



Memorandum

To: Mayor Biss and Members of the City Council
From: Luke Stowe, City Manager
Subject: Weekly City Manager's Update
Date: January 19, 2024

STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT

Weekly Report for January 15, 2024 – January 19, 2024

City Manager's Office
Weekly Bids Advertised

Community Development
Weekly Zoning Report
Weekly Inspection 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, January 22, 2024

4:30 PM: [Referrals Committee](#)

5:00 PM: [Administration & Public Works Committee](#)

6:00 PM: [City Council](#)

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

No Meetings Scheduled

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

6:00 PM: [Economic Development Committee](#)

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

Thursday, January 25, 2024

No Meetings Scheduled

Friday, January 26, 2024

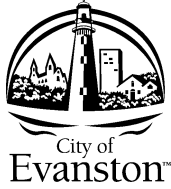
No Meetings Scheduled

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 January 15, 2024

Date: January 19, 2024

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 January 15, 2024

| Bid/RFP/RFQ Number/Name | Requesting Dept. | Description of Project | Budgeted Amount | Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date | Anticipated Council/ Library Board Date |
|--|--------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------------|---|
| Mechanical Dredging at the Church Street Boat Ramp | Parks & Recreation | Work on this project includes the removal of sand at the Church Power Boat Ramp (The Ramp). The Ramp is located along Evanston's lakefront just east of Church Street and serves approved season permit holders of trailer launched power boats up to 22 feet in length, sailboats between 15 and 22 feet in length and personal watercraft (jet skis). Bid must include all applicable environmental water testing as required by IDNR, IEPA, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. | \$75,000 | 2/20 | 3/11 |
| *2024 CIPP Sewer Rehabilitation | Public Works | Work on this project includes rehabilitation of approximately 11,561 feet of combined sewer main, 6-inch to 21-inch in diameter, using the | \$775,000 | 2/13 | 3/11 |

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--|-----------|------|------|
| | | cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) lining method of rehabilitation. | | | |
| Central St./ Central Park Ave. Traffic Signal Project | Public Works | Work on this project includes removal of existing traffic signal equipment, installation of new traffic signals, pedestrian signal heads with countdown timers, emergency vehicle preemption, accessible pedestrian signals, curb ramp replacement, detectable warnings, curb and gutter, and pavement markings along with pavement patching, and all other incidental and collateral work necessary to complete the project as shown on the plans and described herein. Temporary traffic signals will be installed to maintain traffic signal operation throughout the construction until the new signals are activated. | \$350,000 | 2/20 | 4/22 |

*This project is not advertised. Only going to pre-qualified contractors from RFQ #22-61.



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Elizabeth Williams, Planning & Zoning Manager
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report
Date: January 19, 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 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Cases Received and Pending, January 11, 2024 - January 17, 2024

Backlog (business days received until reviewed): 12

Volume (number of cases pending staff review): 5

Zoning Reviews

| Ward | Property Address | Zoning | Type | Project Description | Received | Status |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| 1 | 733 Colfax Street | R1 | Building Permit | Patio | 08/29/23 | pending additional information/revisions from the applicant |
| 1 | 2121 Orrington Avenue | R1 | Building Permit | Enlarge lower deck and repair upper deck | 12/08/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 2 | 653 Dodge Avenue | R2 | Building Permit | Patio | 06/13/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 2 | 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 | 1553 Dewey Avenue | R3 | Building Permit | Remove concrete patio, walks, and pad, install paver patio and walk | 09/19/23 | pending additional information/revisions from the applicant |
| 2 | 1829 Dempster Street | C2 | Zoning Analysis | Modify existing drive-thru to add a 2nd lane, minor site repairs (Burger King) | 09/27/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 2 | 1500 Crain Street | R3 | Zoning Analysis | Convert detached garage to an ADU | 12/06/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 2 | 1503 Fowler Avenue | R2 | Building Permit | 2nd story addition | 01/12/24 | pending staff review |
| 3 | 1245 Chicago Avenue | B1 | Building Permit | Addition to existing commercial building (Space) | 11/20/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 3 | 130 Main Street | R5 | Building Permit | Interior remodel of 6 dwelling units and basement | 11/30/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 3 | 504 South Boulevard | R5 | Building Permit | New 5-story 62' tall multi-family building with 60 dwelling units (Lot 1) | 12/29/23 | pending staff review |
| 4 | 1552 Wesley Avenue | R1 | Zoning Analysis | Driveway | 06/22/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 4 | 1118 Elmwood Avenue | R3 | Building Permit | Awning | 07/31/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 4 | 1113 Sherman Avenue | R3 | Building Permit | Accessory structure for storage | 08/02/23 | pending additional information and revisions from the applicant |
| 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 | 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 | 801 Simpson Street | R5 | Zoning Analysis | Make remodeled garden level dwelling unit legal | 09/19/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 5 | 2011 Darrow Avenue | R4 | Zoning Analysis | Remodel existing 3-dwelling unit building and add an ADU to garage | 10/05/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|--|----------|--|
| 5 | 2125 Darrow Avenue | R4 | Building Permit | 2-car garage | 12/04/23 | 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 | 2421 Crawford Avenue | R2 | Building Permit | Remove existing asphalt and concrete, replace with permeable patio and sidewalk | 08/23/23 | non-compliant, pending revisions or major variation application from applicant |
| 6 | 2300 Park Place | R1 | Building Permit | 2nd story addition to a garage for an ADU | 11/01/23 | pending revisions from the applicant |
| 6 | 3233 Central Street | R4/oCSC | Zoning Analysis | New 9 townhomes with detached garages | 12/05/23 | pending revisions and additional information from the applicant |
| 6 | 2820 Thayer Street | R1 | Building Permit | Detached garage | 01/05/24 | non-compliant, pending revisions and/or minor variation application from the applicant |
| 6 | 2400 Hartzell Street | R1 | Building Permit | Detached garage | 01/05/24 | non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant |
| 6 | 2137 Crawford Avenue | R2 | Building Permit | Detached garage. | 01/10/24 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 6 | 2620 Central Street | R5/oCS | Zoning Analysis | Convert existing non-compliant and unoccupied ground floor apartment to an ADU | 01/11/24 | 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 | 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 | 1126 Grant Street | R1 | Building Permit | Paver walk and landing | 08/22/23 | pending additional information/revisions from the applicant |
| 7 | 1017 Colfax Street | R1 | Building Permit | 2-story addition | 10/04/23 | revisions submitted by the applicant, pending staff review |
| 7 | 824 Ridge Terrace | R1 | Building Permit | In-ground swimming pool | 12/18/23 | pending review of zoning analysis application covering multiple permit submittals |
| 7 | 2744 Asbury Avenue | R1 | Building Permit | Addition and interior remodel | 12/29/23 | non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant |
| 7 | 824 Ridge Terrace | R1 | Zoning Analysis | Addition and in-ground pool | 01/05/24 | revisions submitted by the applicant, pending staff review |
| 7 | 824 Ridge Terrace | R1 | Building Permit | Addition | 01/08/24 | pending review of zoning analysis application covering multiple permit submittals |
| 7 | 1501 Central Street | U2 | Building Permit | Foundation only for new football stadium (Ryan Field, NU) | 01/08/24 | pending staff review |
| 7 | 1124 Noyes Street | R1 | Zoning Analysis | Maintain existing single-family dwelling as an ADU, construct a new single-family dwelling | 01/16/24 | pending staff review |
| 8 | 141 Dodge Avenue | R4 | Building Permit | Detached garage | 11/17/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 9 | 709 Asbury Avenue | R2 | Building Permit | Detached garage | 08/29/23 | non-compliant, pending additional information and minor variation submittal by 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 |
|------|--|---------|------------------------------------|---|----------|---|
| 1 | 1630 Orrington Avenue | D3 | Special Use | Special Use for a Resale Establishment | 11/28/23 | 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 additional information from the applicant |
| 2 | 1840 Oak Avenue | RP | Fence Variation | Install a fence on vacant property, establishing an accessory use/structure prior to approval of a principal use/structure (NU) | 12/21/23 | pending additional information from the applicant |
| 4 | 1590 Elmwood Avenue/910 Davis Street | D3 | Special Use | Special Use for a Unique Use in order to convert existing ground floor commercial space to 2 residential dwellings | 01/17/24 | pending LUC 02/28/24 |
| 6 | 3434 Central Street | R2 | Planned Development | New 2-story, 19,952 sf building for a Daycare center - Child (Kensington School) | 02/10/22 | pending P&D |
| 6 | 2649 Crawford Avenue | R2 | Appeal | Appeal of Zoning Administrator's determination denying a minor variation application for a proposed detached garage located within a front yard | 11/28/23 | pending LUC 01/24/24 |
| 6 | 2604 Isabella Street | R1 | Minor variation | Interior side yard setbacks to 2nd story addition over existing 1st story | 12/27/23 | Determination after 01/26/24 |
| 7 | 1915-1917 Grant Street | R3 | Special Use & Text Amendment | Special Use for 10 micro homes and 3 micro homes above parking structure | 06/28/23 | pending P&D |
| 9 | 518-520 Barton Street/1210 South Boulevard | R2 | Major Variation | Zero off-street parking where 3 are required for 2 townhomes for the sale of property and construction of a detached garage to/for 1210 South Blvd | 01/16/24 | pending LUC 02/28/24 |



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager
From: David Wilson, HVAC Building Inspector
Subject: Weekly Field Inspection Report
Date: January, 19 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 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Weekly Field Inspection Report

Friday, January 19, 2024

| Ward | Property Address | Construction Type | Inspector Notes | Received |
|------|--|--|--|-----------|
| 2 | 1101 Church Street | Multi-Family Building | Final inspections of building A have begun. Interior construction continues on building B. Sidewalk remains closed with proper signage in place. | 1/18/2024 |
| 4 | 1012 Church Street Northlight Theater | Assembly | No changes. Site and Northlight signage are in good condition. No construction fence at this time. | 1/18/2024 |
| * | * | * | * | * |
| 4 | 718 Main Street | Mixed Use Building Residential/Retail | Final inspections of ground floor have begun. Alleyway is clear of debris and materials. | 1/18/2024 |
| 2 | 1840 Oak Avenue | Demolition | No changes. Proper cleanup continues with proper signage and traffic control in place. Construction fence is in good condition. | 1/18/2024 |
| 1 | 710 Clark Street | Office Building | No changes. Construction fence remains in place and is in good condition. | 1/18/2024 |
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Memorandum

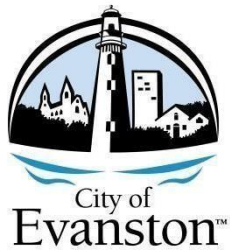
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

Subject: Food Establishment License Application Weekly Report

Date: January 19, 2024

| Ward | Property Address | Business Name | Date Received | Current Status |
|------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--|
| 3 | 503 Main St | Paragon | 12/27/2023 | Pending Inspections (Change of Ownership) |
| 4 | 618 ½ Church St | Ume Tea | 12/21/2023 | Pending Inspections |
| 3 | 827 Chicago Ave | Lefty's Righteous Bagels | 12/13/2023 | Pending Permit Issuance |
| 4 | 1608 Chicago Ave | Mensch's Deli | 11/29/2023 | Pending Permit Issuance |
| 1 | 726 Clark St | Ran Ran Boba Milk Tea | 11/28/2023 | Pending Inspections (formerly Kung Fu Tea) |
| 5 | 1601 Simpson St | Shanghai Kosher | 11/21/2023 | Pending Inspections |
| 1 | 1611 Sherman Ave | Cold Stone Creamery | 11/20/2023 | Pending Inspections – Change of Ownership |
| 4 | 810 Dempster St | Village Farmstand | 11/20/2023 | Pending Inspections – Change of Ownership |
| 7 | 2614 Green Bay Rd | Jilly's Cafe | 11/7/2023 | Pending Inspections – Change of Ownership |
| 4 | 1629 Orrington Ave | Dos Bros | 10/10/2023 | Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections |
| 1 | 704 Clark St | Etta Evanston | 10/5/2023 | Pending Permit Issuance |
| 1 | 1737 Sherman Ave | Taco Bell | 10/5/2023 | Pending Permit Issuance |
| 4 | 1557 Sherman Ave | Reza's Restaurant | 9/6/2023 | Pending Inspections – Change of Ownership |
| 1 | 521 Davis St | La Cocinita (Relocating) | 7/11/2023 | Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections |
| 2 | 921 Church St | Devil Dawgs | 4/28/2023 | Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections |
| 5 | 831 Foster St | Foster Food & Deli | 4/3/2023 | Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections |
| 8 | 100 Chicago Ave | West Town Bakery – Evanston | 3/27/2023 | Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections |
| 2 | 1808 Dempster St | Windy City Flavors | 8/22/2023 | Pending Inspections |
| 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: January 19, 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.

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

Liquor Licensing Weekly Report

Liquor Applications Received and Pending for week of January 19, 2024

| WARD | BUSINESS NAME | BUSINESS ADDRESS | LIQUOR CLASS | CLASS DESCRIPTION | PROCESSED HOURS for LIQUORSALES | STATUS |
|----------|---------------|---|--------------|-------------------|--|---|
| 2 | Devil Dawgs | 921 Church St. 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 will be voted on by City Council on 1.22.24 |
| 8 | Peckish Pig | 623 W Howard St, Evanston, IL 60202 | 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 will be voted on by City Council on 1.22.24 |



DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



WEEK ENDING JANUARY 19, 2024

Join the NWMC in Springfield for Legislative Days

Registration is now open for the Conference's annual Legislative Days in Springfield. This year, members will return to the capitol on Tuesday, February 20 through Thursday, February 22. This week coincides with the Governor JB Pritzker's Budget and State of the State Address, scheduled for Wednesday, February 21. The governor's unveiling of his administration's priorities presents an ideal opportunity for Conference members to engage with lawmakers to share municipal perspectives and other important issues.

Staff is working on scheduling meetings and events for the week which will begin on Tuesday afternoon with a briefing for attendees, followed by legislator meetings. That evening, the Conference will host an informal reception with legislators. Wednesday will focus on meetings with caucus leaders and key legislators combined with reaction to the Governor's budget address. Staff encourages members who wish to attend the State of the State Address to contact their legislators to secure tickets. For those not attending the address, staff will host a watch party and lunch at the offices of Anderson Legislative Consulting. For those staying through Thursday, staff will schedule additional meetings.

Please complete the [registration form](#) by Friday, February 9 and staff strongly encourages attendees to reserve [hotel accommodations](#) as soon as possible as it's expected to be a busy week in Springfield. We look forward to seeing you in the Capitol! *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury, Chris Staron*

ISCRA to Host Cyber Security Workshop for Local Governments

As a reminder, on Tuesday, February 13, the Illinois Smart City and Region Association (ISCRA) is hosting a "Cyber Security and Emerging Threats" workshop for municipal governments. From the event information, "The current global climate has exacerbated cybersecurity concerns, creating an urgent need for municipal administrations to fortify their defenses against evolving threats...municipalities must remain vigilant and proactive in safeguarding their digital assets and citizen data."

This free workshop will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Road in Rosemont. Speakers from the United States Secret Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency will give a non-technical presentation covering impacts to communities, elected officials and municipal staff. For more information and to register for this event, please visit the [workshop registration page](#). *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

Last Call to Apply for the MMC Homes for a Changing Region Program

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

We are proud to announce that a limited number of slots are available for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus 2024 Homes for a Changing Region Program!

The MMC Homes Program helps municipalities identify solutions to their most pressing housing challenges, creates a balanced mix of housing types, and serves the needs of multiple generations of residents and workers. The Homes Program is a partnership between the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and BRicK Partners and is supported by the Illinois Housing Development Authority.

Since 2005, the MMC Homes Program has helped over 60 municipalities, or one in five of our region's communities, understand and respond to changes in their local housing markets. The MMC Homes team will help you understand the current state of your market. We use data, regional expertise, and case studies from peer communities to identify solutions to your community's challenges, which may include:

- Community affordability amid sudden increases in local home prices;

- Ensuring maintenance and preservation of the existing housing stock;
- The need to support seniors aging-in-place and potentially isolated in their homes; and/or
- Increasing the supply of housing options, such as starter homes or the “missing middle.”

The MMC Homes Program will provide fast and highly targeted technical assistance through a housing needs assessment, discussions with local stakeholders, a panel of housing experts, and a final action plan. The MMC Homes Program also utilizes a community survey, which will help municipalities identify emerging housing issues and community needs at this time of market uncertainty. At the end of the process, the team will identify best practice actions and resources to fund implementation. Assistance is free! However, our slots for 2024 are very limited. So please fill out the application at this [link](#) by Friday, January 26th to be considered for this free assistance.

For more information, please contact Ben Schnelle at bschnelle@mayorscaucus.org. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

Apply Today for FEMA Technical Assistance Grants

As a reminder, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Direct Technical Assistance (DTA) program is still open for applications. The DTA program provides non-financial, technical support to communities seeking to begin climate resilience planning and project solution design. Intended for communities that lack capacity to do this work on their own, the program can help plan a large project that will be submitted to the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program for funding in a future year’s application period. The BRIC application will receive additional points during scoring for having a DTA award. To be considered this application cycle, please submit the form located on [FEMA’s website](#) before Thursday, February 29. *Staff contact: Eric Czarnota*

Cook County Announces Call for Invest in Cook and CDBG Applications – Workshops Upcoming

Cook County recently opened applications for the Department of Transportation and Highways (DOTH) [Invest in Cook](#) grant program, which aims to assist communities with transportation infrastructure improvements. These grants are available to local governments and agency partners to “prioritize transit and other transportation alternatives, support the region’s role as North America’s freight capital, promote equal access to opportunities, maintain and modernize existing infrastructure, and increase investments in transportation.” For more information and the application for Invest in Cook, please visit the program [website](#).

In addition, the Bureau of Economic Development (BED) is also accepting [Community Development Block Grant](#) (CDBG) applications to support economic development in the county through capital improvement, public service, and Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) programs. For more information and the project application, please click [here](#).

The Cook County DOTH and BED will host a virtual workshop on Wednesday, January 31, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to provide more details about these programs and information on how to apply. Attendees can register for this event [here](#). The schedule is as follows:

- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Invest in Cook
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | CDBG – Capital Improvements
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | CDBG – Public Service & Emergency Solution Grant

The application deadline for all grant opportunities is Friday, March 22, at 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions or are interested in finding out if Invest in Cook is a good fit for a potential project or need help applying, please email InvestinCook.CC@cookcountyil.gov with any questions on the Invest in Cook program. For questions about the Community Development Block Grant program, please contact info.edev@cookcountyil.gov. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

MWRD Announces Upcoming Program Application Deadlines

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) recently announced approaching application deadlines for the Voluntary Flood-Prone Property Acquisition and Stormwater Partnership programs.

The [Voluntary Flood-Prone Property Acquisition Program](#) helps local municipalities acquire homes located within the floodplain that sustain repetitive damage from multiple flood events from willing sellers and restore it to open

space that can better manage stormwater. More information can be found on the program [website](#). Please note that applications are due by Sunday, January 28.

The [Stormwater Partnership Program](#) provides funding for shovel ready stormwater projects. The MWRD will partner with the community to fund the project, with the partner agency managing the design, construction and long-term maintenance of the project. Program pre-applications are due by Sunday, February 11. More information, including an informational webinar can be found on the program [website](#). *Staff contact: Eric Czarnota*

Newsy Items of the Week

WBEZ: [With a March 19 primary election looming, Illinois lawmakers return to Springfield](#)

Daily Herald: [Radical course: What two villages are doing to transform beleaguered mall properties](#)

Daily Herald: [How data centers became the newest growth industry in the suburbs](#)

WGN: [EV drivers struggle to keep batteries charged amid winter freeze](#)

Daily Herald: [Will western access to O'Hare be a 'wow' or a 'wah-wah'? Suburban leaders want more than a parking lot](#)

Chicago Sun-Times: [Metra allows bikes on all trains, makes COVID-era policy permanent](#)

Daily Herald: [Metra enacts conduct code for riders; Violators could face bans](#)

Meetings and Events

NWMC Transportation Committee will meet on Thursday, January 25 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC office and via videoconference.

NWMC Executive Board will meet on Wednesday, February 7 at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference.

NWMC Staff

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
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| Chris Staron | Policy Analyst | cstaron@nwmc-cog.org |

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