 2022 and can be found on the [IDOT website](#) under ‘Forms’ and ‘District 1.’ Any PPIs submitted on the old form after September 1, 2022 will be returned for revisions.

IDOT releases the FY 2023-2028 Multi-Year Program

On Friday, August 12, IDOT released the [FY 2023-2028 Proposed Highway Program](#), which includes \$34.6 billion to improve roads, bridges, transit, rail, airports, and ports over the next six years. The program aims to improve 2,562 miles of roads and nearly 10 million square feet of bridge deck. This funding represents a robust commitment to invest in people and communities backed by the historic Rebuild Illinois capital program. Read the press release [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Illinois Special Bridge Program, State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2028 Notice of Funding Opportunity

On August 30, 2022 IDOT issued [circular letter 2022-22](#) announcing the SFY 2028 notice of funding opportunity for the Special Bridge Program. Funding is for existing structures that meet STP-Bridge eligibility, not for constructing new structures. In addition, the structure must carry a highway. Only the construction and construction engineering cost will be eligible for funding, and the federal share is 80 percent of the eligible cost. The application, PRO 2171, is available on the [IDOT website](#) under “Programming.” Applications are required to be submitted electronically to the appropriate District Local Roads office by **October 11th, 2022**. Questions should be directed to Melinda Kos at (217) 785 - 5178 or Melinda.Kos@illinois.gov.

Safe Streets and Roads for All

Local, county, and regional governments can apply for \$1 billion in grant funding for federal fiscal year 2022 under the [Safe Streets and Roads for All program](#). The program supports projects that can address the national roadway safety crisis. Grant funding can help governments develop comprehensive safety plans and implement strategies that can improve the safety of all travelers. Final applications are due **Thursday, September 15**. IDOT also issued [Circular Letter 2022-14](#) providing more information about this program.

Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)

IDOT is accepting applications for the latest cycle of ITEP funding. The funding cycle is the largest ever because of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, and it dedicates resources to communities with the greatest needs. Eligible projects include biking and walking paths, trails, streetscape beautification, and other improvements designed to encourage safer travel. Applications are due **September 30, 2022**. Visit the [ITEP resource page](#) to learn more.

The Active Transportation Alliance and Illinois Public Health Institute are working in partnership with IDOT to host a 3-part webinar series to help communities apply for funding. Registration and recording links are below.

Webinar 1 – Wednesday, July 20, 9:30am to 11am CT

- [View Recording](#)
- Content: ITEP basics, eligibility criteria, what’s new, and best practices

CMAP Updates – September 6, 2022

Webinar 2 – Wednesday, August 24, 9:30am to 11am CT

- [View Recording](#)
- Content: Scoring, application walk through, Q&A with IDOT staff

Webinar 3 – Wednesday, September 14, 9:30am to 11am CT

- [Register here](#)
- Content: Q&A with IDOT staff

Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) Discretionary Grant Program

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is accepting applications for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program. Eligible projects include grade separation or closure as well as improvements or installation of protective devices, signals, signs, or other related systems. Applications for planning, environmental review, and design will also be accepted. The FRA will not award grants for less than \$1,000,000, except for planning projects. No more than 20% of the funds can be awarded in any state. Applications are due **October 4, 2022**. IDOT also issued [Circular Letter 2022-19](#) providing more information about this program. Questions can be directed to Douglas Gascon, douglas.gascon@dot.gov.

U.S. DOT Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program

U.S. DOT is accepting applications for the [Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program](#) (RCP). Funds for the FY 2022 RCP Program will be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that reconnect communities by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, including to mobility, access, or economic development. Information to register and view recordings from the series of RCP webinars is available [here](#). Applications are due by **October 13, 2022**. IDOT also issued [Circular Letter 2022-18](#) providing more information about this program.

Other News

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) replaces DUNS Number

In April 2022, the federal government stopped using the DUNS Number to uniquely identify entities. Now, entities doing business with the federal government use the Unique Entity ID created in SAM.gov. Entities, such as local governments, previously registered in SAM.gov already have an UEI assigned that is viewable when you sign in to your SAM.gov account. More information is available from the U.S. General Services Administration [here](#) and in IDOT [Circular Letter 2022-10](#).

Federally Funded Project Implementation and Active Program Management Reminders: September 2022

September 2022

9/12/2022

Final agreements due to IDOT District 1 for construction phases of projects targeting the November state letting.

Final ROW documents due to IDOT District 1 Bureau of Land Acquisition for projects requiring ROW and targeting the November state letting.

9/14/2022

If needed, ROW must be certified by the IDOT Bureau of Land Acquisition for construction phases of projects targeting the November state letting

9/30/2022

Pre-final plans due to IDOT District 1 for construction phases of projects targeting the March 2023 state letting.

9/30/2022

Quarterly status updates are due for all projects funded with STP-L, STP-SF, CRRSAA-L, CRRSAA-SF, CMAQ, and/or TAP-L projects, all STP-L, STP-SF, and/or CRRSAA-L contingency projects, and all deferred CMAQ or TAP-L projects.

Other recommended actions in September

As the end of the federal fiscal year approaches, planning liaisons will be reaching out to local project sponsors to confirm the status of all projects that should continue to be included in the CMAP TIP. Sponsors should inform the planning liaisons of changes to project information such as scope, schedule, or funding that needs to be updated in the CMAP TIP. To view current project information, visit etip.cmap.illinois.gov, and used the Advanced Search tab to locate your projects.

###

This information is compiled from these official sources:

- IDOT Bureau of Local Roads and Streets Region One Letting Schedule (latest version available from IDOT District 1 BLRS staff)
- CMAP's TIP Due Dates and Master Transportation Schedule (latest version posted [here](#))
- [STP Active Program Management Policies](#)
- CMAP's [Regional transportation call for projects](#) web page (Refreshed prior to each call for STP-Shared Fund, CMAQ, and TAP-L projects)
- CMAP's [CMAQ and TAP-L Program Management and Resources web page](#)

If there are any discrepancies in dates, the dates listed on the official sources above should be used. Consult with your planning liaison to resolve any questions or concerns.

Illinois Tollway – September Update

New Illinois Tollway Executive Director

The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors has promoted Cassaundra Rouse to Executive Director. Rouse is a longtime veteran of the agency, most recently serving as the agency's Chief Operating Officer. Rouse has over a decade of experience at the Illinois Tollway, focusing on the execution and monitoring of agency objectives, policies, guidelines and programs while ensuring that the goals and objectives of the agency are addressed. She previously served as the Illinois Tollway's Chief Strategy and Implementation Officer, where she led efforts to develop new ways to drive innovation to successfully prepare the agency for the future.

Tri-State Tollway (I-294)/I-57 Interchange

Now the news everyone has been waiting for. The Illinois Tollway will open the remaining ramps at the Tri-State Tollway (I-294)/I-57 Interchange two years ahead of schedule. The \$719 million project built in partnership with the Illinois Department of Transportation delivers a new gateway for commerce and economic development in the Chicago Southland region. Overnight Sunday, September 11, into Monday, September 12, Tollway crews will open up traffic access to four new ramps connecting southbound I-57 to I-294 and I-294 to northbound I-57. With the new, full interchange ramps completed, economic development officials expect more businesses will build or relocate to facilities in the area, creating still more jobs in the Chicago Southland. Construction will continue into 2023 on the project to complete work on I-57 and remaining improvements.

Commercial Truck Parking

The Illinois Tollway understands that improvements to the customer experience are critical to serving the changing needs of our regional economy. The lack of safe truck parking has also been identified as a 'Top 3' priority for the trucking industry. With this in mind, the Tollway is looking to expand truck parking services and support this important customer base and to promote a safety as increased truck parking helps alleviate driver fatigue and decreased congestion on local roads. Our studies of the Tollway system have identified that there is a notable commercial vehicle parking shortage in many areas of the Tollway, especially on the Central Tri-State Tollway. To begin to address this need, the Tollway is preparing to expand parking by converting space available in the northbound direction adjacent to the 163rd Street Toll Plaza on the South Tri-State Tollway. We recently advertised a construction contract for this project and anticipate that construction will begin next year. Given the critical need for truck parking in the region, this project could serve as a blueprint for future truck parking expansion across the Tollway. We look forward to bringing you more details about this work as we move forward.

Slow Down. Arrive Alive.

The Illinois Tollway joined with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State Police and other state law enforcement agencies to promote Speed Awareness this summer. The annual public education effort is coordinated by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and held in the summer months to highlight that most fatal crashes where speed is a contributing factor occur between June and September. The campaign involves law enforcement from the six states that make up Region 5 of the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration – Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. National trends indicate that more drivers are disregarding speed limits and surrounding traffic conditions. The result is not only more crashes, but also more severe crashes with more injuries and fatalities across the country and in Illinois. In Illinois, fatal crashes increased nearly 14% in 2021, up to an estimated 1,357 from 1,194 in 2020, according to the NHTSA. For more information on how your community can get involved, visit [Home - Region 5 Speed Awareness Day](#).

Work Zones

Whenever possible, the Tollway uses traffic shifts and shoulders to keep as many lanes open during peak hours as were available before construction. However, at times lane closures are necessary to provide a work zone and safely accommodate traffic. Electronic message signs and construction signage will be put in place in advance to alert drivers to scheduled lane closures, traffic patterns and work zone speed limits. Work zone speed limits are in effect in all construction zones 24/7 and drivers should continue to watch for changing traffic patterns and use caution, especially when workers are present.

Additional areas where ongoing work zones may impact traffic include:

Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80)

- On I-94, roadway, bridge and ramp repair work between Half Day Road and Atkinson Road. will continue into fall - North Tri-State Tollway Roadway, Bridge and Ramp Repairs - Illinois Tollway
- On I-294 between the O'Hare Oasis and 95th Street, traffic shifts continue in both directions with counterflow lanes throughout the Central Tri-State corridor. Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) Project - Illinois Tollway
- At the I-290/I-88 Interchange at I-294 closures will be scheduled as needed I-290/I-88 Interchange Project at I-294 - Illinois Tollway
- On I-294, the ramp from eastbound Archer Avenue to southbound I-294 is closed through 2022 and a detour is posted.

Illinois Route 390 Tollway

- Repairs on mainline and ramp bridge structures between Gary Avenue and Lively Boulevard continue through fall. <https://www.illinoistollway.com/projects#projects4>

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kelsey Passi at kpassi@getipass.com

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RTA Strategic Plan 2023 Agenda for Advocacy and Action

Months of public input and working group engagement have informed the RTA's development of a new regional transit strategic plan set for adoption in early 2023. Through that work, several key priorities have risen to the top for immediate action by the RTA and the Service Boards (CTA, Metra, and Pace) as well as those that will require a coalition of partners to achieve the plan's vision of *"Safe, reliable, accessible public transportation that connects people to opportunity, advances equity, and combats climate change."* Three principles – Equity, Stewardship, and Committed to Change – guide the plan.

Advocacy

To realize the plan's vision, a shared advocacy effort will be required to

- A. **Secure increased funding for transit operations.** Current funding structures, which rely heavily on rider fares, will not be enough to keep transit running at current levels when COVID-19 relief dollars run out. The region needs diverse funding sources to ensure transit is viable for the next generation.
- B. **Develop a funding structure that is less reliant on rider fares, but instead focused on expanding access to opportunity.** Chicagoland's public transit system contributes to our region's economic, environmental, and social health in ways and at a scale nothing else can. Focusing on equity over ridership would free the transit agencies to explore programs that are best for riders even if they may not generate revenue, such as seamless transfers or free rides for residents experiencing low incomes.
- C. **Build a coalition around the value transit brings to the Chicago region.** The RTA will need partners from across the spectrum of businesses, riders, and more to join in a campaign to change the way our region thinks about and funds transit.
- D. **Support communities' efforts to improve the area around their transit stations and stops and pursue equitable transit-oriented development.** Encouraging transit-friendly policies and investment in walking and biking infrastructure for the more than 200 communities within the RTA region will help improve transportation for all.
- E. **Engage with communities in an inclusive and transparent way about how transit dollars are spent in the Chicago region.** The RTA is committed to cultivating relationships between riders and transit agencies with two-way engagement that empowers communities' role in transit decision making.
- F. **Secure increased funding for transit infrastructure.** The capital needs to maintain and improve our infrastructure are great. Sustainable funding is needed to address decades of disinvestment and respond to post-COVID rider needs. Moreover, highway and roadway agencies have historically received more money for transportation projects than transit agencies, but the economic, equity, and climate benefits of transit demand a change.
- G. **Partner with roadway agencies to build more transit-friendly streets and advance bus rapid transit.** Dedicated space on roads for Pace and CTA buses are critical to improve speed and reliability. It will take a coalition to build the political will within the highway and road agencies to implement transit-friendly streets and more bus rapid transit (BRT) in the Chicago region.



Action

The plan process has identified immediate actions for RTA and the Service Boards including

1. **Make the transit system safer and more secure for everyone.** All riders need to feel safe riding transit in the Chicago region. While the transit system is part of a larger regional ecosystem with other economic and societal trends at play, there are several steps the Service Boards can take to improve safety, work with community partners, and communicate about disruptions on the transit system.
2. **Use new funding as a catalyst to create a fully accessible transit system.** Most buses and trains on the region's transit system are already ADA accessible, but the stations and infrastructure around transit still may create barriers for some riders. The RTA and Service Boards will continue dedicating funding toward accessibility improvements and work with partners to create accessible connections to transit.
3. **Provide more accurate, real-time travel information for riders.** Riders of fixed route and paratransit should have clear, accurate information about when and where their bus or train will arrive, regardless of schedule disruptions. While there are challenges to providing seamless information across three systems, several modes and a large region, RTA and the Service Boards are hearing feedback about information challenges and working continuously to make improvements.
4. **Make paying for transit more seamless and more affordable.** Riding CTA, Metra, and Pace, and transferring across systems should be as easy as possible. A systemwide day pass or more discounted transfers could help remove barriers to travel. In addition, reducing fares for some could also help make transit more financially accessible. The RTA and the Service Boards offer reduced fare and rider free programs for seniors and riders with disabilities but can explore how to expand these programs to new populations including all people experiencing low incomes.
5. **Accelerate the transition to a near-zero emission regional transit system and prioritize communities burdened by poor air quality.** CTA and Pace have committed to transition their bus fleets from fossil fuels by 2040, and Metra is exploring clean technology as it becomes available, but there are steps the RTA and Service Boards can take in the short term to move those plans forward.
6. **Assess the regional capital program in a new way including considerations for racial equity and mobility justice.** For the last several years, the RTA and the Service Boards have been working together to articulate and advance a regional transit capital strategy. This moment is an opportunity to refresh the considerations that are made when projects are added to the 5-year regional capital program to address inequities, better integrate with other regional planning processes, respond to legislative mandates, and consider the input of stakeholders.
7. **Adapt bus and rail service to meet the changing needs of riders.** Transit has been and continues to be a lifeline to many riders, but COVID-19 has also changed when, where, how, and why many residents use transit. Stakeholders have told us that transit needs to be more flexible and adapt to what is needed at this moment to connect more people to opportunity. Activities underway to advance changes to the transit network include the Pace Bus Redesign, Paratransit pilot projects, Metra exploration of regional rail, and CTA's Action Plan.

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