



# Memorandum

To: Mayor Biss and Members of the City Council  
From: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
Subject: Weekly City Manager's Update  
Date: March 13, 2026

## **STAFF REPORTS BY DEPARTMENT**

Weekly Report for March 9, 2026 – March 13, 2026

### **City Manager's Office**

Weekly Federal Activity Update  
Weekly Bids Advertised

### **Community Development**

Weekly Zoning Report  
Weekly Field Inspection Report  
Monthly CV/Permit Fee Report

### **Health Department**

Weekly Health Department Report

### **Law Department**

Weekly Liquor License Application Report

### **Clerk's Office**

No Report

### **Legislative Reading**

NWMC Weekly Report

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

**Monday, March 16, 2026**

No Meetings

**Tuesday, March 17, 2026**

6:30 PM: [Housing & Community Development - CANCELED](#)

**Wednesday, March 18, 2026**

8:30 AM: [Healthy Building Technical Committee](#)

**Thursday, March 19, 2026**

6:00 PM: [Parks and Recreation Board Meeting](#)

**Friday, March 20, 2026**

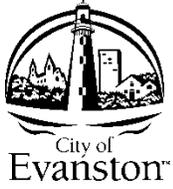
7:15 AM: [Utilities Commission](#)

**Check the City's Calendar for updates**

[City of Evanston - Calendar](#)

**City of Evanston Committee Webpage:**

[City of Evanston – Boards, Commissions and Committees](#)



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
From: Commander Chelsea Brown, Executive Officer  
Subject: Weekly Federal Activity Update  
Date: March 13, 2026

There were no federal immigration enforcement operations reported this week.



# Memorandum

To: Luke Stowe, City Manager

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

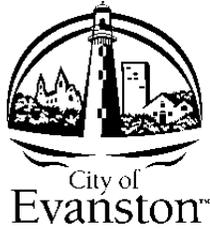
Subject: Bids/RFPs/RFQs Advertised during the Week of March 9, 2026

Date: March 13, 2026

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 March 9, 2026**

| <b>Bid/RFP/RFQ Name</b>                 | <b>Requesting Dept.</b> | <b>Description of Project</b>  | <b>Budget Amount</b> | <b>Bid/RFP/RFQ Opening Date</b> | <b>Anticipated Council/ Library Board Date</b> |
|---|-------------------------|--|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Fleetwood Jourdain Exterior Renovations | PW                      | Work on this project includes the construction of a new patio and outdoor classroom space immediately east of the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center in Evanston, Illinois. | \$500,000            | 04/07                           | 04/27  |



## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Liz Williams, Planning & Zoning Manager  
Subject: Weekly Zoning Report  
Date: 03/13/2026

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

**Cases Received and Pending, March 5, 2026 to March 11, 2026**

**Zoning Reviews (Larger Projects and Permits)**

| Ward | Property Address              | Zoning   | Type            | Project or Permit Description   | Received | Status  |
|------|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------|---|----------|---|
| 1    | 1629 Chicago Avenue           | D4       | Zoning Analysis | Conversion of the use in the North Building from independent living units to assisted living, no change to the number of units. Interior remodel of the independent living units in the South Tower which would include a reduction in the number of units from 102 to 88.  | 02/18/26 | non-compliant, pending submittal of a planned development application requesting to amend a previously approved planned development |
| 1    | 2018 Orrington Avenue         | R1       | Building Permit | New Garage  | 03/02/26 | pending staff review  |
| 2    | 1100 Dodge Avenue             | C1       | Zoning Analysis | Construct a new one-story MetroSquash facility with on-site parking.  | 02/13/26 | Non-compliant; Pending Future Planned Development application   |
| 2    | 2220 Greenleaf Street         | I2       | Zoning Analysis | Renovate an existing warehouse into workspace   | 02/26/26 | pending staff review  |
| 3    | 827-831 Chicago Avenue        | C1a      | Zoning Analysis | Tenant improvement and conversion of an existing building at 831 Chicago Ave. to a child daycare facility with an outdoor playground in the rear of the property. The application also includes the building and parking lot at 827-829 Chicago Ave.  | 01/12/26 | pending additional information from the applicant   |
| 4    | 1028 Greenleaf Street         | R1       | Zoning Analysis | 2nd Story Addition  | 09/25/25 | pending additional information/revisions from the applicant   |
| 4    | 1009 Wesley Avenue #4         | R3       | Building Permit | New Carport   | 01/02/26 | pending additional information from the applicant   |
| 5    | 1112 Garnett Place            | R4a      | Building Permit | 1-story Addition  | 10/31/25 | pending additional information from applicant   |
| 5    | 2012 Maple Avenue             | R4a      | Building Permit | New Garage  | 02/10/26 | non-compliant; pending revisions  |
| 6    | 2500 Marcy Avenue             | R1       | Building Permit | 2nd Story Addition & New Garage   | 08/07/25 | major variations approved, pending revisions from applicant   |
| 6    | 2726 Lawndale Avenue          | R1       | Building Permit | New Garage  | 02/23/26 | pending additional information from the applicant   |
| 7    | 1900 Central Street           | B1a/oCSC | Zoning Analysis | Demolition of the existing Chase Bank and construction of a new Chase Bank  | 09/22/25 | non-compliant, pending revisions/additional information from the applicant  |
| 7    | 1916 Grant Street             | R1       | Building Permit | Addition to existing 2-flat   | 10/16/25 | non-compliant; pending submission of major variation application  |
| 7    | 2404 Ridge Avenue             | R1       | Zoning Analysis | 3 Lot Subdivision   | 09/17/25 | non-compliant; pending revisions from applicant   |
| 7    | 2722 Green Bay Road           | C2, oCSC | Zoning Analysis | Conversion of the existing building (former Office Depot) and construction of a new 2-story addition for a commercial indoor recreation facility for baseball, flag football and soccer. The development would function as a youth sports practice, skills-training, and young player game facility. Use of the facility would be limited to organized youth practices of both private and Evanston sports organizations, training sessions, clinics, camps, and private group events. The facility will operate year-round to host planned events. | 03/04/26 | pending staff review  |
| 7    | 1716 Isabella Street          | R1       | Building Permit | Addition to existing single-family residence  | 03/10/26 | pending staff review  |
| 8    | 301 Callan Avenue (Elks Park) | OS       | Zoning Analysis | Proposal to establish a new urban garden/farm (just under 1-acre) on a portion of Elks Park to be operated by Evanston Grows.   | 03/03/26 | pending staff review  |
| 9    | 921 Monroe Street             | R1       | Building Permit | New Garage  | 02/10/26 | 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 additional information from the applicant                                      |
| 2    | 1611 Church Street  | R4       | Amendment to a Previously Approved Major Variation and Zoning Map Amendment Ordinance | Modifications to the approved development plan, including the construction of an ADU above a garage, conversion of a rooming unit to a dwelling unit, and various site and building modifications.  | 11/10/25 | Pending future Planning & Development Committee and City Council Meeting on 03/09/2026 |
| 4    | 740 Main Street     | B2, oCSC | Special Use   | Establishment of a new veterinary clinic in an esting ground floor space  | 03/03/26 | pending staff review   |
| 5    | 1103 Emerson Street | R6       | Major Variations  | Demolition of existing structures (2-flat & 4-flat) and construction of a 5-story building with 6 rooming units (including 18 bedrooms), 24 dwelling units, and 5 on-site parking stalls.   | 12/03/25 | Land Use Commission meeting continued to 03/25/2026                                    |
| 6    | 3434 Central Street | R2       | Planned Development   | New 2-story 19,952 sf and 38 parking spaces for a Daycare Center - Child  | 05/13/25 | Pending Future Planning & Development Committee and City Council Meeting on 03/23/2026 |
| 6    | 2320 Pioneer Road   | R4       | Planned Development   | An amendment the existing Planned Development and Special Use at the Three Crowns retirement community, which would allow site modifications (new parking areas, curb cut and landscaping) as well as building modifications (addition of elevator tower, minor building addition, interior renovation from assisted living to independent living within the Pioneer Building). | 02/04/26 | pending staff review   |
| 7    | 831 Ingleside Place | R1       | Major Variation   | Major variation to allow a reduced rear yard setback for an addition  | 12/03/25 | pending revisions from applicant   |
| 7    | 1501 Central Street | U2       | Unique Use  | A Unique Use application to allow the Chicago Stars to host up to 17 soccer matches per season/year starting in 2026 or 2027 through 2031 at Ryan Field.  | 01/09/26 | pending revisions from applicant   |
| 7    | 2713 Walnut Avenue  | R1       | Minor Variation   | Interior side yard setback to a 2nd story addition  | 03/01/26 | determination after 03/26/26   |
| 8    | 707 W Howard Street | B3       | Text Amendment & Special Use  | Zoning text amendment to allow performance entertainment venues as a special use within the B3 zone district  | 07/02/25 | pending revisions from applicant   |
| 9    | 921 Monroe Street   | R1       | Minor Variation   | Interior side yard setback to new detached  | 02/26/26 | determination after 03/13/26   |



To: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
From: Ciprian Radoescu, HVAC/Mechanical Inspector  
Subject: Weekly Field Inspection Report  
Date: March, 13 2026

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.

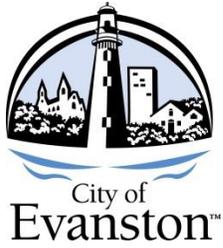
Please contact me at [cradoescu@cityofevanston.org](mailto:cradoescu@cityofevanston.org) if you have any questions or need additional information.

**Weekly Field Inspection Report**

**Friday, March 13, 2026**

| <b>Ward</b> | <b>Property Address</b>                                 | <b>Job Description</b>                       | <b>Construction Type</b> | <b>Inspector Notes</b>  | <b>Most Recent Inspection Received</b>                |
|-------------|---|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1           | 2169 Campus Drive<br>24BLDC-0005                        | New Kellog Center                            | New Construction         | MEP inspections have begun. Proper signage, construction fence and safety in place.   | Mechanical-Rough<br>Complies<br>3/9/2026              |
| 4           | 1012 Church Street<br>Northlight Theater<br>24BLDC-0004 | Construction Of A New Two Story Theatre      | Assembly                 | MEP inspections continue. Temporary bike lane is in place. The alleyway has been closed with offsite parking provided for residents   | Electrical-Rough<br>Complies<br>3/12/2026             |
| 1           | 1631 Chicago Avenue<br>25DEMO-0063                      | Demolition Of A 1 Story Commercial Buildings | Demolition               | Construction fence installed. Demolition permit issued. Demolition complete.  | No Inspections At This Time<br>3/12/2026              |
| *           | Truck Route   | *  | *                        | No changes. Street sweeping continues. Truck route continues to monitored for speed and debris.   | *<br>3/12/2026  |
| 7           | 1501 Central Street<br>24BLDC-0002                      | Ryan StadiumCore+Shell                       | New Construction         | No changes. Framing and MEP inspections continue at stadium. 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. | Electrical-rough<br>Reinspection required<br>3/6/2026 |

|   |                                    |   |                                    |  |  |           |
|---|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|
| 3 | 504 South Boulevard<br>23BLDC-0002 | New 5 story apartment building providing 60 units                   | New Construction                   | West elevator shaft completed, East elevator shaft in progress . Vibration monitoring continues. | Plumbing-rough<br>Complies             | 3/2/2026  |
| 2 | 1611 Church Street<br>24EXTR-0298  | Conversion Of Existing Industrial Building To 8 Residential Units   | Remodeling and<br>New Construction | MEP inspections continue.  | Structural-Rough<br>Complies           | 11/4/2025 |
| 7 | 2305 Sheridan Road<br>25INTC-0209  | Interior Renovation Of Existing 4 Story With Basement R-2 Dormitory | Renoavtion                         | MEP inspections continue. Construction fence in place with proper signage.                       | Sructural-Rough<br>Fee & Reinsp. Req'd | 2/26/2026 |
| 3 | 819 Judson Avenue<br>24BLDC-0001   | New Construction Of A Four Unit Building                            | New Construction                   | MEP inspections continue. Construction fence in place.   | Mechanical-Rough<br>Complies           | 2/23/2026 |

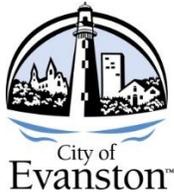


To: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
From: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor  
Subject: Monthly Construction Valuation & Permit Fee Report  
Date: March 13, 2026

Enclosed is the monthly construction valuation and permit fee report. The report compares current month and year-to-date totals with those from 2025.

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

Angela Butler  
Permit Services Supervisor



Date: March 13, 2026  
To: Luke Stowe, City Manager  
From: Angela Butler, Permit Services Supervisor  
Subject: February 2026 Construction Valuation & Permit Fee Report

**Building Permit Fees**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Total Permit Fees Collected - February 2026    | \$334,062.87   |
| Total Permit Fees Collected - Fiscal Year 2026 | \$614,651.62   |
| Total Permit Fees Collected - February 2025    | \$656,925.56   |
| Total Permit Fees Collected - Fiscal Year 2025 | \$3,728,473.77 |

**Construction Values**

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Total Construction Value February 2026      | \$16,774,647.00  |
| Total Construction Value – Fiscal Year 2026 | \$25,054,075.00  |
| Total Construction Value – February 2025    | \$32,628,525.00  |
| Total Construction Value – Fiscal Year 2025 | \$183,425,289.00 |



# 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: March 13, 2026

| Ward | Property Address   | Business Name                    | Date Received | Current Status                                   |
|------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--|
| 7    | 2545 Prairie       | Burl                             | 2/27/25       | Active/Issued                                    |
| 8    | 751 Howard St      | Sabrosura Coffee Bar             | 1/09/2025     | Pending Reviews and Inspections                  |
| 8    | 1717 Howard St     | Showkey African Cuisine          | 8/26/2024     | Pending Building Permit Application              |
| 8    | 565 Howard St      | T.E & Company                    | 8/22/2024     | Pending Building Permit Issuance                 |
| 4    | 1310 ½ Chicago Ave | Peeled Juice Bar                 | 5/9/2024      | Pending Building Permit Issuance and Inspections |
| 1    | 817 Noyes          | Fred's Bread                     | 4/9/25        | Pending Final Inspections                        |
| 8    | 743 Howard         | Zion African Market              | 6/12/25       | Pending Health Review and Inspections            |
| 5    | 1600 Simpson       | Foster School                    | 5/12/25       | Pending Health Review and Inspections            |
| 7    | 1921 Central       | Tallgrass                        | 4/17/25       | Pending Reviews and Inspections                  |
| 7    | 1030 Central St    | Canal Shores Outdoor Patio       | 9/11/25       | Pending Inspections                              |
| 2    | 2400 Main St.      | Snowfruit 558 – within Food4Less | 9/18/25       | Pending Plumbing Re-Insp and FCO                 |
| 4    | 1563 Sherman Ave   | Giordano's                       | 11/20/25      | Pending Building Permit, Inspections and FCO     |
| 5    | 1601 Simpson St.   | Beit Shawarma                    | 11/26/25      | Active/Issued                                    |
| 1    | 1716 Sherman Ave   | Night Owl Productions            | 12/9/25       | Pending Inspections and FCO                      |
| 5    | 1608 Emerson St    | Asli Fried Chicken Corp          | 1/7/26        | Inspections and FCO                              |
| 7    | 2001 Sheridan Rd   | Jacobs Cafe                      | 1/8/26        | Pending Inspections and FCO                      |
| 2    | 2312 Main St.      | Amazon-ZCG7-Main St              | 1/13/26       | Pending Building Permit, Inspections and FCO     |
| 2    | 2000 Dempster St.  | Saint Errant Brewing             | 1/15/26       | Inspections and FCO                              |
| 2    | 2430 Main St.      | U Taco                           | 2/11/26       | Pending Inspections and FCO                      |



To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Brian George, Assistant City Attorney  
Subject: Weekly Liquor License Application Report  
Date: March 13, 2026

There are no pending liquor license applications to report for this week.

## **Weekly Liquor Licensing Report**

Liquor applications received and pending for the week of March 6, 2026

**Evanston 1<sup>st</sup> Liquors**

**Address:** 1019 Davis St. Evanston, IL 60201 **4<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**Class:** A-2

**Description:** Beer/Wine/Spirits Shops Small (Under 5,000 sq ft)

**Hours:** Mon - Sun: 8 AM – 12 AM

**STATUS:** *Application will be voted on at the Liquor Review Board meeting on March 6*



# DIRECTOR'S WEEKLY BRIEFING

By NWMC Executive Director Mark L. Fowler



**WEEK ENDING MARCH 13, 2026**

## ***NWMC Board Approves Strategic Plan, Auction Contract Extension, Discusses BUILD***

Thank you to the twenty-two NWMC members who attended Wednesday night's board meeting. The membership unanimously approved a new strategic plan for the period 2026-2029. The plan was created in consultation with CP2 Consulting and "reflects the organization's commitment to thoughtful governance, fiscal stewardship, and strengthening the collective voice of member communities during a period of political, economic and organizational change." It also builds upon input from the membership and leadership to identify three strategic goals: Collective Impact, Organizational Excellence and Transformative Engagement. Thank you to all involved for charting the future of the organization!

In other Board action, the membership unanimously approved positions on legislation pending before the General Assembly that impact local governments. Of significance, members voted to oppose, as currently written, legislation comprising the BUILD (Building Up Illinois Developments) agenda that was filed on February 18. In January, the NWMC created a Housing Working Group who developed a Housing Supply and Affordability position statement and membership Housing Survey to further support the Conference's position and provide evidence-backed education to legislators. Their work will now expand to review the BUILD agenda with the information gathered from the membership survey. The Conference will also collaborate with its regional council of government partners and other stakeholders to explore regional consensus. Please see today's [NWMC Legislative Update](#) for a more detailed review of the BUILD agenda.

Finally, the Board unanimously approved an extension of the NWMC Surplus Vehicle and Equipment contract with America's Auto Auction of Crestwood. The contract extension expands the number of auctions this year to four, with the dates set for April 14, July 14, October 13 and December 15 (see article on p.2). For additional information on the NWMC auction services, please contact Purchasing Director Ellen Dayan, [edayan@nwmc-cog.org](mailto:edayan@nwmc-cog.org). *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury*

## ***Last Call to Submit NWMC Officer Nominations***

This is the last reminder to return the FY26-27 NWMC Officer Nomination Form, seeking names of active members to fulfill the roles of NWMC President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. Nomination forms are to be returned to [mfowler@nwmc-cog.org](mailto:mfowler@nwmc-cog.org) by Wednesday, March 18.

The Nominating Committee will present its recommended slate at the April 8 NWMC Board Meeting. According to the NWMC By-Laws, other nominations may be made at the April meeting or by mail if received prior to that meeting date. Election shall be by a majority of those present and voting at the May 13 Board meeting. Officers will be sworn in at the NWMC Gala on June 10 (see article below). *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury*

## ***Mark Your Calendars for the 2026 NWMC Gala!***

Save the date cards have been sent for the NWMC Gala, scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, at Independence Grove in *Libertyville*. Formal invitations will be sent soon for the event of the year, which serves to celebrate the NWMC's 68th anniversary and the inauguration of the organization's FY2026-2027 officers. *Staff contacts: Mark Fowler, Larry Bury, Marina Durso*

## ***NWMC Employee Assistance Program Enrollment Now Open – No Fee Increase***

The NWMC is pleased to offer the opportunity to enroll in the NWMC Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to municipalities, townships, park districts and libraries. TELUS Health is the current EAP provider and offers confidential, cost-free referrals and assessment services twenty-four hours a day for employees and their families. Areas of assistance include dealing with issues such as substance abuse, mental health, family and marital problems, financial and legal matters.

Enrollment information and participation forms were sent to all members on Wednesday, March 4 and are due back to NWMC Executive Assistant Marina Durso by Wednesday, April 1. The fee for program participation remains \$25.42 per employee per year and the contract year begins May 1. If you are not currently a member of the EAP and would like to join or obtain additional information, please contact Marina Durso, 847-296-9200, ext. 122 or [mdurso@nwmc-cog.org](mailto:mdurso@nwmc-cog.org). *Staff contact: Marina Durso*

***Think Spring and NWMC Auctions***

As reported on p.1, the NWMC Board unanimously approved the first of four possible, one-year contract extensions for Auctioneer Services with America’s Auto Auction (America’s AA) of Crestwood through February 14, 2027. The 2026 auction dates will all be held at noon on the following dates:

- Tuesday, April 14
- Tuesday, July 14
- Tuesday, October 13
- Tuesday, December 15

Now is the time to plan for next month’s spring auction. America’s AA offers a wide variety of convenient services (see table below) to prep vehicles and garner the highest possible price. Please note that vehicles and equipment can be listed for disposal right up to the morning of the auction day. Sell them now to get a fresh start and please keep in mind that a portion of the proceeds help support the operations of the Conference.

| Service  | Price            |
|--|------------------|
| Vehicle condition reports-posted to car for all online and in lane bidders | \$35             |
| Wash and vacuum  | \$45             |
| Full detail  | \$100            |
| Dent removal per panel   | \$60             |
| Front window replacement   | \$170            |
| Decal removal per panel basis  | \$45 - \$75      |
| Auction Guarantee designation/mechanical inspection                        | \$25             |
| Keys   | \$165            |
| Post to Salvage Now damage site  | NC               |
| Sold on Salvage Now damage site  | \$100 additional |

In lieu of taking staff from the jobsite to deliver vehicles to the auction, America’s AA offers pick-up and delivery services. Transportation rates are \$2.50 per mile based on Google Miles from the exact pickup location to delivery at America’s AA, 14001 S. Karlov Avenue in Crestwood. Charges are one-way only, with a \$50.00 minimum per vehicle.

In addition, America’s AA hosts online sales on par with other government surplus Internet auctions. For more information, please contact staff or America’s AA Sales Executive Manager Kasey Salameh, 708-389-4488 (office), 708-953-3069 (mobile) or [Kasey.salameh@Americasaa.com](mailto:Kasey.salameh@Americasaa.com). *Staff contact: Ellen Dayan*

***Facility MRO & Upgrades with SPC and Sourcewell***

The Suburban Purchasing Cooperative’s (SPC) strategic alliance with Sourcewell makes it easy for you to streamline facility upkeep with maintenance, repair, and operations (MRO) supplies, HVAC systems, lighting, and security upgrades all accessible through Sourcewell contracts. Manage buildings efficiently while reducing costs and downtime with Sourcewell’s competitively awarded cooperative contracts. Explore more by visiting [Sourcewell Facilities Additional Resources](#). For questions or additional information, please contact staff or Sourcewell Account Managers Aaron Peterson, [Aaron.Peterson@sourcewell-mn.gov](mailto:Aaron.Peterson@sourcewell-mn.gov) or Nicole Allen, [Nicole.Allen@sourcewell-mn.gov](mailto:Nicole.Allen@sourcewell-mn.gov). *Staff contact: Ellen Dayan*

## ***NWMC/BACOG to Co-Host CMAP Century Plan Discussion***

On Tuesday, March 31, the Northwest Municipal Conference and Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) are pleased to host a discussion with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) on development of [The Century Plan](#). The presentation will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Vehe Barn, 23570 Cuba Road in *Deer Park*. CMAP intends for the primary participants to be municipal administrators and planning staff, but also welcomes any elected officials interested in sharing perspectives on regional and local issues/trends.

Invitations were emailed on Wednesday to Managers, Assistant Managers and Community Development Directors with a request to please forward to members of your organization as appropriate. Please RSVP to Mark Fowler, [mfowler@nwmc-cog.org](mailto:mfowler@nwmc-cog.org) by the close of business on Wednesday, March 25. We hope that all NWMC communities will participate in this discussion to ensure our region's perspective is heard by CMAP. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

## ***Last Call to Apply for Invest in Cook Grants***

As previously reported, the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOH) is accepting applications for the tenth round of [Invest in Cook](#). Over \$8.5 million is available to cover planning studies, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and construction for transportation projects. Prioritized projects are those which “support transit and other transportation alternatives, support the region's role as North America's freight capital, promote equal access to opportunities, maintain and modernize what already exists and increase investments in transportation.” Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20. Please visit the [Invest in Cook website](#) for more information and how to apply. To see current and past Invest in Cook recipients, visit the [CMAP eTIP portal](#). *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

## ***Where's Loop?***

*From the desk of Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Recycling Education and Outreach Specialist Juliet Mathey:*

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus's Recycling Education & Outreach campaign, Feed The Cart, has resources available for municipalities to expand recycling education. The campaign features a friendly recycling cart named Loop who is hungry for recyclables. Help further the message of this campaign and educate your residents with ready to use resources like newsletters and social media posts. Juliet Mathey, Recycling Education & Outreach Specialist for the Caucus, is also available to table and present at community events.

A library of resources is available here, including a [Guide to Amplifying Loop's Message](#). You may also contact Juliet, [jmathey@mayorscaucus.org](mailto:jmathey@mayorscaucus.org) for resource requests. *Staff contact: Mark Fowler*

## ***RTA Begins NITA Transition Working Groups***

*From the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA):*

Inter-agency working groups comprised of staff from the RTA, CTA, Metra, and Pace have begun laying the groundwork for the transition to the Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) this June, identifying timelines, key issues, and critical decision-making points for early NITA priorities. The RTA has established five working groups to address budget, fares, service, land-use, and rider information policy changes outlined in the NITA Act. Progress from early meetings of each working group was discussed at the February [RTA Board of Directors](#) meeting, and a presentation is available online. The RTA is seeking input from regional stakeholders, please contact [RTA Government Affairs staff](#) to share your perspectives on these issues. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

## ***NACTO Issues Robotaxi Guidance***

*From the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO):*

Robotaxis are here, and cities are the current and future testing and deployment grounds of this new technology. Company narratives promote robotaxis as a “miraculous remedy” to the traffic-safety crisis on U.S. streets and a transformative mobility option for people with disabilities.

Under current regulatory frameworks, city officials have few—if any—tools to align these companies' operations with city goals. Consequently, a city's Safe Routes to School coordinator doesn't have oversight of a vehicle failing to stop for a school bus. A firefighter has no effective way to influence state regulations that could give public safety personnel control of a stopped robotaxi blocking an emergency scene. And a city's signal engineer cannot clear intersections at the times they need to the most—like when a power outage occurs and traffic signals flash.

To meet this pressing need, NACTO's new resource —[Robotaxis Aren't Coming, They're Here: A Practical Guide](#)

[for Cities to Get Started](#)— focuses on preparing cities now for the arrival of for-hire, robotaxi passenger services and outlines the most efficient strategies for getting started. *Staff contacts: Eric Czarnota, Brian Larson*

## ***Newsy Items of the Week***

*Chicago Tribune:* [Illinois orders 21 communities to remove forever chemicals from drinking water by 2029. But who will pay?](#)

*Daily Herald:* [State legislators of both parties talk ‘Business, Budget & Bears’ in Schaumburg](#)

*Chicago Tribune:* [\\$100 million Touhy Avenue improvement project breaks ground in Des Plaines](#)

*Daily Herald:* [Nearly a century old, Rand Road bridge in Des Plaines to be rebuilt](#)

*Daily Herald:* [What would robotaxis mean for the Chicago region?](#)

*Capitol News Illinois:* [Illinois mayors call on Pritzker to rethink flat local government funding](#)

## ***Meetings and Events***

*NWMC Legislative Committee* will meet on Wednesday, March 18 at 8:30 a.m. via videoconference.

*NWMC Finance Committee* will meet on Wednesday, March 18 at noon via videoconference.

*NWMC Transportation Committee* will meet on Thursday, March 26 at 8:30 a.m. at the NWMC office and via videoconference.

## ***NWMC Staff***

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