



Memorandum

To: Mayor Biss and Members of the City Council
From: Luke Stowe, City Manager
Subject: Weekly City Manager's Update
Date: March 21, 2025

STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT

Weekly Report for March 17, 2025 – March 21, 2025

City Manager's Office

Weekly Bids Advertised

Community Development

Weekly Zoning Report

Weekly Field Inspection Report

Health Department

Weekly Food Establishment Application Report

Law Department

Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Clerk's Office

None

Legislative Reading

NWMC Weekly Briefing

**STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL &
MAYORAL APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

Monday, March 24, 2025

No Meetings

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

No Meetings

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

7:00 PM: [Land Use Commission](#)

Thursday, March 27, 2025

No Meetings

Friday, March 28, 2025

No Meetings

Check the City's Calendar for updates:

[City of Evanston - Calendar](#)

City of Evanston Committee Webpage:

[City of Evanston – Boards, Commissions and Committees](#)



Memorandum

To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

From: Hitesh Desai, CFO/ City Treasurer
Tammi Nunez, Purchasing Manager

Subject: Bids/RFPs/RFQs Advertised during the Week of March 17, 2025

Date: March 21, 2025

The following is a list of advertised projects and the anticipated date each will be presented to the Council or Library Board.

Bids/RFPs/RFQs sent during the Week of March 17, 2025

Bid/RFP/RFQ Name	Requesting Dept.	Description of Project	Budgeted Amount	Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date	Anticipated Council/ Library Board Date
Landscape Maintenance at Crown Park	PWA	Work on this project includes providing comprehensive landscape maintenance for Crown Park in Evanston, Illinois.	TBD	4/08	4/28
Parks Mowing Contract	PWA	Work on this project includes scheduled mowing, line trimming, edging, and litter control for specified areas throughout the City of Evanston.	TBD	4/08	4/28
Residential Refuse & Yard Waste Franchise	PWA	The City of Evanston's Public Works Department is seeking proposals from experienced firms for the collection and Transportation of Residential Refuse. Collection, Transportation, and Disposal of Residential Food & Yard Waste.	\$1,791,947	05/02	05/27



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Elizabeth Williams, Planning & Zoning Manager
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report
Date: March 21, 2025

Enclosed is the weekly report of zoning applications received and pending. The report, organized by ward, includes the property address, zoning district, the type of application submitted, a description of the project, date received, and current status.

Please contact me at (224) 296-4489 or ewilliams@cityofevanston.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

Cases Received and Pending, March 13, 2025 - March 19, 2025

Backlog (business days received until reviewed): 16

Volume (number of cases pending initial staff review): 25

Zoning Reviews

Ward	Property Address	Zoning	Type	Project Description	Received	Status
1	144 Greenwood Street	R1	Building Permit	Install a modular ramp with handrails	04/29/24	pending additional information from the applicant
1	1404 Forest Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Interior renovation of existing coach house (ADU)	10/09/24	non-compliant, pending revision by the applicant
1	605 Davis Street	D3	Zoning Analysis	Planned Development for a new 31-story 330' tall mixed-use building with ground floor retail and 447 dwelling units	12/26/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
1	818 Church Street	D3	Building Permit	Remove and replace fire escape staircase	02/28/25	pending additional information from the applicant
1	2311 Ridge Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Dormer addition at attic level, basement building for an interior ADU, interior alteration	03/12/25	pending staff review
1	1719 Hinman Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Replace deck	03/12/25	pending staff review
1	1621 Chicago Avenue	D4	Zoning Analysis	Adjustment to The Marion PD, requesting to remove 1 level of parking, adjust the dwelling unit mix (number of dwelling units remains the same), reduce building height, remove basement commercial space, reduce parking from 48 to 41 spaces, modify the rear loading area.	03/18/25	pending staff review
2	2118 Lake Street	R2	Building Permit	Patio and retaining wall	05/01/24	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1812 Lake Street	R3	Building Permit	Garage	06/25/24	non-compliant, pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
2	1620 Darrow Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Addition	10/02/24	pending additional information and revision from the applicant
2	807 Asbury Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Deck, window and door replacement and installation	01/15/25	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1413 Grey Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Replace existing patio and walk	02/19/25	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1024 Florence Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Remove and replace back porch and stairs	02/19/25	pending revisions from the applicant
3	1300 Chicago Avenue (1300-1306 Chicago Avenue), 601-615 Dempster Street, 1307 Sherman Place	B1/oDM	Zoning Analysis	Planned Development for a new 7-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail, enclosed parking on ground floor, 65 dwelling units, and modification of the existing 2-story retail building with 2 dwelling units above	06/24/24	non-compliant, pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
3	1115 Hinman Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Walk between residence and garage	10/30/24	pending additional information from the applicant
3	149 Burnham Place	R1	Building Permit	Reconfigure deck	11/19/24	pending additional information from the applicant
3	517 Dempster Street	B2/oDM	Building Permit	Interior remodel of existing commercial space	03/06/25	pending additional information from the applicant

3	919 Edgemere Court	R1	Zoning Analysis	1 plus 2-story addition to existing single-family residence	03/13/25	pending staff review
3	523 Chicago Avenue	C1a	Building Permit	Deck	03/18/25	pending staff review
3	300 Main Street	R5	Building Permit	Install pavers with landscaping	03/19/25	pending staff review
3	717-719 Chicago Avenue	C1a	Building Permit	Interior remodel	03/20/25	pending staff review
4	990 Grove Street	D1	Zoning Analysis	Convert office space to work/live units on 1st floor and dwellings on floors 2-5	09/13/24	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1009 Wesley Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Carport	10/11/24	pending revisions from the applicant
4	1111 Ridge Avenue	R1	Zoning Analysis	Addition, patio, parking pad, and exterior renovation	03/10/25	pending staff review
4	1566 Oak Avenue	R6	Building Permit	Building repairs	03/11/25	pending staff review
4	1549 Sherman Avenue	D2	Building Permit	Kitchen hood installation	03/11/25	pending staff review
4	1017 Ridge Court	R1	Building Permit	Addition and interior renovation	03/17/25	pending staff review
5	1811 Church Street	B2/oWE	Building Permit	New 4-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail and 33 dwelling units (HODC)	08/18/23	pending revisions and additional information from the applicant
5	2209 Emerson Street	R3	Building Permit	Deck	03/25/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	2027 Brown Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Concrete parking pad behind garage	05/09/24	non-compliant, pending revisions and/or variation application from the applicant
5	2112 Asbury Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Remove deck, replace with paver patio	05/16/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1420 Leonard Place	R3	Zoning Analysis	New efficiency home	07/23/24	pending revisions and additional information from the applicant
5	2311 Emerson Street	R3	Building Permit	3-season room addition and rear porch	08/09/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	2115 Wesley Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Replace front porch deck, steps, and rails	09/16/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1836 Lemar Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Deck	10/01/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
5	830 Hamlin Street	R4a	Building Permit	Paver patio	10/09/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
5	2206 Maple Avenue	R4a	Zoning Analysis	Redevelopment existing surface parking lot for a new 5-story building with 30 dwellings and 29 parking spaces	10/11/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
5	1655 Foster Street	OS	Building Permit	Antennas and related equipment	11/12/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1829 Grey Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Garage, 20'x30'	02/20/25	non-compliant, pending minor variation application submittal from the applicant
5	1834 Hovland Court	R3	Building Permit	Interior renovation	03/18/25	pending staff review
5	1933 Wesley Avenue	R5	Building Permit	Rebuild front porch and stairs	03/18/25	pending staff review
6	2703 Hartzell Street	R1	Building Permit	walk between residence and garage	05/01/24	pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
6	2306 Central Park Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Front portico, deck, and replace exterior stairs	09/20/24	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2429 Cowper Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Paver patio	10/28/24	non-compliant, pending revision from the applicant

6	3238 Harrison Street	R1	Building Permit	Portico	11/08/24	pending additional information from the applicant
6	3111 Thayer Street	R1	Building Permit	Garage	01/21/25	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2418 Noyes Street	R1	Building Permit	3-season porch addition and new garage	01/27/25	pending additional information and revision from the applicant
6	2230 Lincolnwood Drive	R1	Building Permit	Demolish existing detached garage, construct new detached garage	01/27/25	pending additional information and revision from the applicant
6	3309 Hayes Street	R1	Building Permit	Additions at 1st and 2nd story	02/11/25	non-compliant, pending submittal of a minor variation application by applicant
6	2732 Thayer Street	R1	Building Permit	Rooftop mounted solar panels	02/20/25	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2831 Hartzell Street	R1	Building Permit	Patio	02/24/25	pending additional information from the applicant
6	3233 Central Street	R4/oCS	Zoning Analysis	Construct 10 townhomes (single-family attached) with 5 4-car detached garages	02/25/25	pending staff review
6	2736 Harrison Street	R1	Building Permit	1-story addition and interior renovation	03/06/25	pending staff review
6	2428 Ewing Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Rooftop mounted solar panels	03/11/25	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2618 Park Place	R1	Building Permit	Remove/replace front stoop and front walk	03/12/25	pending staff review
6	2127 Bennett Avenue	R1	Building Permit	New portico over front door	03/11/25	pending staff review
6	3200 Grant Street	R4	Building Permit	Renovate lower level beauty salon (Presbyterian Homes)	03/13/25	pending staff review
6	2635 Crawford Avenue	R2	Building Permit	New single-family residence with attached 2-car garage	03/20/25	pending staff review
6	2429 Prospect Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Replace steps	03/20/25	pending staff review
6	2950 Payne Street	R1	Building Permit	Shed	03/19/25	pending staff review
7	1806 Chancellor Street	R1	Building Permit	Remove patio, re-install patio, stepping stones, grill pad, and patio maintenance	06/20/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	625 Clinton Place	R1	Building Permit	Remove and replace brick paver parking pad	07/01/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	1501 Central Street	U2	Building Permit	Parking lots, plaza, and landscaping for Ryan Stadium (NU)	07/08/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2000 Grant Street	R1	Building Permit	Replace front steps and portion of walk	11/04/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	1501 Central Street	U2	Zoning Analysis	Demolish softball field bleachers and press box, construct new bleachers, pressbox, lighting, speakers, and associated improvements (NU - Sharon J. Drysdale Field)	12/26/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2149 Pioneer Road	R1	Building Permit	Mudroom replacement and exterior remodel	01/06/25	pending revision from the applicant
7	2010 Hawthorne Lane	R1	Building Permit	Pave driveway	01/09/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2711 Woodbine Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Attic renovation	02/13/25	revisions submitted by applicant, pending staff review

7	2680 Prairie Avenue	R4a	Building Permit	Patio	02/17/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2738 Garrison Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Deck	02/19/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2316 Brown Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Interior remodel to construct a kitchen in basement	02/24/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2012 Central Street	B1a/oCS	Building Permit	Interior remodel of existing commercial space	02/28/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	1221 Leonard Place	R1	Building Permit	Replace front and rear deck	03/05/25	pending pending additional information from the applicant
7	1912 Colfax Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Construct roof over existing patio	03/05/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	1731 Jenks Street	R1	Building Permit	Garage	03/06/25	pending staff review
7	2878 Sheridan Place	R1	Building Permit	Interior repair and renovation of garage	03/07/25	pending staff review
7	2305 Brown Avenue	R3	Zoning Analysis	Additions, roof top decks, exterior and interior alterations	03/11/25	pending staff review
8	1003 Dobson Street	R2	Zoning Analysis	Garage	11/15/24	additional information needed from the applicant
9	2131 Keeney Street	R2	Building Permit	Driveway and walk	06/25/24	pending additional information from the applicant
9	611 Wesley Avenue	R3	Zoning Analysis	ADU	09/03/24	pending additional information from the applicant
9	1621 Monroe Street	R3	Building Permit	Interior remodel, basement kitchen	01/13/25	pending additional information from the applicant
9	2121 Oakton Street	R2	Building Permit	Detached garage, 20'x20'	02/20/05	pending additional information from the applicant
9	723 South Boulevard	R3	Building Permit	Interior gut rehab, new garage	03/03/25	pending revisions from the applicant
9	1810 South Boulevard	R2	Building Permit	Interior remodel	03/07/25	pending staff review
9	735 South Boulevard	R3	Building Permit	Construct ADU at 2nd-story of existing garage	03/11/25	pending staff review

Pending building permit and zoning analysis reviews older than 6 months where there has not been activity are periodically removed from the zoning report.

Miscellaneous Zoning Cases						
Ward	Property Address	Zoning	Type	Project Description	Received	Status
2	900 Clark Street	RP	Planned Development	New 27-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail and 383 dwelling units	01/28/25	pending staff review
3	1028 Chicago Avenue	C2	Sign Variation	Sign height for 2 wall signs, one on the north facade and one on the south facade (Oscar Isberian Rugs)	02/11/25	pending staff review
5	2206 Maple Avenue	R4a	Major Variation	Major Variation for 30 dwelling units where 19 are permitted, 31 parking spaces where 49 are required, one short loading berth 25' in depth where 35' is required and covering 72% of the rear yard area where 40% is permitted in order to construct a new 5-story multi-family building	02/01/25	pending LUC 03/26/25

5	1829 Grey Avenue	R3	Minor Variation	Building lot coverage, interior side setbacks to detached garage and garage roof overhang	03/07/25	determination after 03/28/25
6	3309 Hayes Street	R1	Minor Variation	Building lot coverage for a 1-story addition	03/05/25	determination after 03/31/25
7	2515 Sherman Avenue	R1	Minor Variation	Building lot coverage and north interior side and east rear yard setbacks for proposed addition	01/19/25	pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
7	1915 Grant Street	R3	Special Use extension	Time extension for the approved Special Use, Ord. 18-O-24, to construct 12 efficiency homes	02/28/25	pending staff review
7	1925 Noyes Street	R1	Minor Variation	Building lot coverage for construction of new single-family residence with detached 2-car garage	03/19/25	determination after 04/08/25
8	1905-1909 Howard Street	C1	Special Use Amendment	Amendment to existing Special Use approval for a Daycare Center - Child, A Step By Step Learning Academy, to permit an expansion of the daycare center	02/17/25	pending LUC 03/26/25
9	816-18 Reba Place	R5	Minor Variation	Rear yard setback and setback to roof overhang in order to construct a 2nd story addition to create an ADU over existing 3-car detached garage	02/26/25	pending application fee payment, public notice



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager
From: David Wilson, HVAC Building Inspector
Subject: Weekly Field Inspection Report
Date: March, 21 2025

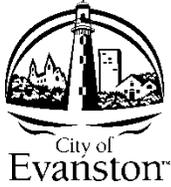
Enclosed is the weekly summary report of field inspections for construction projects under special monitoring. The report includes the ward, property address, type of construction, inspector notes, and date received.

Please contact me at [davidwilson@cityofevanston.org](mailto: davidwilson@cityofevanston.org) if you have any questions or need additional information.

Weekly Field Inspection Report

Friday, March 14, 2025

Ward	Property Address	Construction Type	Inspector Notes	Received
4	909 Davis	Interior Remodel	No changes. The third phase continues to move.	3/20/2025
4	1012 Church Street Northlight Theater	Assembly	Saw cuts to the existing foundations have begun at north section of property. Contractor is working on addressing the construction fence along the alleyway.	3/20/2025
*	*	*	*	*
*	Truck Route	*	No changes. Truck route continues to monitored for speed and debris.	3/20/2025
7	1501 Central Street	Demolition	No changes. Steel framing construction continues. Street sweepers continue to address roadway dust and debris. All trucks continue to pass through truck washing station with manual washing of trucks and street. Construction fence is in place and in good condition.	3/20/2025
*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Ike Ogbo, Director, Department of Health & Human Services

Subject: Food Establishment License Application Weekly Report

Date: March 21, 2025

Ward	Property Address	Business Name	Date Received	Current Status
4	719 Main St	Button Bakery	1/30/2025	Pending inspections
1	720 Clark St	Te' Amo	1/22/2025	Pending Building Permit
8	751 Howard St	Sabrosura Coffee Bar	1/09/2025	Pending Review & Inspections
1	1710 Sherman Ave	Tropical Smoothie Café	1/02/2025	Pending Permit Issuance
2	2223 Washington St	Chicky's Kitchen Creations (in the Aux)	1/02/2025	Final Pre-operational inspection scheduled
4	1549 Sherman Ave	Mr. Cachito	12/26/2024	Pending Building Permit
4	804 Davis St	Paris Baguette	10/30/2024	Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
8	1717 Howard St	Showkey African Cuisine	8/26/2024	Pending Permit Application
8	565 Howard St	T & E Productions	8/22/2024	Pending Permit Issuance
3	1310 ½ Chicago Ave	Peeled Juice Bar	5/9/2024	Pending Permit Issuance
2	2223 Washington St	The Laundry Café (in The Aux)	4/23/2024	Final Pre-operational inspection scheduled
7	1995 Campus Dr	NU Center East Lawn Redevelopment	4/5/2024	Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections
5	1623 Simpson St	Free Flow Kitchen	3/21/2024	Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections
1	1743 Sherman Ave	Olive Mediterranean Grill	12/10/2021	2 nd Health and fire Inspection scheduled
3	517 Dempster St	Willa Donuts	3/5/2025	Pending review and permits



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Brian George, Assistant City Attorney

Subject: Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Date: March 21, 2025

Enclosed is the weekly report of liquor applications received and pending. The report, organized by ward, includes the business address, the type and description of license requested, and current status.

Liquor Licensing Weekly Report

Liquor Applications Received and Pending for week of March 21, 2025

WARD	BUSINESS NAME	BUSINESS ADDRESS	LIQUOR CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	PROCESSED HOURS for LIQUOR SALES	STATUS
4	The Grove Gallery	619 Grove St. Evanston, IL 60201	E	Entertainment Venue (Small)	11 a.m. — 1 a.m. (Mon-Thu); 11 a.m. — 2a.m. (Fri-Sat); 12p.m. — 1 a.m. (Sun)	Application will be voted on at City Council 3.31.25



DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



WEEK ENDING MARCH 21, 2025

Mark Your Calendars for the 2025 NWMC Gala!

Save the date cards have been sent for the NWMC Gala, scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, at the Chicago Marriott Northwest in *Hoffman Estates*. Formal invitations will be sent soon for the event of the year, which will celebrate the NWMC's 67th anniversary and the inauguration of the organization's FY2025-2026 officers. *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury, Marina Durso*

NWMC Employee Assistance Program Enrollment Now Open – No Fee Increase

The NWMC is pleased to offer the opportunity to enroll in the NWMC Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to municipalities, townships, park districts and libraries. TELUS Health is the current EAP provider and offers confidential, cost-free referrals and assessment service twenty-four hours a day for employees and their families. Areas of assistance include dealing with issues such as substance abuse, mental health, family and marital problems, financial and legal matters.

Enrollment information and participation forms were sent to all members on March 14 and are due back to NWMC Executive Assistant Marina Durso by Tuesday, April 1. The fee for program participation remains \$25.42 per employee per year and the contract year begins May 1. If you are not currently a member of the EAP and would like to join or obtain additional information, please contact Marina Durso, 847-296-9200, ext. 122 or mdurso@nwmc-cog.org. *Staff contact: Marina Durso*

Get a Fresh Start at the Spring NWMC Auction

Thank you to *Evanston, Flossmoor, Hazel Crest, Lake Bluff, Lincolnshire, Lincolnwood, Oak Lawn, Palatine, Skokie* and *Thornton* for signing up to participate in the Spring NWMC Surplus Vehicle and Equipment Auction. The auction will be held at noon on Tuesday, April 22 at America's Auto Auction (America's AA) in Crestwood. Now that it's spring, the auction is the perfect time to cull the herd of vehicles suffering from winter "lot rot" and earn the best possible price.

America's AA offers a wide variety of [convenient services](#) to prep vehicles and garner the highest possible price. Please note that vehicles and equipment can be listed for sale right up to the morning of the auction day. Sell them now to get a fresh start and please keep in mind that a portion of the proceeds helps support the operations of the Conference.

In addition, and in lieu of taking staff off the jobsite to deliver vehicles to the auction, America's AA offers pick-up and delivery services. Transportation rates are \$2.50 per mile based on Google Miles from the exact pickup location to delivery at America's AA, 14001 S. Karlov Avenue in Crestwood. Charges are one-way only, with a \$50.00 minimum per vehicle.

America's AA also hosts online sales on par with other government surplus Internet auctions. For more information, please contact staff or America's AA Sales Executive Manager Maria Cortez, 708-389-4488 (office), 708-676-1887 (mobile) or maria.cortez@americasautoauction.com. *Staff contact: Ellen Dayan*

Become a Bicycle-Friendly Community

The League of American Bicyclists is currently accepting applications to become recognized as a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC). The League provides a roadmap, hands-on assistance and recognition for communities seeking to build places more welcoming to people who bike. NWMC member communities with BFC status include Silver-ranked *Evanston* and Bronze-ranked *Glenview, Highland Park, Schaumburg, and Wilmette*. Applications are due by June 25. To learn more about the BFC program, please visit the League of American Bicyclists [website](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Nominate a Colleague for an ILCMA Award

Started in 1994, the Illinois City/County Management Association (ILCMA) awards program honors “those in the association who have exemplified excellent public service.” The award categories are as follows:

- Robert B. Morris Lifetime Achievement Award
- Special Service Awards:
 - Service to the Association
 - Gregory J. Bielawski Service to the Profession
 - Leslie T. Allen Service to the Community
 - ILCMA Resiliency in Leadership Award

Nominations are due by Wednesday, April 30. For more information, qualifications and to submit nominations, please visit ILCMA’s Awards Program [website](#) or contact ILCMA staff, ILCMA@niu.edu. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

Pace Launches I-290/I-88 Express Bus Study, Seeks Community Feedback

Pace Suburban Bus has launched a [feasibility study](#) to determine transit opportunities for an express bus service along the I-290 and I-88 corridors. Last Friday, a steering committee, including NWMC staff and member communities, met to discuss the concept and provide initial feedback and guidance to Pace and its consultants. As part of Pace’s efforts to gauge the corridor’s potential success, Pace is soliciting feedback from residents, workers and stakeholders via this [survey](#). Members are requested to promote survey participation to residents and businesses. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Last Call to Attend the Vision Zero Network Safe Streets Webinar

Addressing roadway safety is a comprehensive endeavor, but where to start? Establishing a solid foundation for Vision Zero roadway safety can ensure successful alignment of plan with actions. To that end, the Vision Zero Network will host a webinar entitled “[Building a Strong Foundation for Safe Streets](#)” on Monday, March 24 at 12:00 p.m. Please visit Vision Zero Network’s [website](#) for more information about the organization’s resources. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Take the MWRD Watershed Planning Council Member Survey

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is seeking feedback from members of the North Branch Chicago River and Poplar Creek/Upper Salt Creek Watershed Planning Councils to improve future meetings and better understand the programming needs of the watersheds. Members are encouraged to complete a 5-minute [survey](#) by Wednesday, April 30 to help assess meeting attendance, evaluate effectiveness and identify areas for improvement. For questions or additional suggestions, please contact Eric Czarnota, eczarnota@nwmc-cog.org. *Staff contact: Eric Czarnota*

Last Call to Apply for MMC Powering Safe Communities Grants

From the desk of Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) Executive Director Neil James:

Applications for the Mayors Caucus Powering Safe Communities Grant Program are open until 11:59 p.m. CDT on March 28th, 2025. To learn more or apply, visit the [Powering Safe Communities Program](#).

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is proud to partner with ComEd to administer the Powering Safe Communities program, which provides grants for local public safety and electrification projects.

Municipalities, townships, counties and local governments in ComEd’s service territory are eligible to apply for competitive grants up to \$10,000. Not-for-profit organizations may also be eligible if they partner with at least one municipality or government institution. Recipients must provide a match equal to or above the amount of grant funds awarded and may use funds for any project completed within one year of the grant award. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus will review applications and administer grant awards for qualifying applicants.

This marks the 11th year of the Powering Safe Communities Program. Previous grants awarded include a range of projects including traffic and pedestrian safety equipment, fire or police equipment, electric vehicles and charging stations, automated external defibrillators, and emergency weather sirens. To learn more about how grants have been utilized by communities throughout the program’s history, please visit the [Powering Safe Communities Program](#).

Please feel welcome to contact Ben Schnelle at bschnelle@mayorscaucus.org if you have any questions about the program. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

Newsy Items of the Week

Chicago Tribune: [CTA slow zones are growing, and that means longer commutes for ‘L’ riders](#)

Daily Herald: [Alfresco dining: A onetime lifeline turned summer mainstay for suburban eateries](#)

Crain’s Chicago Business: [Civic groups step up calls for expanding Illinois sales tax to services](#)

Streetsblog Chicago: [Lots of pro-walk/bike/transit legislation may be up for a vote this spring in Springfield. Lawmakers discuss why they’re backing it](#)

Daily Herald: [Bartlett water reclamation facility improvements win local APWA Project of the Year award](#)

WTTW: [Don’t Click on Those Road Toll Texts. Officials Issue Warnings About the Smishing Scam](#)

Tax Policy Center: [If Congress Makes Muni Bonds Taxable, What Could Happen To States And Cities?](#)

AP News: [Electric vehicle owners don’t buy gas. States look for other ways to pay for roads and bridges](#)

Chicago Tribune: [RTA outlines ‘doomsday’ transit cuts if budget gap isn’t filled, including slashing bus and train lines](#)

Meetings and Events

NWMC Transportation Committee will meet on Thursday, March 27 at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference.

NWMC Staff

Mark Fowler	Executive Director	mfowler@nwmc-cog.org
Larry Bury	Deputy Director	lbury@nwmc-cog.org
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