



Memorandum

To: Mayor Biss and Members of the City Council
From: Luke Stowe, City Manager
Subject: Weekly City Manager's Update
Date: August 7, 2026

STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT

Weekly Report for August 3, 2026 – August 7, 2026

City Manager's Office

Weekly Federal Activity Update
Weekly Bids Advertised

Community Development

Weekly Zoning Report
Weekly Field Inspection Report
Monthly Construction Valuation & Permit Fee Report

Health Department

Weekly Health Department Report

Law Department

Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department

Weekly Events Report

Clerk's Office

No Report

Legislative Reading

NWMC Weekly Report

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

Monday, August 10, 2026

No Meetings

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

No Meetings

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

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

Thursday, August 13, 2026

Friday, August 14, 2026

10:00 AM: [Healthy Buildings Accountability Board](#)

Check the City's Calendar for updates

[City of Evanston - Calendar](#)

City of Evanston Committee Webpage:

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



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

From: Deputy Chief Melissa Sacluti on behalf of Executive Officer, Commander Chelsea Brown

Subject: Weekly Federal Activity Update

Date: August 07, 2026

There were no federal immigration enforcement operations reported this week.



Memorandum

To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

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

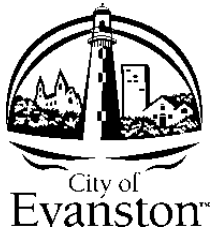
Subject: Bids/ RFPs/ RFQs Advertised during the Week of August 3, 2026

Date: August 7, 2026

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 August 3, 2026

Bid/RFP/RFQ Name	Requesting Dept.	Description of Project	Budget Amount	Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date	Anticipated Council/ Library Board Date
Bridge Viaduct Artistic Lighting - Fixtures and Controls	CMO	This BID consists of furnishing dynamic lighting fixtures and controls of the type specified at locations as shown on the plans. Work shall include materials and services necessary for integration of the luminaires and control equipment to produce programmed static lighting scenes and time-based sequences.	\$500,000.00	08/25	09/28
Water Plant Electrical Systems Assessment	PWA	The City of Evanston's Public Works Agency is seeking proposals from experienced firms for: Professional engineering services to perform a comprehensive assessment of the Evanston Water Plant's electrical infrastructure and develop a risk-based roadmap for maintenance, testing, repair, replacement, and capital investment decisions.	\$450,000.00	09/17	12/14



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Liz Williams, Planning & Zoning Manager
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report
Date: 08/07/2026

Enclosed is the weekly report of zoning applications received, pending or in review. 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 , Pending, or in Process of Review between: July 30, 2026 to August 5, 2026

Zoning Reviews (Zoning Analysis and Permits)

Ward	Property Address	Zoning	Type	Project or Permit Description	Received	Status
2	838 Grey Avenue	R2	Building Permit	ADU	03/13/26	non-compliant, pending revisions or variation application
2	1600 Greenwood Street	R3	Building Permit	2nd Story Addition	04/15/26	pending variation application
2	942 Brown Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Carport	05/13/26	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1028 Greenleaf	R1	Building Permit	ADU	06/03/26	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1104 Dempster Street	R3	Building Permit	ADU	08/03/26	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1801 Brown Avenue	R3	Building Permit	2nd Story Addition and New ADU	05/13/26	non-compliant; pending revisions or variation application
6	2440 Prospect Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Attached Garage	04/07/26	non-compliant; pending revisions or variation application
6	2612 Payne Street	R1	Zoning Analysis	New Single-Family Home and detached garag with ADU	08/03/26	pending staff review
7	1900 Central Street	B1a/oCSC	Zoning Analysis	Demolition of the existing Chase Bank and construction of a new Chase Bank	09/22/25	NON-COMPLIANT; pending additional information from the applicant OR future Planned Development application.
7	1126 Grant Street	R1	Building Permit	1-Story Addition	04/13/26	non-compliant, pending revisions or variation application
7	2243 Asbury Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Garage	08/05/26	pending staff review
8	821 Mulford Street	R5	Building Permit	New Garage	06/30/26	pending additional information from the applicant
9	1020 Cleveland Street	R1	Building Permit	2nd-Story Addition	05/15/26	pending additional information from the applicant
9	915 Monroe Street	R1	Building Permit	Detached Garage	07/29/26	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 (Entitlements)

Ward	Property Address	Zoning	Type	Project Description	Received	Status
1	1620-1640 Chicago Avenue	D3	Subdivision and Planned Development	Subdivision of the existing Park Evanston and Whole Foods zoning lot into two separate lots of record and establish each building on their own zoning lot. No new construction, building, or redevelopment is included with this application.	06/23/26	pending staff review
2	900 Clark Street	RP	Planned Development	New 26-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail and 360 dwelling units (76 units will be IHO units)	01/28/25	Pending Future Land Use Commission Hearing on 09/09/26
2	1600 Greenwood Street	R3	Minor Variation	Variation to allow a 2nd story addition to encroach into a required front and interior side yard	07/21/26	pending staff review
2	1513 Lake Street	R3	Minor Variation	Variation to allow a deck to encroach into a required rear and interior side setback	07/17/26	Approved
2	1125 Dodge Avenue	R4	Minor Variation	Variation to allow a 2nd story addition to encroach into a required interior side setback	07/26/26	pending staff review
3	831 Chicago Avenue	C1a	Special Use and Major Variation	Special Use to allow a child daycare center within the existing building and Major Variations to allow construction of an outdoor play area on the roof of the building.	07/23/26	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2320 Pioneer Road	R4	Planned Development	An amendment the existing Planned Development and Special Use at the Three Crowns retirement community, which would allow site modifications (new parking areas, curb cut and landscaping) as well as building modifications (addition of elevator tower, minor building addition, interior renovation from assisted living to independent living within the Pioneer Building).	02/04/26	Pending future City Council meeting on 08/24/26
6	2737 Highland Avenue	R1	Major Variation	Family Necessity Variation to allow temporary parking in a required front yard and a Major Variation to allow permanent open parking in a required front yard.	06/17/26	Pending Future Land Use Commission Hearing on 08/12/26
7	2722 Green Bay Road	C2, oCSC	Planned Development and Text Amendment	Proposal to demolish the existing building and construct a 51,000 square-foot commercial indoor recreation facility with baseball playing fields.	06/17/26	Land Use Commission Hearing continued to 08/12/26
7	1916 Grant Street	R1	Major Variation	Proposal to allow the expansion of a legal non-conforming use	06/23/26	Pending Future Land Use Commission Hearing on 08/12/26

8	301 Callan Avenue (Elks Park)	OS	Special Use and Text Amendment	Text Amendment to 6-15-9-3 to allow 'Urban Farm' and 'Neighborhood Garden' as a special use in the OS district. Amendment to 6-18-3 to change 'Urban Farm' definition. Special Use to allow Evanston Grows to operate an urban farm at Elks Park	05/01/26	ON HOLD
8	301 Callan Avenue (Elks Park)	OS	Appeal	Appeal of a Certificate of Zoning Compliance approving an Evanston Grows garden as an accessory use	05/20/26	ON HOLD
NONE	NONE	NA	Text Amendment	Zoning text amendment to refine the definition of Temporary Use in 6-18-3 and adding a definition for Temporary	Received from Referrals Committee	Pending Future City Council meeting on 08/24/26
NONE	NONE	NA	Text Amendment	Zoning text amendment to allow urban farms as a special use in the OS Open Space district, establish regulations on setbacks, fencing, noise, odor, pest control, and operating hours for neighborhood gardens and urban farms. It will also regulate accessory structures like greenhouses, hoop houses, and tool sheds.	Received from Referrals Committee	Pending Future Land Use Commission Hearing on 08/26/26
NONE	NONE	NA	Text Amendment	Zoning text amendment to require a public hearing for any accessory use 5,000 square feet in size or greater.	Received from Referrals Committee	Pending Future Land Use Commission Hearing on 08/26/27



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

From: Ciprian Radoescu, HVAC/Mechanical Inspector

Subject: Weekly Field Inspection Report

Date: August 7, 2026

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.

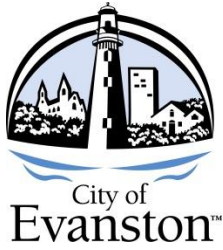
Please contact me at cradoescu@cityofevanston.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

Weekly Field Inspection Report

August 7 , 2026

Ward	Property Address	Job Description	Construction Type	Inspector Notes
Ward 1	2169 Campus Drive 24BLDC_0005	New construction	New Construction	MEP inspections continue. Proper signage, construction fence and safety in place.
Ward 4	1012 Church Street Northlight Theater 24BLDC-0004	Construction of a new two-story theatre	New Construction	.All final inspections have been approved. TCO approved.
Ward 1	1621 Chicago Avenue 25BLDC-0005	NEW CONSTRUCTION OF 11 STORY (110 dwelling unit) RESIDENTIAL APARTMENT BUILDING	New Construction	Construction permit issued. Construction fence installed. Temporary pedestrian and bike lane in place.
N/A	Truck Route	N/A	N/A	No changes. Street sweeping continues. Truck route continues to be monitored for speed and debris.
Ward 7	1501 Central Street 24BLDC-0002	Ryan field	New Construction	TCO#1 Main level kitchen approved for training purposes only. MEP inspections continue at stadium. Street sweepers continue to address roadway dust and debris. Construction fence is in place and in good condition.
Ward 3	504 South Boulevard 23BLDC-0002	New 5-story apartment building providing 60 units	New Construction	MEP inspections continue. Vibration monitoring continues.
Ward 2	1611 Church Street 24EXTR-0298	Conversion of existing industrial structure to 8 residential units plus one ADU	Remodeling and New Construction	MEP inspections continue.
Ward 7	2305 Sheridan Road	Interior renovation of existing 4 stories with	Renovation	MEP inspections continue.

	25INTC-0209	basement r-2 dormitory		Construction fence in place with proper signage.
Ward 5	2206 Maple Avenue 25BLDC-0003	New construction of a 5 story/30 unit apartment building	New Construction	MEP inspections continue. Construction fence in place.
Ward 4	910 Custer Ave 25BLDC-0002	Construction of a new five-story 230-unit residential multifamily building	New Construction	MEP inspections continue. Proper signage, construction fence and safety in place.
Ward 1	605 Davis Street	Construction of a new 29-story multi-unit high-rise.	New Construction	Permit under review

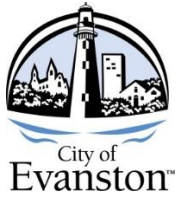


To: Luke Stowe, City Manager
From: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor
Subject: Monthly Construction Valuation & Permit Fee Report
Date: August 14, 2026

Enclosed is the monthly construction valuation and permit fee report. The report compares current month and year-to-date totals with those from 2025.

Please contact me at abutler@cityofevanston.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

Angela Butler
Permit Services Supervisor



Date: August 14, 2026

To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

From: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor

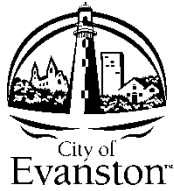
Subject: July 2026 Construction Valuation & Permit Fee Report

Building Permit Fees

Total Permit Fees Collected - July 2026	\$448,514.39
Total Permit Fees Collected - Fiscal Year 2026	\$2,974,697.45
Total Permit Fees Collected - July 2025	\$334,296.87
Total Permit Fees Collected - Fiscal Year 2025	\$9,260,438.49

Construction Values

Total Construction Value July 2026	\$18,851,066.00
Total Construction Value – Fiscal Year 2026	\$206,659,002.00
Total Construction Value – July 2025	\$10,864,711.00
Total Construction Value – Fiscal Year 2025	\$1,050,164,938.00



Memorandum

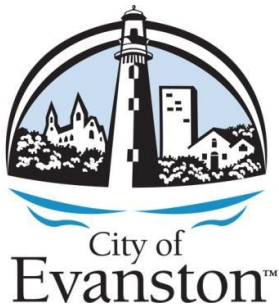
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

Services Subject: Food Establishment License Application Weekly Report

Date: August 6, 2026

Ward	Property Address	Business Name	Date Received	Current Status
8	751 Howard St	Sabrosura Coffee Bar	1/09/2025	Pending Reviews and Inspections
8	1717 Howard St	Showkey African Cuisine	8/26/2024	Pending Building Permit Application
8	565 Howard St	T.E & Company	8/22/2024	Pending Building Permit Issuance
4	1310 ½ Chicago Ave	Peeled Juice Bar	5/9/2024	Pending new Building Permit, Inspections, FCO
5	1600 Simpson	Foster School	5/12/25	Active 7-16-26
7	1030 Central St	Canal Shores Outdoor Patio	9/11/25	Pending Inspections and FCO
2	2400 Main St.	Snowfruit 558 – within Food4Less	9/18/25	Pending Inspections and FCO
4	1563 Sherman Ave	Giordano's	11/20/25	Pending Inspections and FCO
1	1716 Sherman Ave	Night Owl Productions	12/9/25	Pending FCO
7	2001 Sheridan Rd	Jacobs Cafe	1/8/26	Pending Inspections and FCO
2	2312 Main St.	Amazon-ZCG7-Main St	1/13/26	ZONING DENIED/CLOSED
4	1010 Church St	The Addled Bunny	4/8/26	Pending Inspections and FCO
1	1607 Chicago Ave.	Lizzano	5/7/26	Pending FCO
4	1012 Church St.	Northlight Theater	5/15/26	Pending Inspection and FCO
3	825 Chicago Ave.	Gertrude Coffee	5/15/26	Pending Elec Re-inspection and FCO
1	523 Davis St.	Lolo's Bowl	7/1/26	Pending BP, Reviews, Inspections, FCO
6	2945 Central St.	Colectivo Coffee Roasters	7/20/26	Pending BP, Reviews, Inspections, FCO



Liquor Licensing
liquorlicense@cityofevanston.org

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Brian George, Assistant City Attorney

Subject: Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Date: August 7, 2026

Enclosed is the weekly report of liquor applications received and pending. The report includes the ward, business addresses, license types, descriptions, and current application statuses.

More details can be found on the [Liquor license](#) webpage.

Weekly Liquor Licensing Report

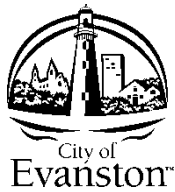
Liquor applications received and pending for the week of August 7, 2026

Annual License

None for this week

One-Day License

WARD	APPLICANT NAME	EVENT LOCATION	LIQUOR CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	EVENT DATE(S)	STATUS
2	Northside Boxing & Fitness	2000 Dempster St. Evanston, IL 60202	Z-1	Beer-Wine	August 7, 2026	License issued
8	Lionel Jean-Baptiste	300 Dodge Ave. Evanston, IL 60202	Z-4	Alcoholic Liquor	August 22, 2026	License issued
1	Evanston Lighthouse Rotary Club	225 Greenwood St. Evanston IL, 60201	Z-1	Beer-Wine	August 30, 2026	License issued
7	Levy Premium Foodservice Limited Partnership	2235 Campus Dr. Evanston, IL 60208	Z-2	Alcoholic Liquor	September 5, 2026	License issued
7	Levy Premium Foodservice Limited Partnership	2235 Campus Dr. Evanston, IL 60208	Z-2	Alcoholic Liquor	September 19, 2026	License issued



Memorandum

To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

From: Audrey Thompson, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Jeron Dorsey, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Matt Poole, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Michael Callahan, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation Department

Subject: Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Department Weekly Report (Week of August 7 through August 15)

Date: Aug 7, 2026

Please find the weekly report for the PRCS Department. The enclosed provides details of upcoming department-sponsored events, city-wide special events with applicable permits, and any parks/recreation-related

PRCS events:

Date	Time	Event	Ward	Details
August 7	5:00pm - 8:00pm	First Friday Community Picnic at Mason Park	2nd	Community Building Picnic
August 11	6:00pm - 8:00pm	Starlight Concert at Leah Lomar Park	8th	Band: Cecy Santana

Special Events with applicable permits/approvals

Date	Time	Event	Ward	Organization	Permit Specifics
August 7	3:00pm - 6:00pm	Foster School Grand Opening on Ashland from Simpson south to the school parking lot entrance	5th	School District 65	Street Closure, Loudspeaker
August 13	6:00pm - 8:00pm	Downtown Summer Sounds at Fountain Square	4th	Downtown Evanston	Street Closure, Loudspeaker, Food, Liquor, Park Use
August 15	6:00pm - 8:30pm	Twiggs Skate Jam at Twiggs Parks Skate Park	5th	Resident Julian Brookfield	Park Use, Loudspeaker
August 15	2:00pm - 9:00pm	Community Back to School Event at Harbert Payne Park	2nd	Haitian Community Organization	Park Use, Food, Loudspeaker

August 15	12:00pm - 5:00pm	Callan Plaza Block Party/Ribbon Cutting	8th	Howard St Evanston SSA / Rogers Park Business Alliance	Street Closure, Food, Liquor, Loudspeaker
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Park-Related Updates

Date	Location	Ward	Project Details
August 3	City-wide		Mowing operations resumed, followed by storm clean-up last week.

Recreation Updates

- The [Fall Guide](#) is available.

Community Services Updates

- Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Mural Ribbon Cutting 2:45pm-3:45pm



DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



WEEK ENDING AUGUST 7, 2026

Reminder: Register Your Delegates to the NWMC Board of Directors

Last week, staff emailed information to the membership to register delegates and alternate delegates to the NWMC Board of Directors. Members are requested to remit the form by Friday, August 28 to Marina Durso via email, mdurso@nwmc-cog.org or fax, 847-296-9207. The NWMC Board will resume its monthly meeting schedule on Wednesday, September 9. *Staff contact: Marina Durso*

Sourcewell Announces New Fire Apparatus and Other Contracts

As previously reported and through the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative's (SPC's) alliance with Sourcewell, local governments now have access to the following contracts recently awarded by Sourcewell following competitive solicitations:

- [Firefighting Apparatus and Fire Service Vehicles](#)
- [Public Utility Equipment and Related Accessories](#)
- [Underground Infrastructure Inspection and Rehabilitation Equipment and Related Services](#)

From the Sourcewell announcement, "These offerings are designed to expand your purchasing options, providing tailored solutions that are delivered through your local dealer or representative. Explore recently awarded contracts below, or [search all awarded contracts](#)."

[Firefighting Apparatus and Fire Service Vehicles](#)

New, remounted, or refurbished firefighting apparatus and fire service vehicles, including pumper, aerial, tanker or water supply, quint, specialty, and wildland units; and related equipment, components, accessories, and services have been awarded under contract #082025 to the following companies: Alexis, BME, CET, CFE, Custom, Darley, Dependable Emergency Vehicles, E-ONE, Fastlane Emergency Vehicles, Ferrara, Fort Garry Fire Trucks, Fouts Fire, Frontline, HME, HUB, Iturri, KME, LDV Custom Specialty Vehicles, Maxi Metal, Midwest Fire, Oshkosh Airport Products, PL Custom, Pierce, Rosenbaum, Skeeter, Spartan, SVI, Sutphen and Ward Apparatus.

[Public Utility Equipment and Related Accessories](#)

Chassis-mounted, trailer-mounted, and self-propelled aerial lifts, towers, buckets, and platforms; digger derricks; cable placing, pulling, and tensioning equipment; directional drills and trenchless excavation equipment; and related accessories, parts, and services have been awarded under contract #011925 to the following companies: Altec, Anderson UnderBridge, Custom Truck One Source, Ditch Witch, Elliott, Vermeer and Versalift.

[Underground Infrastructure Inspection and Rehabilitation Equipment and Related Services](#)

Inspection, assessment, monitoring, and rehabilitation equipment and services for pipes, pipelines, manholes, basins, tanks, and stations; flow and leak testing, detection and locating tools; sensors and monitoring technologies; and related equipment and services have been awarded under contract #080525 to the following companies: Aries Industries, CUES, EnviroSight, Minicam, RapidView and Rausch.

For questions or additional information, please visit [Explore Sourcewell Suppliers and Contracts](#), contact staff or Sourcewell's Director of Government Accounts – Local Government Kathryn Rippee, 218-308-6668 (office), 850-509-4847 (cell), or Kathryn.Rippee@sourcewell-mn.gov. *Staff contact: Ellen Dayan*

RSVP Today for Treasurer Frerichs' Local Officials Appreciation Picnic at the State Fair

On Saturday, August 22, Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs is hosting his annual "Local Officials Appreciation Picnic" at the Illinois State Fair. The picnic will be held from Noon to 2:00 p.m. on the Director's Lawn at the State Fairgrounds in Springfield. This free event also includes free admission to the State Fair and parking is only \$5. A BBQ lunch, beverages and desserts will be provided to all guests.

The NWMC, along with our regional Council of Government partners, is again proud to be a “Participating Organization” in support of the event and encourages our member officials and their families to attend and spend the day at the State Fair. To RSVP for the picnic, please scan the QR code below or email Erin Slone, outreach@illinoistreasurer.gov.



Staff contact: Mark Fowler

IDOT Seeks HSIP Applications

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has opened applications for its Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). Eligible projects include those that address the increase in roadway fatalities and achieve a reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries as well as specific safety strategies to address a reduction of these incidents. Please note that projects protecting bicyclists and pedestrians are especially encouraged. IDOT recently hosted a webinar to discuss HSIP priorities and provide guidance on how to submit a quality application. A recording of the webinar can be found [here](#). Applications are open through Friday, August 14 at 5:00 p.m. For more information, visit [IDOT's HSIP webpage](#) and see the [NOFO](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Register Today for Upcoming MWRD Stormwater Workshops

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is hosting a series of workshops across Cook County to gather community input on stormwater concerns, community priorities and opportunities for future collaboration on stormwater projects. The workshops are recommended for municipal officials and administrators, engineering directors, municipal or township engineers, public works staff and others involved in capital improvements or stormwater management.

Participants will have the opportunity to meet with MWRD stormwater engineers to discuss local needs, learn about the MWRD Stormwater Partnership Program and tour a completed stormwater project. During registration, attendees may also request a one-on-one meeting with MWRD staff, who will follow up with scheduling information and guidance to help communities prepare. The workshop dates are as follows:

- Wednesday, August 26, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. – Lake Katherine Nature Center, E.G. Simpson Clubhouse, Palos Heights ([Register Here](#))
- Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. – Village of North Riverside Community Room, North Riverside ([Register Here](#))
- Thursday, September 10, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. – Burning Bush Community Center, Mount Prospect ([Register Here](#))

To register for other MWRD events, please [visit here](#) and for any questions, please contact EnvJustice@mwrld.org.
Staff contact: Eric Czarnota

RTA Announces Community Planning Projects Advancing Under NITA

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) has selected ten new community planning projects that will transition to the Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) on September 1, continuing efforts to create more walkable, equitable, and transit-friendly communities across northeastern Illinois. Among the selected projects are four Northwest Municipal Conference members:

- *Fox Lake* – NITA will convene a Development Dialogue with developers to evaluate redevelopment opportunities for two priority sites identified in the Village's Downtown Master Plan, both within walking distance of the Fox Lake Metra station.
- *Des Plaines* – NITA will assist the city in updating its zoning and parking regulations to comply with the People

Over Parking Act, helping remove barriers to development and encourage growth near transit.

- *Park Ridge* – The city will partner with NITA to update parking regulations in transit-served areas and revise zoning around the Dee Road Metra station to support walkable, mixed-use development.
- *Skokie* – NITA will help modernize the village's zoning code by updating parking regulations and streamlining development approvals to support transit-oriented growth, attainable housing, and improved access for pedestrians and cyclists.

Other selected community planning projects and additional information can be found [here](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Participate in IDOT's Annual Traveler Opinion Survey

From the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT):

IDOT is asking the public for their feedback on the state's transportation system and the agency's performance through the annual Traveler Opinion Survey. Available now through Tuesday, Aug. 11, the survey is available online by clicking [here](#).

Conducted in partnership with the University of Illinois Springfield, the survey is an opportunity for people who live in Illinois to provide their opinion on a wide range of topics, giving IDOT the information it needs to continue to be a national leader in transportation services. This year's survey asks for input on road conditions, ice and snow removal, planning priorities, electronic vehicles and more.

The Traveler Opinion Survey has been a staple since 2001. A copy of previous surveys and results can be viewed [here](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Applications Open for MMC's Free EV Readiness Technical Assistance Program

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) is accepting applications to participate in their Electric Vehicle (EV) Readiness Program. The EV Readiness Program helps communities prepare for transportation electrification by offering free technical assistance and training on all aspects of EVs and EV charging. Participating communities receive support to update zoning codes, streamline permitting, train first responders, assess fleet electrification opportunities, engage residents and businesses, and more.

The program makes implementation easier for communities by providing templates, model code language, examples from the forty-five local governments that have completed the program, peer learning in a cohort setting, and guest speakers who share the latest innovations and case studies from the field. Participants gain knowledge and resources to prepare their community for the growing adoption of EVs, expansion of EV charging infrastructure, and future funding opportunities as they arise.

To apply for the program, please submit an [MMC EV Readiness application](#) by Friday, August 14. For questions or more information, please contact MMC Senior Sustainability Specialist Cheryl Scott, cscott@mayorscaucus.org or 312-386-8654. *Staff contact: Larry Bury*

Apply Today for the MMC/ComEd Powering the Holidays Program

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

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is proud to partner with ComEd to administer the Powering the Holidays grant program, which provides grants for community-based holiday lighting events.

The application period is open now until 11:59 p.m. CDT on August 21, 2026. To learn more or apply, visit the [Powering the Holidays Program](#).

Municipalities, townships, counties and local governments in ComEd's service territory are eligible to apply for competitive grants up to \$2,500. Not-for-profit organizations may also be eligible if they partner with at least one municipality or government institution. Grant recipients may use their funds for any holiday lighting between November 1st, 2026 – February 13th, 2027.

This marks the 6th year of the ComEd Powering the Holidays Program. To learn more about how grants have been utilized by communities throughout the program's history, please visit the [Powering the Holidays 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

Daily Herald: [Forever toll increases? Some question rationale of tollway's plan to raise rates every two years](#)

Daily Herald: [RTA sales tax hike aimed at transit upgrades kicks in Saturday](#)

Mass Transit: [Chicago RTA releases study laying foundation for coordinated regional transit service](#)

Crain's Chicago Business: [Illinois ranks second to last in U.S. on building new housing](#)

Meetings and Events

NWMC Executive Board will meet on Wednesday, September 2 at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference.

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