



Memorandum

To: Mayor Biss and Members of the City Council
From: Luke Stowe, City Manager
Subject: Weekly City Manager's Update
Date: February 7, 2025

STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT

Weekly Report for February 3, 2025 – February 7, 2025

City Manager's Office

Weekly Bids Advertised

Community Development

Weekly Zoning Report

Weekly Field Inspection Report

Monthly CV/Permit Fee Report

Health Department

Weekly Food Establishment Application Report

Law Department

Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Clerk's Office

FOIA Report

Legislative Reading

NWMC Weekly Briefing

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

Monday, February 10, 2025

4:45 PM: [Referrals Committee](#)

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

5:15 PM: [City Council](#)

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

7:00 PM: [Preservation Committee](#)

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

6:00 PM: [Land Use Commission - CANCELED](#)

Thursday, February 13, 2025

6:30 PM: [Environment Board](#)

7:00 PM: [Social Services Committee](#)

Friday, February 14, 2025

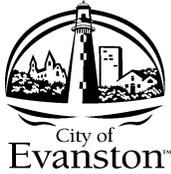
No Meetings

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 of February 3, 2025

Date: February 7, 2025

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

Bids/RFPs/RFQs sent during the Week of February 3, 2025

Bid/RFP/RFQ Name	Requesting Dept.	Description of Project	Budgeted Amount	Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date	Anticipated Council/ Library Board Date
Prioritized Water Main Lead Water Service Line Replacement	PWA	Work on this project includes the installation of ductile iron water main pipe ranging from 6-inch to 10-inch diameter in size, installation of combined and storm sewer 8-inch diameter, public, full, and private lead water service pipe replacements, public water service replacements (not lead) to accommodate the work, related appurtenances, concrete curb and sidewalk repairs, pavement patching, asphalt resurfacing, parkway restoration, private side restoration (full and private side lead water service pipe replacements), and all materials, labor, equipment, and incidental work. Bidders must be prequalified by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and present an IDOT issued "Certificate of Eligibility" with the bid proposal.	\$3,800,000	3/25	4/14



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Elizabeth Williams, Planning & Zoning Manager
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report
Date: February 7, 2025

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 30, 2025 - February 5, 2025

Backlog (business days received until reviewed): 0

Volume (number of cases pending initial staff review): 0

Zoning Reviews

Ward	Property Address	Zoning	Type	Project Description	Received	Status
1	144 Greenwood Street	R1	Building Permit	Install a modular ramp with handrails	04/29/24	pending additional information from the applicant
1	1404 Forest Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Interior renovation of existing coach house (ADU)	10/09/24	non-compliant, pending revision by the applicant
1	1710 Sherman Avenue	D2	Building Permit	Interior build-out of commercial tenant space, Tropical Smoothie Cafe	12/31/24	pending Administrative Review Use application submittal from applicant
1	605 Davis Street	D3	Zoning Analysis	Planned Development for a new 31-story 330' tall mixed-use building with ground floor retail and 447 dwelling units	12/26/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
2	2118 Lake Street	R2	Building Permit	Patio and retaining wall	05/01/24	pending additional information from the applicant
2	1812 Lake Street	R3	Building Permit	Garage	06/25/24	non-compliant, pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
2	1620 Darrow Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Addition	10/02/24	pending additional information and revision from the applicant
2	807 Asbury Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Deck, window and door replacement and installation	01/15/25	pending additional information from the applicant
3	1300 Chicago Avenue (1300-1306 Chicago Avenue), 601-615 Dempster Street, 1307 Sherman Place	B1/oDM	Zoning Analysis	Planned Development for a new 7-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail, enclosed parking on ground floor, 65 dwelling units, and modification of the existing 2-story retail building with 2 dwelling units above	06/24/24	non-compliant, pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
3	1115 Hinman Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Walk between residence and garage	10/30/24	pending additional information from the applicant
3	149 Burnham Place	R1	Building Permit	Reconfigure deck	11/19/24	pending additional information from the applicant
4	990 Grove Street	D1	Zoning Analysis	Convert office space to work/live units on 1st floor and dwellings on floors 2-5	09/13/24	pending additional information from the applicant
4	1009 Wesley Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Carport	10/11/24	pending revisions 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	2209 Emerson Street	R3	Building Permit	Deck	03/25/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	2027 Brown Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Concrete parking pad behind garage	05/09/24	non-compliant, pending revisions and/or variation application from the applicant
5	2112 Asbury Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Remove deck, replace with paver patio	05/16/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1420 Leonard Place	R3	Zoning Analysis	New efficiency home	07/23/24	pending revisions and additional information from the applicant

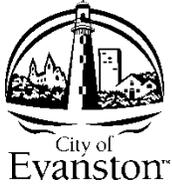
5	2311 Emerson Street	R3	Building Permit	3-season room addition and rear porch	08/09/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	2115 Wesley Avenue	R3	Building Permit	Replace front porch deck, steps, and rails	09/16/24	pending additional information from the applicant
5	1836 Lemar Avenue	R2	Building Permit	Deck	10/01/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
5	830 Hamlin Street	R4a	Building Permit	Paver patio	10/09/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
5	2206 Maple Avenue	R4a	Zoning Analysis	Redevelopment existing surface parking lot for a new 5-story building with 30 dwellings and 29 parking spaces	10/11/24	non-compliant, pending revisions from the applicant
5	1655 Foster Street	OS	Building Permit	Antennas and related equipment	11/12/24	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2703 Hartzell Street	R1	Building Permit	Carport and concrete slab	05/01/24	pending additional information/revisions from the applicant
6	2306 Central Park Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Front portico, deck, and replace exterior stairs	09/20/24	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2429 Cowper Avenue	R1	Building Permit	Paver patio	10/28/24	non-compliant, pending revision from the applicant
6	3238 Harrison Street	R1	Building Permit	Portico	11/08/24	pending additional information from the applicant
6	3111 Thayer Street	R1	Building Permit	Garage	01/21/25	pending additional information from the applicant
6	2418 Noyes Street	R1	Building Permit	3-season porch addition and new garage	01/27/25	pending additional information and revision from the applicant
6	2230 Lincolnwood Drive	R1	Building Permit	Demolish existing detached garage, construct new detached garage	01/27/25	pending additional information and revision from the applicant
7	1806 Chancellor Street	R1	Building Permit	Remove patio, re-install patio, stepping stones, grill pad, and patio maintenance	06/20/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	625 Clinton Place	R1	Building Permit	Remove and replace brick paver parking pad	07/01/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	1501 Central Street	U2	Building Permit	Parking lots, plaza, and landscaping for Ryan Stadium (NU)	07/08/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2000 Grant Street	R1	Building Permit	Replace front steps and portion of walk	11/04/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	1501 Central Street	U2	Zoning Analysis	Demolish softball field bleachers and press box, construct new bleachers, pressbox, lighting, speakers, and associated improvements (NU - Sharon J. Drysdale Field)	12/26/24	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2149 Pioneer Road	R1	Building Permit	Mudroom replacement and exterior remodel	01/06/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2010 Hawthorne Lane	R1	Building Permit	Pave driveway	01/09/25	pending additional information from the applicant
7	2518 Green Bay Road	B1a/oCS	Building Permit	Interior alteration of existing commercial space for an animal rehab and training establishment	02/04/25	pending additional information from the applicant

8	1901 Howard Street	C1	Building Permit	Interior tenant improvement, expansion of A Step By Step Learning Academy, daycare center	11/06/24	pending special use application submittal by applicant
8	1003 Dobson Street	R2	Zoning Analysis	Garage	11/15/24	additional information needed from the applicant
9	2131 Keeney Street	R2	Building Permit	Driveway and walk	06/25/24	pending additional information from the applicant
9	611 Wesley Avenue	R3	Zoning Analysis	ADU	09/03/24	pending additional information from the applicant
9	1621 Monroe Street	R3	Building Permit	Interior remodel, basement kitchen	01/13/25	pending additional information from the applicant
9	1210 South Boulevard	R2	Building Permit	Sunroom addition	01/23/25	revisions submitted, pending staff review

Pending building permit and zoning analysis reviews older than 6 months where there has not been activity are periodically removed from the zoning report.

Miscellaneous Zoning Cases

Ward	Property Address	Zoning	Type	Project Description	Received	Status
2	900 Clark Street	RP	Planned Development	New 27-story mixed-use building with ground floor retail and 383 dwelling units	01/28/25	pending staff review
5	2206 Maple Avenue	R4a	Major Variation	Major Variation for 30 dwelling units where 19 are permitted, 31 parking spaces where 49 are required, one short loading berth 25' in depth where 35' is required and covering 72% of the rear yard area where 40% is permitted in order to construct a new 5-story multi-family building	02/01/25	pending LUC
7	2515 Sherman Avenue	R1	Minor Variation	Building lot coverage and north interior side and east rear yard setbacks for proposed addition	01/19/25	pending additional information/revisions from the applicant



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager
From: David Wilson, HVAC Building Inspector
Subject: Weekly Field Inspection Report
Date: February, 7 2025

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

Friday, February 7, 2025

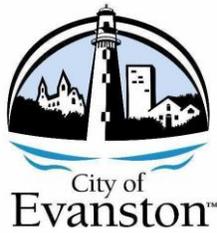
Ward	Property Address	Construction Type	Inspector Notes	Received
4	909 Davis	Interior Remodel	A Temporary Certificate of Occupancy has been issued for the first floor. Final inspections continue on second and third floors.	2/6/2025
4	1012 Church Street Northlight Theater	Assembly	No changes. Building plans have been submitted and are currently in review. Site and Northlight signage are in good condition. No construction fence at this time.	2/6/2025
*	*	*	*	*
*	Truck Route	*	No changes. Truck route continues to be monitored for speed and debris.	2/6/2025
7	1501 Central Street	Demolition	A second crane has been added on-site. Steel framing construction has begun. Street sweepers continue to address roadway dust and debris. All trucks continue to pass through truck washing station with manual washing of trucks and street. Construction fence is in place and in good condition.	2/6/2025
*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager
From: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor
Subject: Monthly Construction Valuation and Permit Fee Report
Date: February 7, 2025

Enclosed is the monthly construction valuation and permit fee report. The report compares current month and year-to-date totals with those from 2024.

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



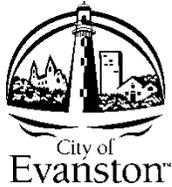
DATE: February 7, 2025
 TO: Luke Stowe, City Manager
 FROM: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor
 SUBJECT: Construction Valuation and Permit Fee Report January 2025

BUILDING PERMIT FEES

Total Permit Fees Collected for the Month of January 2025	\$3,071,548.21
Total Permit Fees Collected Fiscal Year 2025	\$3,071,548.21
Total Permit fees Collected for the Month of January 2024	\$286,872.08
Total Permit Fees Collected Fiscal Year 2024	\$286,872.08

CONSTRUCTION VALUES

Total Construction Value for January 2025	\$150,796,764
Total Construction Value Fiscal Year 2025	\$150,796,764
Total Construction Value for January 2024	\$ 14,242,366.00
Total Construction Value Fiscal Year 2024	\$ 14,242,366.00



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

Subject: Food Establishment License Application Weekly Report

Date: February 7, 2025

Ward	Property Address	Business Name	Date Received	Current Status
4	719 Main St	Button Bakery	1/30/2025	Pending Permit Issuance
1	720 Clark St	Te' Amo	1/22/2025	Pending Building Permit
8	751 Howard St	Sabrosura Coffee Bar	1/09/2025	Pending Review & Inspections
1	1710 Sherman Ave	Tropical Smoothie Café	1/02/2025	Pending Permit Issuance
2	2223 Washington St	Chicky's Kitchen Creations (in the Aux)	1/02/2025	Pending Building Permit Revisions
4	1549 Sherman Ave	Mr. Cachito	12/26/2024	Pending Building Permit
4	804 Davis St	Paris Baguette	10/30/2024	Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
4	1633 Orrington Ave	Mira Sushi Restaurant & Bar	9/11/2024	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
2	1741 Maple Ave	Cozy Thai Cuisine (Relocating)	9/10/2024	Building Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
8	1717 Howard St	Showkey African Cuisine	8/26/2024	Pending Permit Application
8	565 Howard St	T & E Productions	8/22/2024	Pending Permit Issuance
1	1710 Sherman Ave	Guzman y Gomez	8/16/2024	Permit Issued – Pending Inspections
3	1310 ½ Chicago Ave	Peeled Juice Bar	5/9/2024	Pending Permit Issuance
2	2223 Washington St	The Laundry Café (in The Aux)	4/23/2024	Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections
7	1995 Campus Dr	NU Center East Lawn Redevelopment	4/5/2024	Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections
5	1623 Simpson St	Free Flow Kitchen	3/21/2024	Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections
1	1618 Sherman Ave	Life Time (Smoothie Bar)	3/19/2024	Building Permit Issued-Pending Inspections
1	1743 Sherman Ave	Olive Mediterranean Grill	12/10/2021	Pending License Fire Approval



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Brian George, Assistant City Attorney

Subject: Weekly Liquor License Application Report

Date: February 7, 2025

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.

Liquor Licensing Weekly Report

Liquor Applications Received and Pending for week of February 7, 2025

WARD	BUSINESS NAME	BUSINESS ADDRESS	LIQUOR CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	PROCESSED HOURS for LIQUOR SALES	STATUS
1	Guzman Y Gomez	1701 N. Sherman Ave. Evanston, IL 60201	D	Restaurant	7 a.m. — 1 a.m. (Mon-Thurs); 7 a.m. — 2 a.m. (Fri- Sat); 7 a.m. — 1 a.m. (Sun)	Application will be voted on at the Liquor Review Board on 2.7.25
7	Sharon J. Drysdale Field at Northwestern	1501 N. Central St. Evanston IL 60201	R1	Entertainment venue	Alcohol may be served only on days on which there is a sporting event, recreational activity, or other entertainment event which occurs in the qualifying facility.	Application will be voted on at the Liquor Review Board on 2.7.25
7	Rocky and Berenice Miller Park at Northwestern University	2750 N. Ashland Ave. Evanston, IL 60201	R1	Entertainment venue	Alcohol may be served only on days on which there is a sporting event, recreational activity, or other entertainment event which occurs in the qualifying facility.	Application will be voted on at the Liquor Review Board on 2.7.25



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Sabrina Tamura, Deputy City Clerk

Subject: Monthly FOIA Report - January 2025

Date: February 6, 2025

Enclosed is the monthly report of FOIA requests. During the month of December the City of Evanston received **357** requests.

If you need to submit a FOIA request, please email foia@cityofevanston.org or submit the form [online](#).

City of Evanston Performance Report

January 1, 2025 - January 31, 2025 All departments

General Overview: Requests received, opened, and closed in this period.

357 request(s) received Total number of new requests received during this reporting period.	17765 total request(s) Total number of requests in the portal at the beginning of the reporting period.	321 request(s) closed Total number of requests closed during this reporting period.
189 request(s) open Total number of open requests by the end of this reporting period.	103 request(s) overdue Total number of requests that became overdue in this reporting period.	17 request(s) paused Total number of requests that were paused by the end of this reporting period.

Response and Fulfillment: How fast your agency responds to and fulfills requests

137 late response(s) Total number of requests where an initial response was sent after the response window expired.	5 day(s) to respond Median response time in days in this reporting period.	5 day(s) to respond Average response time in days in this reporting period.
127 fulfilled outside 5 days Number of requests closed beyond 5 days of request submission during this reporting period.	70 fulfilled within 5 days Total number of requests closed within 5 days of request submission during this reporting period.	10 day(s) to fulfillment Median number of days taken to fulfill all requests in this reporting period.

17 day(s) to fulfillment

Average number of days taken to fulfill all requests in this reporting period.

Staff Time: How much time staff has spent working on requests

0.0 hour(s) spent

Total number of hours staff spent on requests in this reporting period.

0 median hour(s) spent

Median number of hours staff spent on each request.

0 average hour(s) spent

Average number of hours staff spent on each request.

Staff Cost: How much money is spent fulfilling record requests

\$0.00 dollars spent

Total amount of money spent (from staff costs) fulfilling requests in this reporting period.

\$0 median dollars spent

Median amount of money spent (from staff costs) on each request.

\$0 average dollars spent

Average amount of money spent (from staff costs) on each request.

Cost Recovery: Payments received from requesters via NextRequest

0 total invoices

Total number of requests with invoices.

\$0.00 dollars received

Total amount of money received from all requests with invoices in this reporting period.

\$0 median dollars earned

Median amount of money received from each request with invoices in this reporting period.

\$0 average dollars earned

Average amount of money received from each request with invoices in this reporting period.

Requests by Department

This table breaks down how many requests were received and closed by each department, as well as median fulfillment speed for each department in this reporting period.

Department	New	Closed	Median	Aver.
3-1-1	2	1	6	6
Accounting	2	1	8	8
Administrative Adjudication (Hearings)	0	2	26	26
Administrative Services	0	0	0	0
Budget	0	0	0	0
Buildings and Permits	24	21	7	9
City Clerk's Office	115	72	10	14
City Manager's Office	1	1	6	6
Collector's Office	2	3	10	14
Community Development	12	14	10	11
DO NOT USE: Information Technology (IT)	3	2	17	17
Economic Development	1	2	14	14
Email	21	20	26	25
Evanston Police Department Media	1	0	0	0
Facilities & Fleet Management	0	3	4	6
Finance	6	7	13	15

Fire	25	18	7	7
Health & Human Services	1	2	29	29
Housing and Grants	1	1	3	3
Human Resources (HR)	10	12	14	14
Legal	12	12	28	24
Library	0	0	0	0
OPS	24	39	27	30
Parking/Fleet	0	0	0	0
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS)	2	4	12	15
Police	192	199	7	12
Property Standards	14	15	9	13
Public Works	7	6	26	23
Purchasing	10	8	7	8
Sustainability	0	1	13	13
Trees Only (PWA)	0	0	0	0
Video Requests (Not Police Video Request)	5	9	20	26
Water	6	6	10	11
Zoning and Planning	9	10	7	9
Not Assigned	0	0	0	0

Message Templates Report

This table includes all message templates used within this reporting period

Message Template	Time
5 Day Extension Request - Mark an "X" by the option that is applicable	75
ADDITIONAL RESPONSE TIME NEEDED	20
ADDITIONAL RESPONSE TIME NEEDED - BODY CAMERA FOOTAGE	12
ATTORNEY-LETTER OF REPRESENTATION REQUIRED	2
ATTORNEYS/INSURANCE /RECORD COPY SERVICE - RECORD FEES	13
Commercial Requester	1
Fulfilled - No Redactions [Use template if explanation of docs produced is necessary]	5
Fulfilled - Private Information Redacted	2
HIPAA Authorization REQUIRED	2
Notice to Narrow Request - fill in estimated pages and staff time	5
Proof of Identify Required - Documentation Request	2
Proof of Ownership - Housing Documentation Request	3
Property Liens	6
Real Estate Transfer Tax	4
Recurrent Requester	1
REPORT INVOICE: PAYMENT DUE	8

Closure Response Report

This table includes all closure responses and totals used in this reporting period.

Closure Response	Times Used
Denial of Request	10
Denial of Request: 14 Day Unresponsive	22
Denial of Request: Duplicate Request	12
Denial of Request: Pending Law Enforcement Investigation	1
Denied - Juvenile Records (Police)	3
Denied: Partial	4
Fulfilled - Attorney-client privilege communication withheld	1
Fulfilled - Body Camera Footage Redacted	12
Fulfilled - No Redactions	144
Fulfilled - Private Information Redacted	81
No Responsive Documents	40

Tag Report

This table includes the tags applied to requests opened in this reporting period.

Tag Name	Times Used
----------	------------

Key Assumptions

Requests Overdue

For requests that were closed prior to October 28, 2018 requests are counted as overdue only if they were overdue at the time the request was closed.

Late Responses

A late response indicates that there were no documents released; no message or invoice sent to the requester; or that the request remained open past its due date.

Response and Fulfillment Speed

Response time is tracked using the first external message sent through the NextRequest portal. This metric assumes that the message sent includes either a "request for clarification" or a time estimate.

Fulfillment time is calculated based on the time from when the request was created to the first date the request was closed (if there are multiple closed dates, only the first one is used).

Median days to close and average days to close are calculated based on the number of requests that have a closed date within the reporting period.

Staff Time

Staff time only accounts for time logged in NextRequest. This metric assumes that staff members regularly log all staff time in the portal and that the hourly rates are accurate and up-to-date.

Staff Cost

Staff cost only accounts for costs logged in NextRequest. This metric assumes that staff members regularly log costs in the portal.

Message Templates Report

The message templates report tracks message template usage from February 25, 2018 onwards.



DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 7, 2025

Executive Board Sets February Membership Meeting Agenda

The NWMC Executive Board met Wednesday to finalize the agenda for the February Board meeting. The NWMC Board will meet on Wednesday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m. via hybrid format – at the NWMC office or via videoconference.

Highlighting the agenda will be an update on the FY 2024-2025 NWMC Work Plan along with consideration of three items: a shared public relations proposal, a resolution in support of Pace's ReVision Plan and a new agreement for surplus vehicle and equipment auction services. Staff will also provide a report on activity during spring legislative session, a preview of the upcoming Legislative Days in Springfield (see article below) and an update on the 2025 Legislative Program rollout. We look forward to seeing you all next Wednesday! *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury*

Today is the Last Day to Reserve Your Spot for NWMC Legislative Days

TODAY is the deadline to RSVP for the Conference's annual Legislative Days in Springfield. This year, members will return to the capitol on Tuesday, February 18 through Thursday, February 20. This week coincides with the Governor JB Pritzker's Budget and State of the State Address, scheduled for Wednesday, February 19. 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 critical issues.

Staff is working to schedule meetings and events for the week which will begin on Tuesday mid-afternoon with a briefing for attendees at the offices of Anderson Legislative Consulting (ALC), followed by legislator meetings and committee hearings. That evening, the Conference will host a reception with members and legislators at Loukinens' on 4th. 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 address to contact their legislators to secure tickets. Staff will host a watch party and lunch at the ALC offices for those not attending the address. Additional meetings will be scheduled for Thursday morning.

Once the details of the schedule are finalized, we will provide updated information to the membership. In the interim, please complete the [registration form](#) by the close of business TODAY and staff strongly encourages attendees to reserve [hotel accommodations](#) as soon as possible as it's expected to be a busy week. We look forward to seeing you in Springfield! *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury, Chris Staron*

Join the Regional ADA Coordinators Group Next Week

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) invites all local government ADA coordinators to attend the next meeting of the Regional ADA Coordinators Group on Wednesday, February 11 at 9:30 a.m. CMAP will lead a discussion on ensuring compliance while advocating for people with disabilities, while providing real-life examples of common municipal ADA issues. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format via Zoom or at CMAP's offices. Click [here](#) to learn more and register to attend. *Staff Contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

IDOT Issues Comments on Potential Federal Funding Impacts

In response to concerns about the recent federal funding freeze, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) issued a circular letter which can be read [here](#). If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact NWMC Program Associates for Transportation Eric Czarnota, eczarnota@nwmc-cog.org or Brian Larson, blarson@nwmc-cog.org. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Application Deadline Fast Approaching for USDOT PROTECT Grants

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has opened applications for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Discretionary Grant Program. This program will offer \$576 million in FFY 2024-2025 for planning and construction of surface transportation facilities to be resilient to natural hazards such as climate change, flooding and extreme weather events. Learn more about the PROTECT grant and how to apply by visiting the program [webpage](#). Applications are due by Monday, February 24. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Reminder: Apply Today for Invest in Cook Grants

As previously reported, the 2025 Invest in Cook grant program is now open for applications. Invest in Cook offers \$8.5 million to local governments and agencies with transportation or recreational trail authority in Cook County. This funding resource supports planning, engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction for municipal projects that follow [Connecting Cook County](#), the county's long-range transportation plan.

For more information, including a list of previously funded projects, please visit the [Invest in Cook website](#), or email InvestinCook.CC@cookcountyil.gov. Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 21. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

Recap of MWRD Programs to Help Prevent Flooding

As winter begins to transition into spring, flooding concerns are always present. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) offers the following programs to partner with Cook County municipalities, townships and governmental organizations to help protect residents and businesses from flooding:

[Stormwater Partnership Program](#) funds the construction of traditional engineering solutions to flooding such as detention basins, storm sewer improvements, and stream channel improvements.

[Green Infrastructure Partnership Program](#) funds the construction of green alleys, rain gardens, permeable paving, and other natural, permeable systems that manage rainwater where it falls.

[Conceptual Project Partnerships](#) are available to local government organizations requiring assistance developing stormwater solutions, coordinating stormwater mitigation efforts and identifying state and federal grant opportunities.

[Voluntary Flood Prone Property Acquisition Program](#) provides funding to help municipalities acquire properties in the floodplain and give homeowners the opportunity for a fresh start.

Each program has specific eligibility criteria, application steps, and deadlines. Please see the [MWRD Stormwater Partnerships page](#) for more information.

Staff Contacts: Eric Czarnota

Newsy Items of the Week

Daily Herald: [Why the biggest changes to the suburban office market since the pandemic may arrive this year](#)

Daily Herald: [Hospitality/tourism growth boosting revenues for northwest suburbs](#)

Chicago Sun-Times: [Labor groups back transit reform giving RTA expanded authority](#)

Daily Herald: [Public EV charging stations being installed at Rolling Meadows city hall](#)

Suburban Chicago Bicycling: [Success despite bike/ped bridges' cost: Excitement in Streamwood](#)

Daily Herald: [Erosion prevention project nets environmental recognition for Lake Zurich](#)

Meetings and Events

NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 11 at 10:30 a.m. at the NWMC office and via videoconference.

NWMC Board of Directors will meet on Wednesday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the NWMC office and via videoconference.

NWMC Legislative Days will be held on Tuesday, February 18 through Thursday, February 20 in Springfield (please see article on page 1).

NWMC Health Directors Committee will meet on Monday, February 24 at 2:00 p.m. at the *Arlington Heights Village Hall*.

NWMC Legislative Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 26 at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference. **Please note date change.**

NWMC Local Government Communicators Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 26 at 11:00 a.m. at the *Buffalo Grove Public Works Training Room*, 1650 Leider Lane, and via videoconference.

NWMC Finance Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 26 at noon via videoconference. **Please note date change.**

NWMC Transportation Committee will meet on Thursday, February 27 at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference. **Please note date change.**

NWMC Staff

Mark Fowler	Executive Director	mfowler@nwmc-cog.org
Larry Bury	Deputy Director	lbury@nwmc-cog.org
Eric Czarnota	Program Associate for Transportation	eczarnota@nwmc-cog.org
Ellen Dayan, CPPB	Purchasing Director	edayan@nwmc-cog.org
Marina Durso	Executive Assistant	mdurso@nwmc-cog.org
Brian Larson	Program Associate for Transportation	blarson@nwmc-cog.org
Chris Staron	Policy Analyst	cstaron@nwmc-cog.org

Phone: 847-296-9200 www.nwmc-cog.org