



# Memorandum

To: Mayor Biss and Members of the City Council  
From: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
Subject: Weekly City Manager's Update  
Date: December 20, 2024

## **STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT**

Weekly Report for December 16, 2024 – December 20, 2024

### **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, December 23, 2024**

No Meetings

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024**

Christmas Eve - City Offices Closed

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**

Christmas Day - City Offices Closed

**Thursday, December 26, 2024**

No Meetings

**Friday, December 27, 2024**

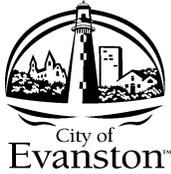
No Meetings

**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 December 16, 2024

Date: December 20, 2024

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 December 16, 2024

| Bid/RFP/RFQ Name                        | Requesting Dept. | Description of Project   | Budgeted Amount | Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date | Anticipated Council/Library Board Date |
|---|------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Putting Assets to Work-Concession Grant | CMO              | The City of Evanston's City Manager's Office is seeking proposals from experienced firms to provide real estate, financial and development consultation services for City of Evanston-owned assets identified in the <a href="#">Putting Assets to Work</a> plan adopted by the Evanston City Council. | \$985,000       | 1/14                     | 2/10                                   |
| *CIPP 2025 Sewer Rehabilitation         | Public Works     | Work on this project includes rehabilitation of approximately 12,000 feet of combined sewer main, 6-inch to 36-inch in diameter, using the cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) lining method of rehabilitation.   | \$795,000       | 2/4                      | 2/10                                   |

\*CIPP 2025 Sewer Rehabilitation will not be advertised; only firms pre-qualified will receive the bid packet, and allowed to bid will be sent to pre-qualified firms.



## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Elizabeth Williams, Planning & Zoning Manager  
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report  
Date: December 20, 2024

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](mailto:ewilliams@cityofevanston.org) if you have any questions or need additional information.

**Cases Received and Pending, December 12, 2024 - December 18, 2024**

**Backlog (business days received until reviewed): 3**

**Volume (number of cases pending initial staff review): 5**

**Zoning Reviews**

| <b>Ward</b> | <b>Property Address</b>   | <b>Zoning</b> | <b>Type</b>     | <b>Project Description</b>   | <b>Received</b> | <b>Status</b>  |
|-------------|---|---------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| 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           | 1999 Campus Drive   | U3            | Building Permit | Interior remodel (NU)  | 12/18/24        | pending staff review   |
| 1           | 1937 Sheridan Road  | U3            | Building Permit | Interior remodel (NU)  | 12/16/24        | 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           | 900 Clark Street  | RP            | Zoning Analysis | Demolish north end of Church Street Plaza movie theater building, construct new 27-story multi-family dwelling building with 358 dwelling units and 20% Inclusionary Housing dwelling units                                  | 07/03/24        | non-compliant, pending additional information from the applicant           |
| 2           | 1620 Darrow Avenue  | R3            | Building Permit | Addition   | 10/02/24        | pending additional information and revision from the applicant             |
| 2           | 1820 Crain Street   | R4            | Building Permit | Interior remodel and resurface driveway  | 12/13/24        | pending additional information from the applicant                          |
| 2           | 1042 Dewey Avenue   | R3            | Zoning Analysis | Interior remodel, partial roof replacement, and new garage   | 12/18/24        | pending staff review   |
| 3           | 819 Judson Avenue   | R5            | Building Permit | New 4-story multi-family dwelling building with 4 dwelling units and detached garage for 8 vehicles  | 04/16/24        | non-compliant, 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           | 125 Burnham Place   | R1            | Building Permit | Remodel basement   | 12/18/24        | pending staff review   |
| 4           | 990 Grove Street  | D1            | Zoning Analysis | Convert office space to work/live units on the 1st floor and to dwellings on floors 2-5  | 09/13/24        | pending additional information from the applicant                          |
| 4           | 1012 Church Street  | D3            | Building Permit | New 2-story theatre (Northlight Theatre)   | 10/10/24        | pending additional information from the applicant                          |
| 4           | 1009 Wesley Avenue  | R3            | Building Permit | Carpport   | 10/11/24        | pending revisions from the applicant                                       |
| 5           | 2125 Darrow Avenue  | R4            | Building Permit | Garage   | 12/04/23        | non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant                        |

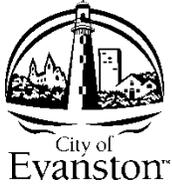
|   |                          |        |                 |   |          |  |
|---|--------------------------|--------|-----------------|---|----------|--|
| 5 | 1811 Church Street       | B2/oWE | Building Permit | New 4-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail and 33 dwelling units (HODC)                          | 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 | pending additional information from the applicant                                |
| 5 | 1655 Foster Street       | OS     | Building Permit | Antennas and related equipment  | 11/12/24 | pending additional information from the applicant                                |
| 5 | 1026 Garnett Place       | R4a    | Building Permit | Interior renovation of garage   | 12/11/24 | pending additional information from the applicant                                |
| 5 | 2117 Dewey Avenue        | MXE    | Zoning Analysis | Demolish existing building, construct new building with 3 live-work units and 1 ADU                           | 12/13/24 | pending staff review   |
| 6 | 2703 Hartzell Street     | R1     | Building Permit | Carport and concrete slab   | 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 | 2430 Ridgeway Avenue     | R1     | Building Permit | Addition  | 11/13/24 | pending additional information from the applicant                                |
| 6 | 2334 Ridgeway Avenue     | R1     | Building Permit | Remove and replace patio  | 12/09/24 | pending additional information from the applicant                                |
| 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 | 2518 Jackson Avenue      | R1     | Building Permit | Garage with ADU   | 06/27/24 | 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      |
| 8 | 1901 Howard Street    | C1 | Building Permit | Interior tenant improvement                                | 11/06/24 | revisions submitted by applicant, 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 | 1406 Cleveland Street | R3 | Building Permit | Interior and exterior remodel at 2nd story                 | 10/15/24 | pending minor variation application from the applicant |

**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                       |
|------|------------------------|--------|-----------------|---|----------|------------------------------|
| 3    | 801 Forest Avenue      | R5     | Minor Variation | Street side yard setback to porch                               | 12/09/24 | determination after 01/08/25 |
| 6    | 3313 Grant Street      | R1     | Minor Variation | West and east interior side yard setbacks to 2nd story addition | 11/21/24 | determination after 12/18/24 |
| 6    | 2700 Thayer Street     | R1     | Minor Variation | Front yard setback for a 2-story addition                       | 12/03/24 | determination after 12/30/24 |
| 7    | 1726 Chancellor Street | R1     | Minor Variation | Building lot coverage for 2-car detached garage                 | 12/12/24 | determination after 01/08/25 |
| 9    | 1406 Cleveland Street  | R3     | Minor Variation | West interior side yard setback to 2nd story addition           | 11/25/24 | determination after 12/18/24 |
| 9    | 2125 Darrow Avenue     | R4     | Minor Variation | North interior side yard setback to detached garage             | 12/13/24 | determination after 01/09/25 |



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
From: David Wilson, HVAC Building Inspector  
Subject: Weekly Field Inspection Report  
Date: December, 20 2024

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, December 20, 2024

| Ward | Property Address                         | Construction Type | Inspector Notes  | Received   |
|------|--|-------------------|--|------------|
| 4    | 909 Davis                                | Interior Remodel  | Rough building inspections continue.   | 12/19/2024 |
| 4    | 1012 Church Street<br>Northlight Theater | Assembly          | No changes. Building plans have been submitted and are currently in review. Site and Northlight signage are in good condition. No construction fence at this time.   | 12/19/2024 |
| *    | *  | *                 | *  | *          |
| *    | Truck Route                              | *                 | No changes. Truck route continues to monitored for speed and debris.   | 12/19/2024 |
| 7    | 1501 Central Street                      | Demolition        | No changes. 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. | 12/19/2024 |
| *    | *  | *                 | *  | *          |
| *    | *  | *                 | *  | *          |



# Memorandum

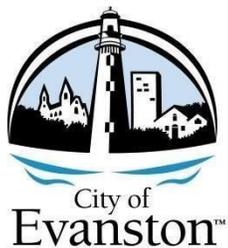
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

Subject: Food Establishment License Application Weekly Report

Date: December 20, 2024

| Ward | Property Address   | Business Name                     | Date Received | Current Status                               |
|------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--|
| 1    | 720 Clark St       | New Koco Table (change of owner)  | 12/09/2024    | Pending Inspections                          |
| 4    | 804 Davis St       | Paris Baguette                    | 10/30/2024    | Permit Issued – Pending Inspections          |
| 4    | 1633 Orrington Ave | Mira Sushi Restaurant & Bar       | 9/11/2024     | Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections |
| 2    | 1741 Maple Ave     | Cozy Thai Cuisine (Relocating)    | 9/10/2024     | Building 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                      |
| 1    | 1710 Sherman Ave   | Guzman y Gomez                    | 8/16/2024     | Permit Issued – Pending Inspections          |
| 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     | Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections   |
| 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    | 1618 Sherman Ave   | Life Time (Smoothie Bar)          | 3/19/2024     | Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections   |
| 1    | 521 Davis St       | La Cocinita (Relocating)          | 7/11/2023     | Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections |
| 1    | 1743 Sherman Ave   | Olive Mediterranean Grill         | 12/10/2021    | Pending License Issuance                     |



## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Brian George, Assistant City Attorney

Subject: Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Date: December 20, 2024

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 December 20, 2024

| WARD | BUSINESS NAME     | BUSINESS ADDRESS                                 | LIQUOR CLASS | CLASS DESCRIPTION | PROCESSED HOURS for LIQUOR SALES  | STATUS   |
|------|-------------------|--|--------------|-------------------|---|--|
| 1    | Hops & Grapes     | 816 ½ Church St.<br>Evanston,<br>IL 60201        | E            | Package Store     | 8 a.m. —<br>Midnight  | Application will be<br>voted on at Ciy<br>Council 1.13.25  |
| 2    | Cozy              | 1741 Maple<br>Ave.<br>Evanston<br>IL 60201       | D            | Restaurant        | 7 a.m. — 1 a.m.<br>(Mon-Thurs);<br>7 a.m. — 2 a.m.<br>(Fri- Sat);<br>7 a.m. — 1 a.m.<br>(Sun) | Application will be<br>voted on at City<br>Council 1.13.25 |
| 1    | Life Time Fitness | 1618<br>Sherman<br>Ave.<br>Evanston,<br>IL 60201 | D            | Restaurant        | 7 a.m. — 1 a.m.<br>(Mon-Thurs);<br>7 a.m. — 2 a.m.<br>(Fri- Sat);<br>7 a.m. — 1 a.m.<br>(Sun) | Application will be<br>voted on at City<br>Council 1.13.25 |



# DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



*WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 20, 2024*

***MERRY CHRISTMAS!  
HAPPY HANUKKAH!  
HAPPY KWANZAA!  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!***

***Editor's Note:***

This will be the last Director's Weekly Briefing for 2024. The NWMC office will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25 for the Christmas Holiday and on Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year's Holiday. Oakton College will be closed from December 23 thru January 1 during which time staff will work remotely. We will be back in the office on Thursday, January 2.

***THANK YOU!***

As we close out 2024, we express our deep gratitude to our members, legislators, partner organizations and stakeholders for all of your contributions and dedication to the NWMC over the past year. Our strength and successes are the direct result of the active involvement of our members, so THANK YOU for your support of the NWMC.

I also want to take a personal privilege to highlight and thank the NWMC team for their excellent work over the past year. It is my honor to lead these dedicated professionals in service to our member communities:

**Larry Bury**  
Deputy Director

**Eric Czarnota**  
Program Associate for Transportation

**Ellen Dayan, CPPB**  
Purchasing Director

**Marina Durso**  
Executive Assistant

**Brian Larson**  
Program Associate for Transportation

**Chris Staron**  
Policy Analyst

***Winter is Here - Don't Forget to Order Liquid Calcium Chloride***

As previously reported, SPC Liquid Calcium Chloride (LCC) vendor Sicalco Ltd. has agreed to a one-year contract extension (Contract #213) from December 4, 2024 through December 3, 2025 with no price increase as follows:

| <u>Price/Gal</u> | <u>Delivery</u> | <u>Total Delivered Price</u> |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| \$0.52           | \$0.19          | \$0.71                       |

According to The National Weather Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), this winter “wetter-than-average conditions are most likely in the Great Lakes States,” so please considering ordering to full capacity. Additional information may be found by visiting the [SPC Liquid Calcium Chloride](#) web page, contacting staff or Sicalco’s Frank Sibr, 630-371-2655 or [fsibr@sicalco.net](mailto:fsibr@sicalco.net). *Staff contact: Ellen Dayan*

***SPC Extends Granite Telecommunications Contract with No Price Increases!***

As previously, the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative (SPC) Governing Board has approved the third of four possible, one-year contract extensions of the SPC Telecommunication Services Vendor for Term (Contract #205) with Granite Telecommunications, LLC. The contract extension runs from December 1, 2024 through November 30, 2025.

We are pleased to report that pricing on all existing services remains the same, with Granite offering additional services under the contract extension. The SPC reserves the right to extend the contract for an additional one-year term upon mutual agreement of both the vendor and the SPC on a negotiated basis. Additional information may be found by visiting [SPC Telecommunications Program](#) web page, contacting staff or Granite Senior Sales Executive Frank Ventrella, [fventrella@granitenet.com](mailto:fventrella@granitenet.com) or 630-649-0823. *Staff contact: Ellen Dayan*

***SPC 2025 Ford Contract Reminders***

As previously reported, the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative (SPC) has executed contract extensions on the following Ford vehicles from Currie Ford:

- Ford Police Interceptor Utility (Contract #204)
  - 2025 Ford Interceptor Utility, with all standard equipment, conventional gas: \$44,954
  - Optional Hybrid (limited supply): \$47,615

Price lists, order forms and additional information may be found by visiting [SPC Ford Police Interceptor Utility](#).

- Ford Escape (Contract #206)  
The vehicle price remains \$29,028, with the hybrid version priced at \$34,677.

Price lists, order forms and additional information may be found by visiting [SPC Ford Escape](#).

- Ford Transit Full Size Van, Passenger Wagon & E-Transit (Contract #207)
  - 2025 Ford Transit Full Sized Van - \$44,671
  - 2025 Ford Transit Full Sized E-Transit - \$53,095
  - 2025 Ford Transit Full Sized Passenger Van - \$53,046

Price lists, order forms and additional information may be found by visiting [SPC Transit Connect Full Size Vans](#).

For questions or additional information about the Ford Police Interceptor Utility, Escape or Transit Full Size Vans, please contact staff or Currie Motors Municipal Sales Manager Tom Sullivan, [tsullivan@curriemotors.com](mailto:tsullivan@curriemotors.com) or 815-464-9200 or Commercial Account Manager Nic Cortellini, [ncortellini@curriemotors.com](mailto:ncortellini@curriemotors.com) or 815-464-9200. *Staff contact: Ellen Dayan*

***Pace Seeks Revision Input***

The Pace Suburban Bus [ReVision project](#) “seeks to reimagine Pace’s transit network, informed by shifts in travel patterns and rider feedback.” As part of the project, Pace is seeking input from frequent riders and elected officials through an [online survey](#) and series of [open houses](#). Pace is also requesting help to spread the word about ReVision via a [toolkit](#) that features shareable content, graphics, text and links to use in newsletters and on social media. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

***Lake County Opening on the Metra Board***

Lake County residents are encouraged to apply for an upcoming opening on the Metra Board of Directors. Current Director Melinda Bush of *Grayslake* recently announced that she is stepping down from her position effective January 3, 2025. The Lake County Board requests that interested residents submit a resume, letter of interest, and recommendations to [countyboardoffice@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:countyboardoffice@lakecountyil.gov) by Friday, January 17. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***Raise the Bar for Transportation Projects with a RAISE Grant***

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) has released [its NOFO for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity \(RAISE\) Grant Program](#). This grant is available for planning or construction of surface transportation projects that will have a significant local or regional impact as well as advance the USDOT priorities of safety, equity, climate mitigation, sustainability, workforce development, job quality and wealth creation.

Capital projects must have a minimum cost of \$5 million, and projects in areas of persistent poverty or historically disadvantaged communities are eligible for up to 100% federal funding. Please visit the [USDOT RAISE website](#) for additional application information, including frequently asked questions, previously recorded webinars and tools to help identify historically disadvantaged communities or areas of persistent poverty. All interested applicants must submit applications in [Grants.gov](#) no later than 10:59 p.m. on Thursday, January 30. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***Make Transportation Infrastructure Resilient to Natural Hazards with a PROTECT Grant***

The USDOT has opened applications for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Discretionary Grant Program. This program will offer \$576 million in FFY 2024-2025 for planning and construction of surface transportation facilities to be resilient to natural hazards such as climate change, flooding and extreme weather events. Learn more about the PROTECT grant and how to apply by visiting the program [webpage](#). Applications are due by Monday, February 24. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***USDOT Updates Transportation Community Explorer Tool***

The USDOT has expanded its [Transportation Community Explorer Tool](#) with new data and analytics, including transportation insecurity, place-based burdens, population-based vulnerabilities, the 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimate data, roadway divisions and an updated user interface. Communities can use the tool to identify areas to prioritize transportation projects that can reduce resident transportation costs or target policies to incentivize different transportation modes. To learn more about all the changes, please visit the [Federal Register page](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***Reminder: IMET Seeks Board of Directors Candidate***

*From the desk of Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund (IMET) Executive Director Sofia Anastopoulos:*

The IMET Board of Trustees is soliciting interest from eligible IMET participants who would like to service as a trustee of the IMET Board. One board position will open up as of January 1st, 2025. A potential candidate for Board membership will be considered eligible if his or her governmental unit employer is a participant of IMET *and* if that member's account has been funded for a minimum of 90 days at the time of nomination.

In selecting candidates, IMET considers factors such as: work experience, public and professional contributions, demonstrated participation within the Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund (IMET), geographic representation, type of public entity represented, and the candidate's personal statement of interest in the position and commitment to service to the IMET Board.

IMET is also soliciting volunteers for IMET's standing committees. The standing committees are as follows: Audit, New Products, Nominating, Personnel, and two ad hoc committees: Vendor Select (RFP), Broker-Dealer Usage. The standing committees are comprised of trustees and non-trustee volunteers. Eligibility for volunteer positions with IMET is identical to that for Board positions. To learn more or submit a candidate, please email [sofia.ana@investimet.com](mailto:sofia.ana@investimet.com) with the subject line "Interested in learning more – IMET BoT. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

### ***Newsy Items of the Week***

*Daily Herald:* [How Wheeling is building momentum for revitalized restaurant row](#)

*Daily Herald:* [Why suburbs might 'see' a difference in Lake Michigan water from Chicago](#)

*Newsweek:* [More Americans Are Taking the Train Than Ever](#)

*Streetsblog Chicago:* [Illinois could beat the transit fiscal cliff by shifting federal funding from highways to public transportation](#)

*Chicago Tribune:* [North suburban leaders respond to spike in fatal bike, pedestrian crashes](#)

*WBEZ Chicago:* [Growth of Chicago area data centers taking off with no signs of a slowdown](#)

*CBS Chicago:* [Downtown Skokie is thriving thanks to small business renaissance](#)

*Daily Herald:* [‘A resilient nation’: Leaders stress importance of community at MLK Dinner](#)

*Daily Herald:* [With new deal, Barrington moves a step closer to building Route 14 underpass](#)

*Daily Herald:* [More Pace buses coming to Cook, DuPage and Lake](#)

*Daily Herald:* [Barrington plans to spend big to transform village infrastructure](#)

## ***Meetings and Events***

*NWMC Executive Board* will meet on Wednesday, January 8 at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference.

*NWMC Board of Directors* will meet on Wednesday, January 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the NWMC office and via videoconference.

## ***NWMC Staff***

|                   |                                      |  |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Mark Fowler       | Executive Director                   | <a href="mailto:mfowler@nwmc-cog.org">mfowler@nwmc-cog.org</a>     |
| Larry Bury        | Deputy Director                      | <a href="mailto:lbury@nwmc-cog.org">lbury@nwmc-cog.org</a>         |
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| Ellen Dayan, CPPB | Purchasing Director                  | <a href="mailto:edayan@nwmc-cog.org">edayan@nwmc-cog.org</a>       |
| Marina Durso      | Executive Assistant                  | <a href="mailto:mdurso@nwmc-cog.org">mdurso@nwmc-cog.org</a>       |
| Brian Larson      | Program Associate for Transportation | <a href="mailto:blarson@nwmc-cog.org">blarson@nwmc-cog.org</a>     |
| Chris Staron      | Policy Analyst                       | <a href="mailto:cstaron@nwmc-cog.org">cstaron@nwmc-cog.org</a>     |

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