



Memorandum

To: Mayor Tisdahl and Members of the City Council
From: Wally Bobkiewicz, City Manager
Subject: City Manager's Weekly Update
Date: Friday, January 16, 2015

STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT



Weekly Report for January 9, 2015 – January 15, 2015

Administrative Services

Bids Advertised the week of January 5, 2015

City Manager's Office

Master Council Meeting Agenda Schedule

Community Development

Zoning Report

Weekly Building Inspection Report

Law Department

Weekly Liquor License Applications Report

Legislative Reading

NWMC Weekly Briefing

PUBLIC NOTICES, AGENDAS & MINUTES

January 19, 2015

No meetings in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 20, 2015

City Council

www.cityofevanston.org/citycouncil

Board of Ethics

www.cityofevanston.org/boardofethics

Preservation Committee

www.cityofevanston.org/preservationcommission

January 21, 2015

Design and Project Review Committee

www.cityofevanston.org/dapr

M/W/EBE Advisory Committee

www.cityofevanston.org/mwebecommittee

Ladd Arboretum Committee

www.cityofevanston.org/laddcommittee

January 22, 2015

Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees

www.cityofevanston.org/policepension

Emergency Telephone System Board Meeting

www.cityofevanston.org/911board

January 23, 2015

Housing & Homelessness Commission

www.cityofevanston.org/housingcommission



Weekly Update

Below is a brief summary of activities in the 311 Center for the period of January 9, 2015 through January 15, 2015.

	CURRENT WEEK'S TOTALS	PREVIOUS WEEK'S TOTALS
CALLS HANDLED	2232	2404
SERVICE REQUESTS	577	506
TOTAL CHATS	69	79
TOTAL TEXT	15	11

Top 5 Service Requests

Total

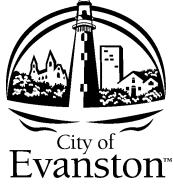
Most requested service requests (Source: PublicStuff - Open/Closed)

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. Broken Parking Meter | 96 |
| 2. Building Permit Inspection Request | 67 |
| 3. Trash – Special Pick-up | 53 |
| 4. Water Bill Reprint, Request an Address Change, Name Change | 17 |
| 5. Rental Dwelling Inspection or Overcrowding | 15 |

Please see the following page for the Weekly Telephone Wrap up Data

Telephone Wrap-up Data *At the end of each call the 311 staff selects the appropriate Category/Department for the call. The table reflects the activity for the past week.*

Weekly Telephone Wrap Up Data	
Category/Department	Total
Administrative Services -Parking	313
Administrative Services -Finance	42
Administrative Services -HR	55
Administrative Services - Other	128
Call Transfer	134
City Manager's Office	49
ComDev / Economic Development	15
ComDev/ Bldg Inspections	120
ComDev / Housing Rehab	3
ComDev / Planning/Zoning	12
Directions	19
Evanston Township	13
Fire Life Safety	43
PublicStuff Request	272
Health	84
Information	474
Law	1
Library	2
Mayor's Office	3
Other	100
Other – Social Services	3
Parks – Maintenance	3
Parks – Programs/Picnics/Permits	5
Parks – Other	1
Parks/Recreation	32
Parks – Forestry	16
Parks- Recreation Programs	5
Police	94
Public Works / Fleet	3
Public Works / Street Sanitation	88
Public Works / Engineering	21
Utilities – Power	2
Utilities – Sewer	1
Utilities – Water	76
TOTAL	2232



Memorandum

To: Wally Bobkiewicz, City Manager

From: Martin Lyons, Assistant City Manager/ Chief Financial Officer
 Ashley Porta, Budget Manager
 Tammi Turner, Purchasing Manager

Subject: Bids/RFPs/RFQs Advertised during the Week of January 12, 2015

Date: January 16, 2015

The following is a list of projects that have been advertised and the anticipated date each will be presented to Council.

Bids/RFPs/RFQs advertised during the Week of January 12, 2015

Bid/RFP/RFQ Number and Title	Requesting Dept.	Description of Project	Budgeted Amount	Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date	Anticipated Council Date
Bid 15-03 Standpipe Repair and Repainting	Utilities	Work on this project includes the complete cleaning and repainting of the interior and exterior surfaces with containment of the 7.5 million gallon North Standpipe and the 5.0 million gallon South Standpipe. Additional work items include repair of concrete and steel as well as other miscellaneous items.	\$3,500,000	Feb 10	Feb 23

Evanston City Council Agenda Schedule - 2015

(PLEASE NOTE: Dates for agenda items are tentative and subject to change.)

2015 Meeting Dates: Jan 12, Jan 20 (Tues), Jan 26, Feb 9, Feb 16, Feb 23, Mar 9, Mar 16, Mar 23, Apr 13, Apr 20, Apr 27 May 11, May 18, May 26 (Tues), June 8, June 15, June 22, July 13, July 20, July 27, Aug 17, Sept 15 (Tues), Sept 21, Sept 28 Oct 12, Oct 19, Oct 26, Nov 9, Nov 16, Nov 23, Dec 14, (Jan 11, 2016)
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DEPT	MEETING DATE	ITEMS	COUNCIL ACTION	COUNCIL or COMMITTEE	LEAD STAFF	NOTES
Mayor	1/26/2015	Mayor's Announcement MSYEP	A	CC		
Mayor	1/26/2015	Black History Month	PR	CC		
CMO	1/26/2015	Earth Hour Contest	A	CC	Bobkiewicz	
Utilities	1/26/2015	Update on treated water storage & Utilities Department CIP projects	P	CC	Stoneback	
PRCS	1/26/2015	Penny Park Update	P	CC	McRae	
Police	1/26/2015	Sole Source Renewal of Motorola Agreement for 911 Center	B	APW	Eddington	
Public Works	1/26/2015	SWANCC Contract	B	APW	Robinson	
Public Works	1/26/2015	Otis Elevator Contract	B	APW	Robinson	
Admin Services	1/26/2015	Accela Renewal	B	APW	Lyons	
Utilities	1/26/2015	Water Plant Intake Change Order 2	B	APW	Stoneback	
Admin Services	1/26/2015	Township Audit Closeout	B	APW	Lyons	
Health	1/26/2015	Presence Renewal	B	APW	Thomas-Smith	
Admin Services	1/26/2015	GO Bond Reimbursement	R	APW	Lyons	
Admin Services	1/26/2015	Southwest TIF Distribution	O	APW	Lyons	Introduction
Utilities	1/26/2015	Amending water supply contract with Northwest Water Commission.	O	APW	Stoneback	Introduction
Law	1/26/2015	Transportation Network Providers	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction: Held at APW 1.12.15
Law	1/26/2015	Class P License: On-Site Consumption (FEW)	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction
CD	1/26/2015	Plumbing Code	O	APW	Muenzer	Introduction
Law	1/26/2015	Pedal Cab Regulations	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction
CMO	1/26/2015	Sale 629-631 Howard St	O	APW	Bobkiewicz	Introduction
Public Works	1/26/2015	Multi-Family Recycling Pilot	D	APW	Robinson	
Law	1/26/2015	Hotel-Motel Tax for B&Bs	O	PD	Farrar	Introduction
CD	1/26/2015	1936 Maple, Clucker's Charcoal Chicken Type 2 Restaurant	O	PD	Muenzer	Introduction
CD	1/26/2015	521 Ridge, Variance for open parking in the front yard	O	PD	Muenzer	Introduction
CMO	1/26/2015	Chicken/Waffles Loan Modification	R	EDC	Bobkiewicz	
Mayor	1/26/2015	Appointments to Harley Clarke Citz Committee	B	CC	Francellno	
	1/27/2015	Special Meeting: Human Services, CDBG, MHB		HS	Storlie	7:00 PM
Public Works	2/9/2015	Emerson/Ridge/GreenBay Project	P	CC	Robinson	
Admin Services/PRCS	2/9/2015	Robert Crown	P	APW	Lyons/McRae	
Admin Serv	2/9/2015	Investment Strategies: Institutions	B	APW	Lyons	
Public Works	2/9/2015	Crack Sealing Contract	B	APW	Robinson	

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Public Works	2/9/2015	Greenbay Road Landscape Contract	B	APW	Robinson	
Public Works	2/9/2015	Harley Davidson Leases	B	APW	Robinson	
Fire	2/9/2015	M.A.B.A.S (Mutual Aid Box Alarm Sys) Agreement	B	APW	Klaiber	
Utilities	2/9/2015	Insituform CIPP Contract A	B	APW	Stoneback	Held at APW on 1.12.15
Admin Services	2/9/2015	RV - Trailer Parking	O	APW	Lyons	Introduction
CD	2/9/2015	Permit Fees	O	APW	Muenzer	Introduction
Law	2/9/2015	Increase Fines for Cycling on Sidewalks	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction
Law	2/9/2015	Liquor Code text amendment	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction
Law	2/9/2015	Lids for Commercial Refuse Containers	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction
Law	2/9/2015	Firearms	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction
Law	2/9/2015	Leaf Blowers	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction
CD	2/9/2015	Open Communities Funding	B	PD	Muenzer	
CD	2/9/2015	1571 Maple Ave Mixed Use Planned Dev	O	PD	Muenzer	Introduction
CD	2/9/2015	2308 Main, Wholesale Establishment, Few Spirits	O	PD	Muenzer	Introduction
PRCS	2/9/2015	Church/Dodge: Morrison building	B	HS	McRae	
CMO	2/9/2015	PEG Funding	B	HS	Storlie	
Admin Services	2/9/2015	Transportation/Parking Ctte Revisions	O	Rules	Lyons	Introduction
CMO	2/9/2015	Update Letter of Credit Dempster/Dodge & Main/Chicago	O	EDC	Bobkiewicz	Introduction
Utilities	2/16/2015	NICOR Construction Update	P	CC	Stoneback	3rd Monday
CMO	2/16/2015	Introduction of "Open Evanston"	P	CC	Bobkiewicz	
Law/Fire	2/23/2015	Ord to permit claims by City for damaged Fire equipment	O	APW	Farrar/Klaiber	Introduction
Utilities	2/23/2015	Toilet Installation Program	B	APW	Stoneback	
Utilities	2/23/2015	2015 Granular Materials	B	APW	Stoneback	
Utilities	2/23/2015	Distribution Materials Contract Extension	B	APW	Stoneback	
Utilities	2/23/2015	Standpipe Painting	B	APW	Stoneback	
Public Works	2/23/2015	UP Viaducts	D	APW	Robinson	
CD	2/23/2015	915 Foster, Foster Dance Studio Expansion	O	PD	Muenzer	Introduction
CMO	2/23/2015	Resolution for RFQ/P for 2222 Oakton Street	R	EDC	Bobkiewicz	
Public Works	3/9/2015	Uniform Purchase Contract	B	APW	Robinson	
Law	3/9/2015	Noise Ordinance	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction

1/16/2015 10:42 AM

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CD	3/9/2015	Ordinance Text Amendment: Dempster-Main Overlay District	O	PD	Muenzer	Introduction
CD	3/9/2015	Reallocation of unspent CDBG funds	R	HCDC	Muenzer	
CD	3/9/2015	2015-2019 Consolidated Plan	R	HCDC	Muenzer	
CD	3/9/2015	2015 Action Plan	R	HCDC	Muenzer	
Public Works	3/16/2015	APWA Awards	A	CC	Robinson	
Utilities	3/16/2015	Wholesale Water Sales Update	P	CC	Stoneback	
Utilities	3/16/2015	Utilities Commission: Proposed Energy Efficiency Ord	D	CC	Stoneback	
PRCS	3/16/2015	Robert Crown Next Steps	B	CC	McRae/Lyons	
CMO/Admin Services	3/23/2015	Electric Vehicle Charging: Sherman Garage	B	APW	Bobkiewicz/Lyons	
Public Works	3/23/2015	Concrete Contract Award	B	APW	Robinson	
Public Works	3/23/2015	Vehicle Purchase	B	APW	Robinson	
Public Works	3/23/2015	Tire Purchase for Fleet Vehicles	B	APW	Robinson	
Council & Committee Meetings						
Mon, Jan 20	7:00 PM	City Council meeting: Exec Session				
Wed, Jan 21	6:30 PM	M/W/EBE Advisory Committee				
Thur, Jan 22	5:30 PM	Emergency Telephone Board				
Fri, Jan 23	7:00 AM	Housing & Homelessness Commission				
Mon, Jan 26	6:00 PM	A&PW, P&D, City Council meetings				
Tues, Jan 27	7:00 PM	Human Services Funding Summit				
Tues, Jan 27	7:30 PM	Housing & Community Dev Act Ctte				
Wed, Jan 28	6:00 PM	Transportation/Parking Committee				
Wed, Jan 28	7:30 PM	Economic Development Committee				
DEFERRED						
Dept	Date	Item	Action	Committee	Staff	
Law	TBA	Noise Ordinance	D	APW	Farrar	
Utilities	TBA	Computerized Maintenance Management System	B	APW	Stoneback	
Law	TBA	Ord 126-O--14 CVS Liquor Lic	O	APW	Farrar	Held at APW 10.27.14
Law	TBA	22 ounce containers for P-1 Liquor Lic (New #)	O	APW	Farrar	Introduction (Held in Committee 10.13.14)

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CD	TBA	Inclusionary Housing	O	PD	Muenzer	Action (Intro on 7/28/14; referred to subcomtte)
Utilities	TBA	South Standpipe Painting	B	APW	Stoneback	
Public Works	TBA	BAS Contract - 8 City buildings	B	APW	Robinson	
CMO	TBA	D202 IGA: Safe School Zone	R	HS	Bobkiewicz	
Admin Serv	TBA	Increase Parking Garage Monthly Permit Fee	B	APW	Voss	
Admin Serv	TBA	Amendment to PEHP Resolution	R	APW	Lyons	
Law	TBA	Ord 27-O-12 Cell Phone Ban	O	HS	Grover/Farrar	
PRCS	TBA	Animal Shelter Contract	B	HS		
CD	TBA	Rental Licensing	O	PD		
Public Works	TBA	Ecology Center Greenhouse	B	APW	Robinson	
Law	TBA	Title 9 City Code Amendments	O		Farrar	(Introduced 1.27.14)



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Lorrie Pearson, Planning and Zoning Administrator
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report
Date: January 16, 2015

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

Please contact me at 847/448-8674 or lpearson@cityofevanston.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

Zoning Weekly Update
Cases Received and Pending, January 9 - January 15, 2015

Zoning Reviews

Ward	Property Address	Type	Project Description	Received	Status
1	1515 Chicago Avenue	Building Permit	Construction of extended stay hotel	11/05/14	DAPR 1/28/14
1	2306 Orrington Avenue	Building Permit	Int./ext. remodeling at SFR	01/13/15	compliant
1	601-721 University Place	Zoning Analysis	Proposed subdivision in U1 District (Northwestern University)	12/29/14	pending additional info from applicant
2	1808 Maple Avenue	Building Permit	Install blue light emergency phone structure (Northwestern)	11/06/14	pending staff review
2	1815 Ridge Avenue	Zoning Analysis	Construct 9-story, 155 DU/mixed use building (Planned Development)	08/19/14	pending additional info from applicant
3	514 Main Street	Building Permit	Int./ext. remodeling for Type I restaurant (Lucky Platter)	01/14/15	DAPR 1/28/14
3	699 Sheridan Road	Building Permit	Int./ext. remodeling, remove dormer at SFR	01/13/15	compliant
4	1108 Elmwood Avenue	Building Permit	Int./ext. remodeling at SFR	01/13/15	compliant
5	1623 Emerson Street	Building Permit	Install roof-top a/c condensing unit at commercial building	01/12/15	compliant
5	2045 Brown Avenue	Building Permit	Misc. int./ext. remodel and erect dome structure at mosque	12/11/14	pending additional info from applicant
7	1717 Central Street	Building Permit	Int./ext/ alterations, construct addition (Evanston Arts Center)	01/07/15	DAPR 1/21/15
7	2751 Ashland Avenue (formerly 1600 Isabella)	Building Permit	Int./ext. additions to NU Baseball Field	08/19/14	pending DAPR
7	568 Ingleside Place	Zoning Analysis	Subdivision of single family lot to create 2 lots of record	12/01/14	pending Fire
8	128-130 Chicago Avenue	Building Permit	Interior/exterior remodeling for change of use (retail service use: U-Haul)	06/26/14	pending DAPR
8	805 Mulford Street	Zoning Analysis	Construct new 8-unit condo building with 12 underground parking spaces	01/07/15	pending additional info from applicant
9	1212 Monroe Street	Building Permit	Construct 2nd story addition and 1-car detached garage at SFR	01/15/15	compliant

Miscellaneous Zoning Cases

Ward	Property Address	Type	Project Description	Received	Status
1	1603 Orrington Avenue	Zoning Complaint	Illegal parking lot use (Chase Bank lot)	09/12/14	2nd violation letter mailed
2	1804 Washington Street	Zoning Complaint	Automobile Repair establishment in residential district	09/16/14	Drive-by insp. on-going
2	2308 Main Street	Special Use	Wholesale Goods Establishment - Few Spirits	10/21/14	ZBA 01/27/15
3	517 Dempster Street	Special Use	Type 2 Restaurant: Frio Gelato	01/10/15	ZBA 02/03/15 & DAPR 01/21/15
3	605 Hinman Avenue	Major Variance	Building lot coverage, rear setback, side setback for stairs; 8' fence in rear	01/07/15	ZBA 02/03/15 & DAPR 01/21/15
5	1936 Maple Avenue	Special Use	Type 2 Restaurant: Clucker's Charcoal Chicken	12/02/14	P&D 01/26/15
5	915 Foster Avenue	Special Use	Expansion of existing dance studio into vacant space (Foster Dance Studio)	12/17/14	ZBA 01/27/15
6	2409 Crawford Avenue	Major Variance	Construct 1-car carport	12/15/14	ZBA 01/27/15
6	2411 Hastings Avenue	Major Variance	Building lot coverage for a 2-car detached garage	12/10/14	ZBA 02/03/15 & DAPR 01/21/15
7	1111 Noyes Street	Major Variance	Rear yard setback for a 2-car detached garage	12/10/14	ZBA 01/27/15
7	2645 Asbury Avenue	Minor Variance	Front yard setback for a 2-story addition	01/13/15	determination after 1/28/15
7	2753 Girard Avenue	Minor Variance	Building lot coverage for a 2-story addition	01/13/15	determination after 1/28/15
8	108 Florence Avenue	Zoning Complaint	Outdoor storage, trade contractor business in residential district	11/06/14	AA hearing 1/22/15
9	521 Ridge Avenue	Major Variance	Open parking in the front yard	12/05/14	P&D 01/26/15



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Gary Gerdes, Building and Inspection Services Manager

Subject: Weekly Inspection Report

Date: January 16, 2015

Enclosed is the weekly summary report of field inspections under special monitoring. The report, organized by ward, includes the property address, the type of inspection, inspector notes, date received and current status.

Please contact me at 847-448-8030 or ggerdes@cityofevanston.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

Inspector Weekly Update
Cases Received, January 12-16, 2015

Field Reports

Ward	Property Address	Construction Type	Inspector notes	Received
1	1515 Chicago Avenue (Hyatt House)	Foundation	Construction site is in good condition. No dust or mud was present at the time of inspection. No unauthorized vehicles were on site. Sidewalks and fences are in good condition.	1/14/2015
1	1619 Chicago Avenue (The Merion)	Residential Addition	Construction site is in good condition. Sheet piling installation is complete.	1/15/2015
1	728 Lincoln Street (Kendall Place)	New Residential Building (SFRs)	Construction site is in good condition. No dust or mud was present at the time of inspection. Soil erosion reports are current. Sidewalks and fences are in good condition.	1/12/2015
2	1890 Maple Avenue (E2 Apartments)	New Residential Building (MFR)	Construction site is in good condition. Sidewalks remain clear of debris.	1/12/2015
2	2008 Dempster Street (Goldfish Swim School)	Roof Work	Construction site is in good condition. The public right of way is clear and overflowing dumpsters have been removed. An 8' construction fence has been installed to protect adjacent units. A wind screen will be installed along with temporary lighting this week. A trailer is now on site.	1/12/2015
3	414-424 South Boulevard	Monitoring	No construction or auto repair activity has been observed.	1/12/2015
4	1031 Davis Street (Former Pineyard site)	New Commercial Building	The construction fence is secure and standing plumb. The wind screen has remained tight and secure. The gate is locked.	1/12/2015
8	1216-1226 Harvard Terrace	Monitoring	No construction activity has been observed.	1/12/2015



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Theresa Whittington, Liquor Licensing Manager

Subject: Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Date: January 16, 2015

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, date received and current status.

Please contact me at (847) 448-8160 or twhittington@cityofevanston.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

**Liquor Licensing Weekly Report
Liquor Applications Received and Pending**

WARD	BUSINESS NAME	BUSINESS ADDRESS	LIQUOR CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED HOURS for LIQUOR SALES	DATE REC'D	STATUS¹
5	Fest & Imbibe Events	1601 Simpson Street #3	T	Catering, Beer/Wine	10am – 1:00am; Sun-Sat	01/08/15	Under Review by Liquor Dept.

¹ Applicants are first noticed to the Liquor Licensing Review Board before proceeding to City Council



DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



WEEK ENDING JANUARY 16, 2015

NWMC Board Approves 2015 Legislative Program

Thank you to the twenty-seven NWMC members who attended Wednesday night's board meeting! The membership unanimously approved the 2015 NWMC Legislative Program, which will be unveiled at the January 24 NWMC Legislative Brunch (see related article below). The program encompasses the following themes: ensuring a pro-growth environment that reduces the burden on local taxpayers; ensuring that local governments have sufficient revenues to provide high quality public services; and ensuring the sustainability of critical infrastructure through strategic investments.

In other board action, the membership received a report from *Barrington Village President Karen Darch*, who co-chaired Governor Rauner's "Intergovernmental Efficiencies and Local Government" transition policy sub-committee. The transition report, which cites NWMC writings on public safety pensions, specifically supports consolidation of public safety pension funds. The Conference board also unanimously approved an agreement for legislative consulting services with Anderson Legislative Consulting as well as the 2014 North Shore Council of Mayors Annual Report. Finally, the board approved meeting dates and locations for the remainder of the year. Most meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at Oakton Community College, with the following exceptions: February 11 at the *Wheeling Village Hall*; May 13 at the *Barrington Village Hall*, and, the November meeting has been moved back to Wednesday, November 18. *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury*

LAST CALL!! Today's the Day to RSVP for the 2015 NWMC Legislative Brunch

The RSVP deadline is today, so please plan to join us at the 2015 NWMC Legislative Brunch, scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Hilton Chicago/Northbrook, 2855 N. Milwaukee Avenue in *Northbrook/Prospect Heights*. This annual event provides a unique opportunity to meet with our state and federal legislators in an informal setting and discuss solutions to the challenges facing our communities and taxpayers.

Please RSVP to Marina Durso, mdurso@nwmc-cog.org or 847-296-9200, ext. 122 by the close of business today. *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury, Marina Durso*

NWMC Local Government Communicators to Meet January 21

The next NWMC Local Government Communicators Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the *Mount Prospect Village Hall*. Topics for Wednesday's discussion will include use of/best practices regarding social media, emergency communications and other public information-related issues.

The committee meets on a quarterly basis and consists of Public Information Officers (PIOs) and related staff from NWMC members who have primary responsibility for communications outreach. The meetings serve as a forum to discuss communications-related issues that are relevant to all Conference members. Topics for discussion often include best practices and innovations in outreach to residents, emergency communications, special events planning, newsletter design and production and more. Please consider assigning a staff member to become involved in this important committee.

Future meetings of the Communicators Committee will be held on April 15, July 15 and October 21. For more information or to add a staff member to the committee email list, please contact NWMC staff or *Chairperson Ann Tennes, Village of Skokie Director of Marketing and Communications*, ann.tennes@skokie.org or 847-933-8234. *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Chris Staron*

Changes in CMAP Leadership as Randy Blankenhorn Named IDOT Secretary

At Wednesday's meeting of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Board, Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn formally announced that he has been named Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). He thanked the board and CMAP staff for their work in developing the GO TO 2040 plan and helping to make CMAP a national leader among metropolitan planning organizations. Blankenhorn's last day at CMAP will be January 31.

In executive session, the board voted to retain an executive search committee to hire a permanent executive director. Current chief of staff Jill Leary will serve as acting interim director until May 31. Wednesday also marked the first day on the job for former Federal Railroad Administrator Joseph C. Szabo. Szabo, who is the former mayor of Riverdale, will serve as Senior Fellow at CMAP to help lead major policy initiatives including infrastructure funding, coordination with local officials and the development of a national transportation policy. *Staff Contacts: Mike Walczak, Brian Pigeon*

NWMC to Host CMAQ/TAP Application Workshop

On Friday, January 23, the Northwest Municipal Conference is hosting a workshop on the current call for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects. The workshop will begin at 10:00 a.m. at Oakton Community College, Room 1602 in *Des Plaines*. CMAP staff will make a presentation on the current call for CMAQ and TAP projects and take questions from prospective sponsors.

To RSVP for the workshop and for additional information, please contact NWMC Transportation Director Mike Walczak, mwalczak@nwmc-cog.org or 847-296-9200, ext. 134. For additional information on the call for projects, please visit <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/mobility/strategic-investment/cmaq/program-development>. *Staff contacts: Mike Walczak, Brian Pigeon*

ComEd Announces Grant Programs

ComEd External Affairs Manager Jeff Batara sent an email this week announcing the following grant opportunities for municipalities:

- The first program is **ComEd Green Region**, which is a partnership with Openlands to award funding for open-space projects. It is our third year of this program, which helped more than 40 municipalities in its first two years. We are excited to be offering a total of \$200,000 this year, an increase from last year due to demand. You can apply at www.openlands.org/GreenRegion
- The second program is **ComEd Safe Communities**, which is new in 2015 via a partnership with the National Safety Council, and will give funding for safety-related expenditures, ranging equipment like generators and bullet-proof vests to public-awareness campaigns. We will be awarding \$130,000 in grants in our first year. You are welcome to apply at <http://www.nsc.org/act/Pages/Partner-with-NSC-and-ComEd.aspx>

According to his email, "both programs will award grants up to \$10,000 through a competitive grant application process. Applications will be reviewed by Openlands and National Safety Council for their respective programs." For additional information please contact Mr. Batara, jeffery.batara@ComEd.com or 847-929-2304. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

Meetings and Events

NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the NWMC offices in *Des Plaines*.

NWMC Legislative Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 21 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC offices in *Des Plaines*.

NWMC Transportation Committee will meet on Thursday, January 22 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC offices in *Des Plaines*.

NWMC Environmental Best Practices Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 28 at 2:30 p.m. at the NWMC offices in *Des Plaines*.