

**KANE/KENDALL COUNCIL OF MAYORS**  
**41W011 Burlington Road ▪ St. Charles, Illinois 60175 ▪ (630) 584-1170**



MAYOR JEFFERY SCHIELKE, Council Chairman  
PRESIDENT LARRY KELLER, Council Vice-Chairman

STEVE COFFINBARGAR, Council Director  
HOLLY SMITH, Deputy Director  
MIKE SULLIVAN, Regional Planning Liaison

**Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee**  
**August 21, 2008**  
**Approved Minutes**

**In attendance:**

Monica Meyers	Executive Director	Kane County Forest Preserve
Bonnie Lee Kunkle	Kane County Board Member	
Erin Willrett	Community Development Director	Village of Elburn
Geoff Payton	Streets Supervisor	Village of Sugar Grove
Holly Smith	Deputy Director	Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors
Jessica Thompson	Project Planner	League of Illinois Bicyclists
Karen Miller	Executive Planner	Kane Co. Development Dept.
Kevin Cardile	Intern	Kane County Forest Preserve
Laura Haake	Park Designer	City of Yorkville
Mary Heineman	Village Trustee	Village of Sugar Grove
Michael Brown	Village Planner	Village of Montgomery
Michele Springer	Planner	Kane County Forest Preserve
Mike Ferencak	Planner	Village of Sugar Grove
Mike Sullivan	Reg. Planning Liaison	Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors
Norm Moseng	Citizen	
Pat Paku	Citizen	
Rae Keasler	Transportation Planner	City of Aurora
Stephanie Beottcher	Senior Planner	City of Yorkville

**I. Call to Order**

Monica Meyers called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Introductions were made.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Mary Heineman moved and Rae Keasler seconded approval of the minutes of the November 8, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. General Business**

**A. Director / Regional Planning Liaison Update**

Mike Sullivan gave the planning liaison update:

**CMAQ Program Released for Public Comment**

The proposed FY 2009 CMAQ Program has been released for public comment. The public comment and review period will end August 26, 2008. The CMAQ program funds transportation projects that improve air quality including bicycle/pedestrian improvements, improvements to intersections and traffic signal timing, new transit services and other projects. The FY 2009 proposed program funds 11 projects totaling \$8.03 million in projects in the KKCOM area. See [www.cmap.illinois.gov/cmaq/fy2009\\_cmaq.aspx](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/cmaq/fy2009_cmaq.aspx) for the proposed program and more information.

**Toolbox of Countermeasures and Their Potential Effectiveness for Pedestrian Crashes**

The FHWA Safety Office has recently completed an updated "Toolbox of Countermeasures and Their Potential Effectiveness for Pedestrian Crashes." This "toolbox" estimates the crash reduction that might be expected if a specific countermeasure or group of countermeasures is implemented with respect to pedestrian crashes. Traffic engineers and other transportation professionals can use the information contained in this toolbox when trying to figure out which countermeasures would be effective in improving safety at certain types of locations. Some of the countermeasures featured include pedestrian countdown signals, providing sidewalks and paved shoulders, installing medians and raised islands, "road diets" (or roadway narrowing), adding intersection lighting, implementing a "leading" pedestrian interval, adding an exclusive pedestrian phase (scramble) to a signalized intersection, converting an unsignalized

intersection to a roundabout, etc. The document can be viewed and downloaded at: [safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped\\_bike/ped/ped\\_tctpepc/](http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/ped/ped_tctpepc/).

### **Informational Report on Lighting Design for Midblock Crosswalks**

The FHWA Office of Safety Research and Development released guidelines on lighting design for midblock crosswalks. The report provides information on lighting parameters and design criteria that should be considered when installing fixed roadway lighting for midblock crosswalks. The information is important for engineers and roadway designers, because the majority of pedestrian fatalities (around 60%) occur between 6:00 pm and 6:00 am. Although the research was constrained to midblock placements of crosswalks, the report includes a brief discussion of considerations in lighting crosswalks at intersections. The report is posted at [www.tfhrc.gov/safety/pubs/08053/08053.pdf](http://www.tfhrc.gov/safety/pubs/08053/08053.pdf).

### **Guide to "Facilitating Development of a Community Trail"**

The Centers for Disease Control and "Partnership for Prevention" have published a new action guide with resources and key steps to facilitate community trail development. It also combines information about promoting trail use among youth and adults. Community trails have a unique advantage in that they can accommodate different types of physical activity by people of all ages. The guide is posted at, [www.prevent.org/actionguides/CommunityTrail.pdf](http://www.prevent.org/actionguides/CommunityTrail.pdf).

### **CMAP Releases "Bicycle Strategy Paper"**

CMAP recently introduced a strategy paper on bicycling in the region. This paper introduces bicycling as a planning strategy, reviews the existing conditions and the potential for improving the conditions for bicycling in the region, and examines the effects of implementing this strategy. The paper is intended to be a planning tool to initiate dialogue and discussion on the possible impacts of improving bicycling conditions in our region. You can find the strategy paper at, [www.goto2040.org/bicycling.aspx](http://www.goto2040.org/bicycling.aspx).

### **Draft Environmental Impact Statement for CN Acquisition of the EJ&E Rail line Released**

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the proposed acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad by Canadian National Railway was recently released. The DEIS analyzes the environmental impacts that might occur if CN were to acquire and operate trains over the EJ&E Railroad. The potential environmental impacts to both the human and the natural environments that could result from the proposed acquisition are compared to the environmental impacts of continuing rail operations on the EJ&E rail line and the five CN rail lines that feed into Chicago. Impacts of the acquisition on pedestrian and bicycle safety were not quantifiable and further studies are recommended in the report. Public comments are being accepted on the DEIS until September 30, 2008. More information on the acquisition and the DEIS can be found by visiting, [www.stbfinancedocket35087.com](http://www.stbfinancedocket35087.com).

### **Recommendations for Advancing Safe Routes to School**

The National Safe Routes to School Task Force has released its final report, Safe Routes to School: A Transportation Legacy - A National Strategy to Increase Safety and Physical Activity among American Youth. The report outlines the early successes of the Federal Safe Routes to School program and outlines the importance of advancing opportunities and addressing challenges that face Safe Routes to School. The Task Force recommends working on solutions to address issues that limit or prevent walking and bicycling such as liability concerns from schools, the design and location of school campuses and personal safety concerns among parents. The Task Force also recommends an increase in funding for the program at the Federal level. To access the full report, please visit [www.saferoutesinfo.org/task\\_force](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/task_force). The deadline for submitting School Travel Plans for the 2008 Safe Routes to School program is September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Upcoming Events (see [www.cmap.illinois.gov/calendar.aspx](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/calendar.aspx) for additional CMAP meetings)**

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|--------------|--|
| August 22    | CMAP Transportation Committee – 9:30 a.m.<br>CMAP Offices, Sears Tower, Suite 800, Chicago, IL   |
| September 3  | CMAP Environment and Natural Resources Committee – 9:30 a.m.<br>CMAP Offices, Sears Tower, Suite 800, Chicago, IL                              |
| September 6  | Pedaling Ahead: Planning for Bicycle Transportation & Transit—1:00—2:30 p.m.<br>UIC Student Center East, 750 South Halsted Street, Chicago, IL |
| September 24 | 2008 Transit Workshop hosted by Kane County<br>Walter Payton's Roundhouse, Aurora, IL  |
| September 26 | CMAP Transportation Committee – 9:30 a.m.<br>CMAP Offices, Sears Tower, Suite 800, Chicago, IL   |

October 2-3 IDOT Fall Planning Conference  
Stoney Creek Inn, Moline, IL

October 16 Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors Transportation Subcommittee – 1:00 p.m.  
Kane County Government Center, Auditorium

**B. Municipal / Park District/County/Forest Preserve Update**

- Chairman Meyers stated that the Mid-County Trail is coming together quicker than the original 10 year period. She suggested gathering information from each of the municipalities during the bike map update to compile a timeline as to when the trail would be completed.
- Michelle Springer, from the Kane County Forest Preserve, provided updates to the routing of on-street trails in St. Charles connecting the trail along Red Gate Rd through Leroy Oaks Forest Preserve to Randall Road. She also provided an update to the Mid-County Trail from Dick Young Forest Preserve to Aurora West Forest Preserve. An alternative to finding a crossing for I-88 will need to be explored.
- Chairman Meyers also stated that the Fox River Gap in Downtown Aurora is the last gap along the Fox River Trail in Kane County. In addition, this is the second year in a row that the Forest Preserve has allocated \$200,000 for asphalt replacement for county trails. There was a significant amount of replacement in South Elgin to the county border.
- Laura Haake, from the City of Yorkville, reported that the city is working with IDOT on an Illinois Tomorrow Corridor Grant to complete an Integrated Transportation Plan. They are currently planning how to move the trail system through their downtown. In addition, the city recently completed a significant connection between Yorkville and Oswego that completes a link to the Metra Park-N-Ride.
- Erin Willrett, from the Village of Elburn, reported that the village is working on prioritizing their trails by a construction timeline. The village is also updating all of their plans into a GIS database.
- Mike Ferencak, from the Village of Sugar Grove, reported that the village is continuing to pursue developed initiated trails. The Blisswoods North project. The village would like to create a comprehensive plan to show all of the planned and existing bike trails in the village to pursue additional funding opportunities.
- Michael Brown, from the Village of Montgomery, reported they have secured a CMAQ grant to provide a east-west connection through the village. They are currently working with IDOT and CMAP to define the boundaries of the project and are experiencing minor difficulties due to a railroad crossing.
- Rea Keasler, from the City of Aurora, reported that the City created a bike map and bike brochures for both of the city's train stations. Aurora will be breaking ground on a major trail extension in June of 2009 in connection with the Burnham Plan Central Plan. On October 2, the city is sponsoring a GreenTown sustainability conference.
- Jessica Thompson, from the League of Illinois Bicyclists, reported that LIB received a CMAQ grant to replicate the bike map brochures completed for the City of Aurora in an additional 12 to 15 other towns. She advised the group that these brochures are a great beginning for future bike plans. Reporting for the City of Batavia she stated that the City is performing an update of their Bike plan and received a Safe Routes to School Grant for \$250,000 to fill three sidewalk gaps. The City of Geneva recently completed new striping on roads to act as bicycle and parking separation. The striping has eliminated many resident complaints about speeding in the areas. The League of Illinois Bicyclists is currently working on recruiting municipalities to create bike plans. In addition, the LIB received a Safe Routes to School Grant for about 40 "Train the trainer" seminars. Finally, the LIB has created a safety sheet for 4<sup>th</sup> graders for bicycle riding, along with many other educational initiatives the LIB is currently promoting.
- Mary Heineman, Trustee from the Village of Sugar Grove, stated that the Village is working on the development of a Comprehensive Plan for the bike/ped system.

**IV. Updates to Bike / Ped Public and Planning Maps**

**A. 2009 Kane and Northern Kendall Counties Bicycle Map / Kane and Kendall County Planning Map Update**

Mike Sullivan starting to meet with the municipalities and park districts within Kane and Kendall Counties for updates to the 2009 bike maps. Meetings will be held earlier this year to provide maps to the public at an earlier date.

**V. Other Business**

Chairman Meyers stated she would like to see better attendance at the Bike/Ped meetings as they are a great resource for communities to share ideas and provide updates.

**VI. Next Meeting**

Mike Sullivan will be sending out a meeting notice for early 2009.

**VII. Adjournment**

Mary Heineman moved and Michele Springer seconded approval of the adjournment. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.