

# Memorandum

To: Mayor Biss and Members of the City Council  
From: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
Subject: Weekly City Manager's Update  
Date: August 4, 2023

## **STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT**

Weekly Report for July 31, 2023 – August 4, 2023

**City Manager's Office**  
Weekly Bids Advertised

**Community Development**  
Weekly Zoning Report  
Weekly Inspection Report  
Monthly CV/Permit Fee Report

**Health Department**  
Weekly Food Establishment Application Report

**Law Department**  
Weekly Liquor License Application Report

**Legislative Reading**  
NWMC Weekly Briefing

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

**Monday, August 7, 2023**

5:00 PM: [Human Services Committee - Canceled](#)

**Tuesday, August 8, 2023**

No meetings

**Wednesday, August 9, 2023**

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

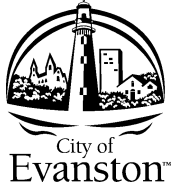
**Thursday, August 10, 2023**

No meetings

**Friday, August 11, 2023**

7:15 AM: [Utilities Commission – Canceled](#)

9:30 AM: [Evanston Firefighters' Pension Board Special Meeting](#)



# Memorandum

To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

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

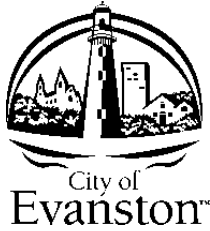
Subject: Bids/RFPs/RFQs Advertised during the Week July 31, 2023

Date: August 4, 2023

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

**Bids/RFPs/RFQs sent during the Week of July 31, 2023**

Bid/RFP/RFQ Number/Name	Requesting Dept.	Description of Project	Budgeted Amount	Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date	Anticipated Council/ Library Board Date
A Solar Generation Facility at Robert Crown Community Center	CMO	The City of Evanston's Sustainability Division in conjunction with the City's Facilities & Fleet Management Division, the City's Engineering Bureau, and the Parks and Recreation Department is seeking proposals from experienced proposers for the finance, design, construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of a new rooftop-mounted solar generation system to facilitate a Solar Power Purchase Agreement at the Robert Crown Community Center.	TBD	09/12	10/09



## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Elizabeth Williams, Planning & Zoning Manager  
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report  
Date: August 4, 2023

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, July 27, 2023 - August 2, 2023**

**Backlog (business days received until reviewed): 1**

**Volume (number of cases pending staff review): 7**

**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	519 Davis Street	D1	Building Permit	Renovation of existing restaurant space	07/10/23	pending staff review/Administrative Review Use application from the applicant
2	1326 Hartrey Avenue	R4	Building Permit	Asphalt driveway	09/08/22	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1800 Greenwood Street	R3	Building Permit	New 3-car garage/coach house	11/21/22	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
2	1806 Dempster Street	B1	Building Permit	Interior remodel of existing commercial space	11/23/22	pending special use application from the applicant
2	1516 Dempster Street	R3	Building Permit	Additions, demolish existing garage, build new detached garage with ADU	03/10/23	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1809 Crain Street	R3	Building Permit	New 2-car garage	03/27/23	non-compliant, pending revisions and/or minor variation application from the applicant
2	1324 Pitner Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Shed	04/06/23	pending additional information from the applicant
2	653 Dodge Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Patio	06/13/23	pending additional information from the applicant
2	2223 Washington Street	I1/oRD	Building Permit	Interior and exterior remodel of existing building	06/16/23	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1139 Fowler Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Patio and parking pad (work done without a permit)	07/10/23	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1135 Dodge Avenue	R4	Zoning Analysis	Addition (Apostolic Lighthouse Church of Evanston)	07/24/23	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1613 Florence Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Remove and replace existing driveway	08/01/23	pending additional information from the applicant
3	819 Judson Avenue	R5	Building Permit	New 9-unit multi-family dwelling	07/08/22	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
3	1404 Judson Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Remodel basement to create an ADU	05/26/23	non-compliant, pending major variation application from the applicant
3	1308 Judson Avenue	R1	Building Permit	New stairs, deck, and pergola	06/12/23	revisions submitted by applicant, pending staff review
4	901 Maple Avenue	R5	Building Permit	Rooftop canopy	10/26/22	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1015 Dempster Street	R5	Building Permit	Patio, steppers, and bluechip area	01/30/23	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1314 Wilder Street	R1	Building Permit	Replace deck	06/13/23	revisions submitted by applicant, pending staff review
4	1552 Wesley Avenue	R1	Zoning Analysis	Driveway	06/22/23	pending additional information from the applicant

4	1450 Chicago Avenue	D4	Building Permit	Interior demo and remodel (Lake Street Church of Evanston)	06/27/23	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1023 Maple Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Concrete pad for sports	07/25/23	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1555 Oak Street	R6	Building Permit	Deck	08/01/23	pending staff review
4	1113 Sherman Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Accessory structure for storage	08/02/23	pending staff review
5	1820 Brown Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Install pavers and shed	10/25/22	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1740 Hovland Court	R3	Building Permit	Pavers	12/30/22	pending additional information from the applicant
5	2124 Foster Street	R3	Building Permit	Shed	04/04/23	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1833 Hovland Court	R3	Building Permit	Carport next to garage	05/20/23	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1601 Payne Street	MXE	Building Permit	Interior build out for a restaurant (Soul & Smoke)	06/06/23	pending revisions from the applicant
5	2411 Wade Street	R2	Building Permit	Patio and replace walk	06/12/23	revisions submitted by applicant, pending staff review
5	1935 Brown Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Concrete slab	06/20/23	pending additional information from the applicant
5	2020 Dodge Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Replace front steps, construct new landing at side of residence	07/03/23	non-compliant, pending revisions and/or minor variation application from the applicant
5	1820 Laurel Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Concrete slab	07/11/23	non-compliant, pending revisions/minor variation application from the applicant
5	2110 Asbury Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Addition, interior reodel, and new garage	08/01/23	pending staff review
5	2023 Darrow Avenue	R4	Building Permit	Garage, 24x24	08/02/23	pending staff review
6	2639 Central Park Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Install generator	11/07/22	non-compliant, pending revision from the applicant
6	2632 Gross Point Road	B1a/oCS	Building Permit	Concrete patio (Skarkis)	11/17/22	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
6	2801 Central Street	B1a/oCS	Building Permit	Replace gravel with concrete to expand driveway	02/20/23	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2649 Crawford Avenue	R2	Zoning Analysis	1-car garage or carport	03/07/23	pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
6	2010 Bennett Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Shed	04/13/23	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2440 Prospect Avenue	R1	Zoning Analysis	2-car attached garage	04/24/23	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2415 McDaniel Avenue	R1	Zoning Analysis	Detached 2-car garage	06/05/23	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2767 Crawford Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Driveway and retaining wall extension	06/26/23	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2942 Central Street	B1a/oCS	Building Permit	Interior remodel of existing commercial space (dental office)	06/30/23	pending staff review/Administrative Review Use approval
6	2828 Harrison Street	R1	Building Permit	Remove walk, install new wal and patio area	07/11/23	pending additional information and revisions from the applicant

6	2929 Central Street	B1a/oCS	Building Permit	Remove and replace asphalt parking lot, striping, signage, and bumper blocks (Normandy Remodeling)	07/25/23	revisions submitted by applicant, pending staff review
6	2107 Crawford Avenue	C1	Building Permit	Interior remodel to expand (Fox Animal Hospital)	08/02/23	pending staff review
7	2636 Green Bay Road	C2/oCSC, R4	Zoning Analysis	Planned Development, new 5-story multi-family dwelling with 51 dwellings, parking and 3 new 4-story townhomes along Prairie Avenue	10/18/22	pending additional information from the applicant
7	12 Milburn Park	R1	Building Permit	Expand sport court, new terraces	02/21/23	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2747 Broadway Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Remove portion of existing paver patio, install new patio and seatwall	05/12/23	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
7	1915-1917 Grant Street	R3	Zoning Analysis	Construction of 10 micro homes and 3 ADU's above parking structure	06/29/23	pending additional information from the applicant
7	1710 Central Street	B1a/oCS	Building Permit	Interior remodel of existing commercial space	08/01/23	pending staff review
7	1030 Central Street	OS	Building Permit	New deck stairs (Canel Shores Golf Course)	08/01/23	pending staff review
8	2021 Autobarn Place, Unit C	I2	Building Permit	Interior remodel for new offices and food production (Whole and Free Foods)	11/16/22	pending revisions from the applicant
8	2102 Dobson Street	R2	Building Permit	New garage	11/21/22	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
8	2201 Autobarn Place	I2	Zoning Analysis	2 signs for Autobarn Nissan	01/09/23	pending additional information from the applicant
8	231 Richmond Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Garage, interior remodel to residence	05/21/23	pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
8	402 Dewey Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Greenhouse	07/19/23	pending additional information from the applicant
9	822 Wesley Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Install 12 antennas and cabinets	06/21/22	pending additional information from the applicant
9	1224 Washington Street	R3	Building Permit	Replace brick patio with pavers	10/07/22	pending additional information and revisions from the applicant
9	822 South Boulevard	R1	Building Permit	Detached garage	03/07/23	pending additional information from the applicant
9	1222 Washington Street	R3	Zoning Analysis	New single-family dwelling and detached ADU	05/01/23	pending additional information from the applicant
9	1216 Madison Street	R1	Building Permit	Remove and replace asphalt	07/31/23	pending additional information 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
2	1806 Dempster Street	B1	Special Use	Special use for a Type-2 Restaurant	04/13/23	pending P&D

2	1611 Church Street	WE1/oWE	Map Amendment and Major variations	Remove zoning lot from oWE Overlay District and rezone from WE1 to R4 and Major Variations for construction of 7 COOP dwellings including townhome orientation and detached accessory structure located between principal building and front property line.	06/27/23	pending staff review, LUC
2	1727 Lee Street	R3	Minor Variation	Street side yard setback for front porch enclosure and interior side yard setback for 2nd story addition	07/11/23	determination after 08/03/23
3	504 South Boulevard	R4	Planned Development	New 5-story multi-family mixed-income building with 60 dwelling units	04/13/23	<b>pending additional information from the applicant, LUC 09/13/23</b>
3	1404 Judson Avenue	R1	Major Variation	Building lot coverage and rear yard setback for addition	06/07/23	<b>pending LUC</b>
6	3434 Central Street	R2	Planned Development	New 2-story, 19,952 sf building for a Daycare center - Child (Kensington School)	02/10/22	<b>pending P&amp;D</b>
6	2416 Isabella Street	R1	Minor Variation	Building lot coverage for roofed front porch	07/25/23	determination after 08/15/23
7	1501 Central St	U2	Text Amendment	Modification to U2 uses to allow additional concerts and community events	01/27/23	<b>pending LUC</b>
7	1501 Central Street	U2	Planned Development	Demolition of existing Ryan Field stadium and ancillary maintenance building, construct new 35,000 seat stadium with parking, plazas, and park (NU)	05/04/23	<b>pending staff review, LUC</b>
7	2729 Sheridan Road	R1	Fence variation	Front yard fence	06/21/23	determination after 08/07/23
7	1915-1917 Grant Street	R3	Special Use	Special Use for 10 micro homes and 3 micro homes above parking structure	06/28/23	<b>pending zoning analysis review and additional information from the applicant</b>
7	2757 Ridge Avenue	R1	Minor Variation	Interior side yard setback for small addition	07/25/23	determination after 08/15/23





To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

From: David Wilson, HVAC Building Inspector

Subject: Weekly Field Inspection Report

Date: August, 4 2023

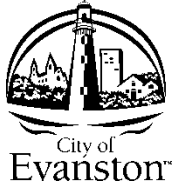
Enclosed is the weekly summary report of field inspections for construction projects under special monitoring. The report includes the ward, property address, type of construction, inspector notes, and date received.

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

## Weekly Field Inspection Report

4-Aug-23

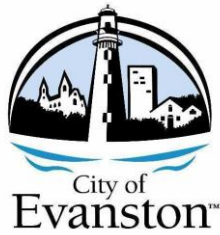
Ward	Property Address	Construction Type	Inspector Notes	Received
2	1101 Church Street	Multi-Family Building	No changes. Alleyway is clear and sidewalk remains closed and properly blocked. Construction fence is in good condition.	8/3/2023
4	1012 Church Street Northlight Theater	Assembly	No changes. Site and Northlight signage are in good condition. No construction fence at this time.	8/3/2023
2	2030 Greenwood Street	Multi-Family Building	No changes. Site is in good condition.	8/3/2023
4	718 Main Street	Mixed Use Building Residential/Retail	No changes. Construction fence remains and is in good condition.	8/3/2023
8	100 Chicago Avenue Gateway	Mixed Use Building Residential/Retail	No changes. Site is in good condition.	8/3/2023
1	710 Clark Street	Office Building	Construction fence remains in place and is in good condition.	8/3/2023
5	Emerson and Jackson Demolition Site	Residential	No changes. Dirt and debris surrounding the site continues to be maintained properly. Site and construction fence are in good condition.	8/3/2023



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
From: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor  
Subject: Monthly Construction Valuation and Permit Fee Report  
Date: August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Enclosed is the monthly construction valuation and permit fee report. The report compares current month and year-to-date totals with those from 2022.

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



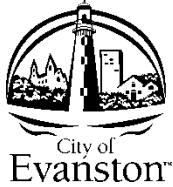
DATE: August 4, 2023  
 TO: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
 FROM: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor  
 SUBJECT: Construction Valuation and Permit Fee Report for July, 2023

**BUILDING PERMIT FEES**

Total Permit Fees Collected for the Month of July 2023	\$ 466,324
Total Permit Fees Collected Fiscal Year 2023	\$ 2,545,523
Total Permit fees Collected for the Month of July 2022	\$ 524,458
Total Permit Fees Collected Fiscal Year 2022	\$ 2,212,800

**CONSTRUCTION VALUES**

<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION VALUE FOR JULY 2023</b>	\$ 22,414,363
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION VALUE FISCAL YEAR 2023</b>	\$ 130,965,980
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION VALUE FOR JULY 2022</b>	\$ 13,362,899
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION VALUE FISCAL YEAR 2022</b>	\$ 107,906,836



# Memorandum

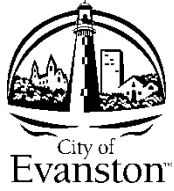
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

Subject: Food Establishment License Application Weekly Report

Date: August 4,, 2023

Ward	Property Address	Business Name	Date Received	Current Status
1	519 Davis st	La Cocinita (Relocating)	7/11/2023	Pending Building Permit Issuance
2	921 Church St	Devil Dawgs	4/28/2023	Pending Building Permit Issuance
4	1009 Davis St	CM Chicken	4/11/2023	Licensed Issued
2	1701 Maple Ave	Egg Harbor	4/4/2023	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
5	831 Foster St	Foster Food & Deli	4/3/2023	Pending Permit Application
8	100 Chicago Ave	West Town Bakery – Evanston	3/27/2023	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
8	321 Howard St	Howard Grocery & Deli	3/9/2023	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
2	1707 Maple Ave	Bitter Blossom/Evanston Games and Café	1/11/2023	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
2	1711 Maple Ave	Sky Zone/Circus Trix	7/13/2022	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
5	1831 Emerson St	La Mi choacana	5/01/2022	Pending Building Permit Issuance
1	1743 Sherman Ave	Olive Mediterranean Grill	12/10/2021	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections



# Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Brian George, Assistant City Attorney

Subject: Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Date: August 4, 2023

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

### Liquor Licensing Weekly Report

Liquor Applications Received and Pending for week of July 21, 2023

<b>WARD</b>	<b>BUSINESS NAME</b>	<b>BUSINESS ADDRESS</b>	<b>LIQUOR CLASS</b>	<b>CLASS DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PROCESSED HOURS for LIQUOR SALES</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<b>2</b>	Egg Harbor	1701 Maple Ave. Evanston, IL 60201	D	Restaurant	11 a.m. — 1 a.m. (Mon-Thurs); 11 a.m. — 2 a.m. (Fri-Sat); 10 a.m. — 1 a.m. (Sun)	Application pending



# DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



**WEEK ENDING AUGUST 4, 2023**

## ***Register Your Delegates to the NWMC Board of Directors***

On Tuesday, 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, September 1 to Marina Durso via email, [mdurso@nwmc-cog.org](mailto:mdurso@nwmc-cog.org) or fax, 847-296-9207. The NWMC Board will resume its monthly meeting schedule on Wednesday, September 13. *Staff contact: Marina Durso*

## ***Northwest Council of Mayors Approves Project Cost Increases***

On Friday, July 21, the Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee met at the *Barrington Village Hall* and gave preliminary approval to two local Surface Transportation Program (STP-L) cost increase requests. The committee approved a \$200,000 increase to the Busse Road-Devon Avenue intersection resurfacing project in *Elk Grove Village*. The committee also approved a \$853,000 increase for the Illinois Avenue project in *Palatine*. Those recommendations were ratified by the full Northwest Council of Mayors at Wednesday's meeting at the *Palatine Village Hall*. *Staff contact: Eric Czarnota*

## ***North Shore Council Technical Committee Discusses STP Changes***

The North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee met on Thursday, July 27 at the *Skokie Village Hall* to receive updates from agency partners and staff on local projects and initiatives. Staff provided an update on the Council's Surface Transportation Program (STP) for FY2023-2028, including fiscal changes, letting date shifts and information on which communities should anticipate receiving award letters for their projects. The Technical Committee requested further discussion of a proposal to make meetings virtually accessible for non-member participants, which will be an agenda item for the next Technical Committee meeting scheduled for Friday, October 27 at 8:30 a.m. at the *Glenview Village Hall*. *Staff contact: Brian Larson*

## ***MMC, UIC, ILCMA Open LORE Applications***

*From the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus:*

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC), University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Great Cities Institute and Illinois City/County Management Association (ILCMA) are proud to announce a second cohort of the [Learning and Operationalizing Racial Equity \(LORE\) pilot program](#). This program will provide support to municipalities interested in operationalizing diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The 2023-24 LORE pilot program will be an eight-month program, split evenly between two four-month sessions, one in Fall 2023 and the other in Spring 2024. Municipal governments from across the State of Illinois are eligible to apply. Organizations must designate an executive-level public manager (e.g., CAOs, deputy CAOs, EDs) within the municipality to participate in the fall cohort. In the fall, the lead participant will identify two organizational leads (implementers) who will then attend the Spring 2024 session.

Please fill out the [LORE pilot program application](#) LORE pilot program application by Monday, August 14th to be considered.

Successful applicants will commit to the entire eight-month program and training funds to ensure that capacity, full commitment, and likelihood of impact can be achieved. The training cost for the entire program is \$800. Please reach out to Crispina at [cojeda@mayorscaucus.org](mailto:cojeda@mayorscaucus.org) if the cost would prevent your municipality from applying. We'll evaluate each inquiry on a case-by-case basis.

The Fall session has been specifically designed for top decision makers to understand and make the case for DEI-driven organizational projects to key internal and external stakeholders. The Fall participants will not attend the Spring session but will remain engaged through a short series of online workshops and a final in-person presentation by their



Spring 2024 management team. The Spring participants will learn DEI-driven process analysis to identify both assets and gaps in program performance and impact that can be applied to a wide range of organizational functions including but not limited to recruitment/retention, language access, procurement, community input/engagement.

Instruction is provided by the UIC Great Cities Institute in partnership with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and the Illinois City/County Management Association.

Program schedule:

Part 1: Fall 2023 – 9/13, 10/11, 11/8 and 12/14 (All in-person sessions)

Part 2: Spring 2024 – 2/14, 3/13\*, 4/10\* and 5/8 (\* denotes same time/date but hybrid online format)

The LORE pilot program is generously supported by the Chicago Community Trust. For more information, please contact Crispina Ojeda Simmons, [cojeda@mayorscaucus.org](mailto:cojeda@mayorscaucus.org). *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

### ***Last Call to Submit Public Comment on RTA Projects for Seniors/Individuals with Disabilities***

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) has released its list of recommended Section 5310 projects for FY2022 and FY2023. This federal program “aims to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options.”

Thirteen projects totaling \$13.7 million in federal funds are proposed for this year’s program including those benefiting the following NWMC member communities:

- Clearbrook (*Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Mount Prospect, Rolling Meadows, Wheeling*)
- Ride DuPage Transportation to Work (*Bartlett, Hanover Park*)
- Ride in Kane (*West Dundee*)
- Little City (*Arlington Heights, Grayslake, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Palatine, Schaumburg, Streamwood*),
- McRide Dial-A-Ride (*Fox Lake*)
- CTA Bus Stop Tactile Signage (*Evanston, Lincolnwood, Niles, Park Ridge, Skokie*)
- Metra ADA Visual Information Signage (general membership).

Public comments are due by Wednesday, August 9 and can be submitted by visiting the [RTA Section 5310 webpage](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***Reminder: IDNR Opens OSLAD Grant Applications***

*From the Illinois Department of Natural Resources:*

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is accepting applications for Open Space Land Acquisition and Development, or OSLAD, grants through Aug. 31.

OSLAD is a matching program that provides an advance payment (for development projects only) of 50% of the grant award amount shortly after the grant agreement is executed. The local agency must demonstrate and possess the ability to finance the remaining cost of an approved project prior to receipt of remaining grant funds. The program offers state-financed funding assistance to local governmental agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and outdoor recreation areas.

A total of \$56 million is available for this round of OSLAD grants. In addition, IDNR will once again will provide funding to cover 100% of eligible projects located in economically distressed communities. In the most recent round of OSLAD awards announced in March, 22 underserved locations received grants for local park projects. For a list of communities that are considered economically distressed, visit <https://bit.ly/FY24OSLADecdist>.

“I encourage any community that is considering a park development or improvement project to apply for an OSLAD grant. Parks and green spaces are the heart of our neighborhoods and communities,” said IDNR Director Natalie Phelps Finnie. “Everyone belongs outdoors. An investment in the outdoors is an investment in the health and well-being of the people of Illinois.”

Established by the Illinois General Assembly in 1986, OSLAD is a cost-sharing program between state and local governments that has become one of the most popular grant programs in Illinois. Since it was established, OSLAD has awarded more than \$530 million for park projects throughout Illinois. The program is funded through a percentage of Illinois' Real Estate Transfer Tax.

The application period is now open, and applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. Aug. 31, 2023. Prior to applying for a grant, entities must be registered and current in the state's Grant Accountability and Transparency Act grantee portal at <https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>.

All applications will be accepted online in the Amplifund portal. To apply for an OSLAD grant, follow this link: <https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/6c94c5de-68c9-4dc0-a8b7-8149c04d8a6d>.

For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/IDNROSLAD> or call 217-782-7481. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

### ***FHWA Publishes e-Bike Information Updates***

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently published information on [electric bicycles](#) (e-bikes), including a [literature review](#), fact sheet, research, and a series of case studies. According to the website, “E-bikes present an opportunity to reduce car travel, improve health, and increase access for all, especially traditionally underserved populations; however, the relationship between e-bikes and safety, infrastructure, equity, and the environment is not fully understood and remains of interest to decision makers and potential riders. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is advancing research on e-bikes to better understand e-bike trends and impacts, and how jurisdictions around the country are managing them”. FHWA previously published [The Future of E-Bikes on Public Lands Research Study](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***Register Today for RTA'S August 8 Transit is the Answer Coalition Meeting***

On Tuesday, August 8, the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) is hosting a [Transit is the Answer Coalition](#) meeting to learn more about how to support the region's transit system. The virtual meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., followed by an optional 30-minute networking and Q&A session. All are welcome to join for an update on the RTA's planned 2023 activities and a discussion about how to best improve safety and security on transit. Please visit the [registration page](#) to RSVP and for more information. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***Help Spread the Word About Metra's Regional Connect Pass***

Metra has teamed up with the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and Pace Suburban Bus to save money and offer additional convenience and flexibility through the new [Regional Connect Pass](#). For just an additional \$30, Metra Monthly Pass holders can have unlimited monthly travel across Metra, CTA and Pace systems. With no time or day restrictions on usage, the Regional Connect Pass offers significant savings and flexibility to travel throughout the region.

Metra is requesting assistance from local governments to publicize the Regional Connect Pass. Metra has created [materials, including social media posts and newsletter content](#) to assist in getting the word out to residents and the region. The Regional Connect Pass is available at any Metra ticket agent or via the Ventra app. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***MWRD Accepting Green Infrastructure Partnership Program Pre-Applications***

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) is currently accepting pre-applications for projects through the Green Infrastructure Partnership Program. This year, pre-applications are mandatory and must be on file. The deadline for submitting pre-applications is December 31. Qualified applicants will be notified to proceed with their application in early 2024. Please visit [mwrdd.org/gi-app](http://mwrdd.org/gi-app) for more detailed information on eligible applicants, eligible projects and general partnership (IGA) requirements. For questions or additional information, please contact MWRD Principal Civil Engineer Holly Sauter, 312-286-6023 or [sauterh@mwrdd.org](mailto:sauterh@mwrdd.org). *Staff contact: Eric Czarnota*

### ***CMAP Seeks Community Hosts for ADA Transition Plan Training Programs***

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is looking for communities to host American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan training sessions. CMAP has had much success hosting events across the

region to educate staff and leadership on how to create and implement an ADA Transition Plan.

Municipalities can benefit from getting an early start in education and implementation while ensuring all community mobility. Although current transportation funding methodologies do not require an ADA Transition Plan, they will be required in future sessions. To offer meeting space (for up to 60 persons) or for more information, please contact staff or CMAP Principal Planner and Regional ADA Coordinator Jaemi Jackson, [jjackson@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:jjackson@cmap.illinois.gov). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

### ***Meetings and Events***

*NWMC Executive Board* will meet on Wednesday, September 6 at 8:30 a.m. via teleconference.

*NWMC Finance Committee* will meet on Wednesday, September 13 at noon via teleconference.

*NWMC Board of Directors* will meet on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. in Rooms 1606 & 1608 at Oakton College in Des Plaines.

### ***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>
Eric Czarnota	Program Associate for Transportation	<a href="mailto:eczarnota@nwmc-cog.org">eczarnota@nwmc-cog.org</a>
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>

Phone: 847-296-9200      [www.nwmc-cog.org](http://www.nwmc-cog.org)