



# LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

Minutes of January 23, 2020 Transportation Committee Meeting  
Via Zoom Virtual Meeting

A recording of the meeting can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6aNr32D9dU>

## Meeting Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Robert Phillips	Director of Public Works/Engineering	Deerfield
Mayor Glen Ryback	Mayor	Wadsworth
Mayor Leon Rockingham	Mayor	North Chicago
Maria Lasday	Village Administrator	Bannockburn
Anne Marrin	Village Administrator	Fox Lake
David Kilbane	Village Administrator	Round Lake Beach
Mike May	Village Administrator	Volo
Clay Johnson	Village Administrator	Lindenhurst
Kealan Noonan	Director of Public Works	Fox Lake
Ed Wilmes	Director of Public Works	North Chicago
Heather Galan	Village Engineer	Gurnee
Adrian Marquez	Director of Public Works	Beach Park
Kevin Carrier	Director of Planning & Programming	Lake County
Erika Frable	Dir. of Public Works/Village Engineer	Hawthorn Woods
Bob Ells	City Engineer	Lake Forest
Fred Chung	Village Engineer	Libertyville
Alex Househ	Field Engineer	IDOT BLRS
Lauren Platt	Community Affairs	Tollway
Katie Herdus	Area Programmer	IDOT District 1
Katelyn Renteria	Community Affairs	Metra
Tim Dilsaver	Community Affairs	Pace
Linda Soto	Exec. Director/ Board Member	LCTA/ Pace
Russell Pietrowiak	Senior Analyst	CMAP
James Gross	Associate	CMAP
Mike Klemens	Council Liaison	Lake Council
Joe Surdam	Council Liaison	Lake Council
Audrey Wennick	Dir. Of Transportation	MPC
Jeremy Glover	Transportation Associate	MPC
Jon Vana		Consultant
Dan Brinkman		Consultant
Dan Strahan		Consultant
Geoff Perry		Consultant
Duane O'Laughlin		Consultant
Tyler Grau		Consultant
Chris Bouchard		Consultant
Lee Fell		Consultant
Mark Buwen		Consultant
Mark Kozlowski		Consultant
Joel Christell		Consultant



# LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

## **1. Call to Order**

Bob Phillips called the meeting to order at 9:05am. Bob Phillips did a roll call from the meeting registration; a report of attendees from the Zoom meeting is attached.

## **2. Approval of the Minutes**

With a first from Maria Lasday and a second from Heather Galan, on a voice vote the minutes of the January 23, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

## **3. Agency Reports**

- a. **IDOT Bureau of Programming-** Katie Herdus gave the IDOT Bureau of Programming report. Ms. Herdus informed the committee that IDOT is currently working from home, and that the easiest way to get in touch with her is via e-mail. Ms. Herdus gave updates on the current status of projects in Lake County. Ms. Herdus informed the committee that IDOT is working on the new Multi-Year Program, but it does not yet have a publication date.
- b. **IDOT Bureau of Local Roads and Streets-** Alex Househ informed the committee of the changes related to the Local Roads project status sheets, a copy of the current Local Roads status sheets was included in the meeting packet as attachment 2.
- c. **Illinois Tollway-** Lauren Platt from the Tollway provided the update to the committee. Ms. Platt informed the committee that the tollway is currently using only electronic toll collection, and that service centers are currently closed. The tollway has suspended late fees for missed tolls and drivers without an I-Pass can pay online. Ms. Platt also updated the committee on several projects in the Lake County area.
- d. **CMAP-** Russell Pietrowiak gave the CMAP report. Mr. Pietrowiak informed the committee that CMAP staff is working remotely and they are able to keep all functions operating remotely. Mr. Pietrowiak gave the committee an update on the status of STP funding in FFY2020. CMAP is having meeting remotely, however if there aren't action items, they are cancelling meeting. CMAP also has two public comment periods open for plan amendments for the ON TO 2050 plan.
- e. **RTA-** There was no RTA report.
- f. **Metra** – Katelyn Renteria from Metra gave the report for Metra. Metra has seen a large decrease in ridership. Metra has refunded fees for monthly tickets that were unused. Metra has reduced service on all lines, and updated schedules are on Metra's website. Metra has seen ridership fall about 97%. The CARES Act funding that Metra received may help cover 2020 losses, but they are predicting additional losses in 2021. Metra is able to advance some construction projects due to reduced train schedules.
- g. **Pace** – Tim Dilsaver of Pace informed the committee that Pace ridership is down 68%. Busses are disinfected daily. As of April 9<sup>th</sup>, all passengers will ride fare free until the Governors stay at home order is lifted. All passengers board and alight through the rear door. ADA trips are scheduled for only 1 passenger until the stay at home order is lifted.



# LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

#### **4. Functional Classification Request- Lake Forest Westleigh Rd**

The Council received a request to reclassify Westleigh Road in City of Lake Forest from US 41 on the East to Waukegan Rd on the West. The request is to change the functional classification from a Local Road to a Minor Collector. This section of Westleigh Rd is just under 1 mile of roadway, the Average Daily Traffic is approx. 2150 vehicles. Westleigh Road is a collector route for four residential subdivisions between US 41 and Waukegan Road. Lake Forest High Schools West Campus and Athletic Fields are located on Westleigh Road at Waukegan Road. West Skokie Nature Preserve is located on Westleigh Road just west of Wallace Road. The request meets the recommended spacing and traffic volume recommendations from FHWA and IDOT and so staff would recommend approving the City's request. A motion was made by Ed Wilmes and seconded by Mayor Ryback. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **5. Lake Council STP Program**

Mr. Klemens gave the committee an update on the status of FFY2020 STP funding. The region ended up having about \$13.4 million available for the April letting, by the time CMAP had calculated how much funding was available for the April letting, the IDOT deadlines to make submittals for the April letting had passed, so all the projects had to target the June letting. The Planning Liaisons were opposed to considering projects that had been targeting June from getting the funding, it should only go to the projects that were targeting April. Even though at the time of these discussions we had already told LCCOM communities and IDOT that their project would have to be moved to January of 2021, council staff advocated for our projects to be in consideration since the only reason we moved your projects was because there wasn't funding, not because they were ready to make a letting.

There was a lot of discussion about how to pick which projects should get funded with the small amount of funds that remained in the region. CMAP discussed 3 options for picking projects. The first was to fund the most expensive projects first with the logic that they are the most complex and regional projects. The second option was to fund the least expensive projects first with the logic being that the region could fund the most projects. The third option was the give priority to councils who have spent the least amount of funds during the last 2.5-year transition period. In all three scenarios the projects that LCCOM has on the April letting in Long Grove and Fox Lake did not get funded, the region ran out of funds before they got funding. The region had the most agreement on option 3, Councils that had spent the least amount of funding would be first in line for the funding. After meeting with CMAP, it was clear that although the region ended up having a small amount of funding available for projects that had been in the April letting we were not going to be able to get any to fund either Fox Lake's project or Long Grove's project this fiscal year.

IDOT also sent out a circular letter that gave the region more money for FY2021. There was a lot of debate if the additional \$4 million in "new" money should be spent on projects in June, projects that had been targeting April, or if it should be distributed to all the council's in FY2021. Council staff asked CMAP if the region spent it all on the June letting would all of the projects that had been targeting April would be able to be funded, and the answer was no, there still wouldn't be enough funding. Staff was also told that even if that additional \$4 million was spent in June our projects, Nippersink and Long Grove's still would not be funded. Since it was clear to staff that we weren't going to be able to access any of that "new" money this year, staff advocated that it be distributed for all the Council's next year, at least that way LCCOM would get some of it. It ended up that the "new" money will be distributed next year and so the Lake Council will see an additional \$1.2 million next fiscal year. This is in addition to the programming amounts the Council had previously been given. It increases the Councils funding from \$8.1 million to \$9.3 million.

#### **6. 2020 STP Call for Projects**



# LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS

Mr. Klemens discussed with the committee the status of applications that had been received to date. He also reminded the committee that due to the COVID pandemic the deadline to apply for STP had been pushed back to May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5pm. Mr. Klemens also gave a presentation about how the council staff will put together the FFY2021-2025 active and contingency programs. Mr. Klemens highlighted the funding and programming rules that the Council had adopted and how they will be used to fill out the program given the fiscal constraint the Council will have moving forward.

## **7. Metropolitan Planning Council Presentation**

Jeremy Glover from the Metropolitan Planning Council gave the committee a presentation on a new report that MPC has put together called Toward Universal Mobility. Mr. Glover gave the committee some background and a summary of the report and presented some of the key recommendations that municipalities could be involved in implementation.

## **8. Other Business**

Mr. Klemens informed the committee of several open funding opportunities that are available. The first DCEO Rebuild Illinois Program, they have three open grant opportunities. Of the three the public infrastructure grant program has an application deadline of June 15<sup>th</sup>. The other two programs are open calls. USDOT has a notice of funding opportunity for BUILD Grants, these used to be called TIGER Grants and can be used on a variety of project types. The final grant opportunity is the Highway Safety Improvement Program through IDOT, there is an open call for projects, and they have extended the deadline to June 12<sup>th</sup> for applications.

Mr. Klemens also discussed the potential for a federal stimulus bill for infrastructure in the wake of the COVID pandemic. If a stimulus were to happen the Council would likely need to respond quickly and so staff may be reaching out to communities for a list of shovel ready project in the coming weeks.

## **9. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **11. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for June 18, 2020 at 9am.

## **12. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made Kevin Carrier and seconded by Anne Marrin, the meeting adjourned at 10:28am.