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- City of Aurora
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- Village of Burlington
- Village of Campton Hills
- Village of East Dundee
- Village of Elburn
- City of Elgin
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- Village of Gilberts
- Village of Hampshire
- Village of Huntley
- Village of Kaneville
- Village of Lily Lake
- Village of Lisbon
- Village of Maple Park
- Village of Millbrook
- Village of Millington
- Village of Montgomery
- Village of Newark
- Village of North Aurora
- Village of Oswego
- Village of Pingree Grove
- City of Plano
- Village of Prattville
- City of Sandwich
- Village of Sleepy Hollow
- Village of South Elgin
- City of St. Charles
- Village of Sugar Grove
- Village of Virgil
- Village of Wayne
- Village of West Dundee
- City of Yorkville

County Members

Kane County
Kendall County



KANE KENDALL COUNCIL OF MAYORS



COUNCIL STAFF

Jacqueline L. Forbes Heidi E. Lichtenberger
Executive Director Council Director
George Kandathil
Regional Planning Liaison

Kane Kendall Council of Mayors

FULL COUNCIL

April 25, 2024 – 9:30am

Hybrid – Batavia City Council Chambers & online via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Jeffery Schielke	Mayor, Chairman	City of Batavia, KKCOM
Tim Weidner	Engineering Coordinator	City of Aurora
Mike Zakosek	Assistant County Engineer	Kane County
Scott Marquart	HR Green	Village of Campton Hills
Mike Pubentz	Director of Public Works	City of Elgin
Jennifer Hughes	Public Works Director	Village of Oswego
Chris Gottlieb	Public Works Director	City of St. Charles
Brian Schiber	Village Engineer	Village of Sugar Grove
Mike Millette	Public Works Director	Village of South Elgin

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Kurt Nika (online)	Asst. Director of Transportation	KDOT
John Beissel (online)	Senior Project Manager	Robinson Engineering
Steve Coffinbargar (online)	Assist. Director of Transportation	Kane County
Jackie Forbes	Executive Director	KKCOM
Heidi Lichtenberger	Council Director	KKCOM
Kama Dobbs	Senior Program Analyst	CMAP
Alex Nugent (online)	Engineer	City of Aurora
Jane Grover	Principal, Public Engagement	CMAP
George Kandathil	Regional Planning Liaison	KKCOM
Richard Norwood	TIP Analyst	CMAP
Demetri Skoufis (online)	Legislative Affairs Administrator	Metra
Gordon Smith (online)	Gov't Affairs Director	Robinson Engineering
Amy McSwane	Engineering Manager	HLR
Ken Anderson	Project Manager	ERA
Rahat Bari	City Engineer	City of Batavia
Kendra Johnson	Associate of Government Affairs	RTA

KKCOM Full Council Meeting Minutes: April 25, 2024

I. Opening of Meeting, Roll Call

Chairman Jeffery Schielke called the meeting to order at 9:38 am and George Kandathil called the roll.

II. Requests for Remote Participation

Chairman Jeffery Schielke asked if there were any requests and Jackie Forbes said there were none.

III. Approval of October 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Jennifer Hughes of Oswego made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Brian Schiber seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comments

No public comments were received.

V. Action Items

A. STP Spend Down Policy

Heidi Lichtenberger presented the Spend Down Policy. She mentioned that there is an excess of federal funds that needs to be spent over the next couple of years. This policy will allow projects, including asset management, currently programmed in 2024 to increase their STP eligible total to an 80/20 split between federal and local funding. Exceptions to this policy would be projects that have already been authorized and projects that have already submitted draft agreements to IDOT. Heidi presented the eligible projects for the Spend Down Policy and the steps sponsors needed to take to use the policy. Heidi also encouraged sponsors, with projects on the contingency list that want to move the project forward in the process, to do so if they think they can finish the project before the end of 2026, because the chances are high that funding will be received. Heidi also requested sponsors to set realistic timelines because steps such as design approval are taking longer than in the past. Mike Millette of South Elgin made a motion to approve the Spend Down Policy, Chris Gottlieb of St. Charles seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Adoption of Draft Recommended FFY 2025 – 2029 STP-L Program

Heidi Lichtenberger presented this to the Council. She mentioned that the public comment period was from March 1st to March 31st and that a few comments were received. Comments were regarding moving projects from contingency to active, awarding points to projects, and others. Heidi also mentioned that the majority of the roadways and intersection projects were able to be funded. Heidi reemphasized that, if cities/towns have projects in the contingency program and would like to utilize the redistribution fund to move forward, to contact KKCOM staff. Mike Millette of South Elgin made a motion to approve the program, Brian Schiber of Sugar Grove seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Village of Sugar Grove Cost Increase Request – FFY 2024 (09-22-0031)

Heidi Lichtenberger presented this cost increase to the Council. She mentioned that Sugar Grove is requesting a cost increase of \$17,227 in STP-L funding for a project on the June 2024 state letting. Heidi mentioned that their construction bid came in a bit higher than expected. A motion was made to approve and it was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Adoption of the FFY 2023-2027 Council STP Active and Contingency Program

Mike Millette presented the current STP-L FFY 23-27 Active and Contingency Program and made a motion to adopt, Brian Schiber seconded, and the program was adopted unanimously.

E. Annual Planning Liaison Program Resolution

Jackie Forbes mentioned that in the spring meeting a resolution was asked to allow the Planning

Liaison Program to be run out of the Kane County Department of Transportation office. This resolution allows Kane County to accept the federal funding and match it with county funding. Kane County requests approval so that the resolution can be signed. Mike Millette of South Elgin made a motion to approve the program, Brian Schiber of Sugar Grove seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. General Business

A. Council Director's Report

Heidi Lichtenberger delivered the update.

Upcoming Meetings

KKCOM Transportation Policy:	July 25, 2024 (Batavia City Council Chambers)
KKCOM Bike/Ped:	TBD Summer 2024

Council Staff Change

Heidi introduced the newest member of the KKCOM team, George Kandathil.

Funding Opportunities

Safe Streets and Roads for All

The USDOT has issued a NOFO for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant funding. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. There are two remaining application deadlines for different grant types as shown below.

- May 16, 2024 by 4 pm – Implementation grants deadline, second deadline for planning and demonstration grants
- August 29, 2024 by 4 pm – Third deadline for planning and demonstration grants. For more information please visit (SS4A).

Illinois National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program

On March 15, 2024, IDOT released a NOFO for Round One of the Illinois National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program, which will provide up to \$50 million for the construction of 46 charging stations across the state. This program aims to increase electric vehicle adoption by providing reliable access to charging on Illinois interstates and strives to help Illinois become a leader in manufacturing and deploying electric vehicles. The application deadline is May 7, 2024 at 5 pm. A webinar recording on the funding opportunity, application materials, and how to apply is posted on IDOT's Drive Electric Illinois website (Drive Electric Illinois). Questions may be submitted to: dot.driveelectric@illinois.gov.

Illinois EPA Funding - Driving a Cleaner Illinois

The Illinois EPA has opened Round 2 of the Driving a Cleaner Illinois – Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) EV Chargers funding. The Illinois EPA will fund a portion of the eligible costs associated with new, commercial-grade Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC, also known as level 3) and Alternating Current level 2 charging stations for electric vehicles, to be located at publicly accessible charging station locations in Illinois. The application deadline is Friday, May 10, 2024. For more information, visit (IL EPA Funding).

Partner Updates

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Funding – Active Transportation

FHWA, through its Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), is accepting applications for funding for projects that will strengthen safety and improve bicycling, walking and access to public transit in communities across the country. Grants are available for planning,

design, and construction. Planning and design projects must have costs totaling at least \$100,000 to be eligible, and construction projects must have costs totaling \$15 million to be eligible. For more information, visit (ATTIP). Applications are due June 17, 2024.

USDOT Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program (MPDG): Mega, INFRA, and Rural

The application process for the Mega, INFRA and Rural programs has been streamlined into the single Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program (MPDG). In the first two years of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, USDOT has provided nearly \$8 billion in grants to communities through the MPDG program to help rebuild the nation's infrastructure, create good-paying jobs, increase manufacturing capacity and innovation, and create a clean-energy economy to combat climate change and ensure our communities are resilient. Eligible applicants and eligible project types vary by program. Applications are due May 6, 2024, on grants.gov.

IDOT's HSIP Funding Cycle 2026

IDOT is currently accepting applications for their Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) for FY 2026. Applicants are directed to visit and explore the HSIP website which contains information on the IDOT HSIP Policy and analysis tools that may be used to guide the applicant through the application process. A revamped webinar will be held on Tuesday, May 7th at 2pm. Details can be found in CL 2024-13. Applications are due Friday June 14 at 5:00 PM CT.

Partner Updates

IDOT New PPI Form

As of January 18, 2024, IDOT has issued a new PPI form. All new PPI submission must use the new form and can be found here (IDOT Forms page).

IDOT QBS Threshold Adjustment

Circular Letter 2024-05 notes an adjustment to the QBS threshold value for the procurement of engineering and professional services to \$49,0111 from \$40,000. Please visit (Circular Letter 2024-05).

IDOT Updated Joint Funding Agreements

The new BLR 05310 Suite of Agreements are comprised of 3 agreement types, dependent on the phase of the project or the funding source, and are comprised of the following:

- BLR 05310 PE – Preliminary and Engineering work that employ federal funding in part or in whole,
- BLR 05310 C – Construction and Construction Engineering that employ federal funding in part or in whole, and
- BLR 05310 S – All phases when projects use State Funds in part or in whole, without any federal funding participation.

There are several significant changes, including the addition of Schedule 3 and Schedule 4. These changes are in effect, and please see (Circular Letter 2024-08).

IDOT Phase I Engineering Form Revisions

The following BLR forms have been revised, newly created, or eliminated: BLR 19100 (new), BLR 19110 (new), BLR 22000 (new), BLR 22120 (revised), BLR 22210 (revised) and BLR 22211 (eliminated). Please see (Circular Letter 2024-04).

IDOT BLRS Agreement Training

IDOT's Bureau of Local Roads and Streets is hosting two training sessions on the agreement process on May 20 and May 21. More details to follow.

Kane County Update

Kane County Safety Action Plan

In January 2024, Kane County DOT started the Kane County Safety Action Plan project with funding from the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. This project will create a Safety Action Plan for all of Kane County, not only on KDOT roadways. KDOT staff have been meeting with the consultant team regularly and have provided numerous data sets. The consultants have received the most recent crash data for the county from CMAP and are starting their initial analysis. The team is finalizing the engagement and outreach plan and will hold a steering committee meeting and a stakeholder engagement event in the next few months.

Kane County Awarded \$25 Million Grant

In January of this year, Kane County was awarded \$25 million in federal funds to construct a grade separation of a rail crossing near the intersection of Randall Road with Hopps Road on the border of Elgin and South Elgin. The funding was awarded through the U.S. Government's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program. In addition to this, Kane County received \$12 million through the Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) which was created by the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC).

B. Council of Mayors Executive Committee Report

Mayor Jeffery Schielke delivered the update. He mentioned that a new representative from the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, President Ronald Gardiner of Glenwood, has joined the Council of Mayors. Aimee Lee provided an update on recent agency actions. Chad Riddle gave an update on IDOT including letting information. Kama Dobbs provided an update on the STP Project Selection Committee. Victoria Barrett gave a presentation on recent safety actions related to the STAR initiative. Lily Brack discussed local government network initiatives. Finally, Austin Edwards shared an update on CMAP's regional long-range planning approach. The next meeting is scheduled for August 13th, 2024 in person at CMAP.

C. IDOT Local Roads Update

Jackie Forbes delivered the update, since Marilyn Solomon of IDOT was absent. Updated status sheets for Federal Aid Projects were contained in the agenda packet. These status sheets are also online. Jackie was previously informed by Marilyn that two projects that potentially needed updating. Those were status sheet projects 6 and 7, both in Aurora.

D. CMAP Update

Kama Dobbs delivered the update. CMAP has collaborated with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to prepare the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) which will put the region on a path to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and will also help municipalities in the CMAP region to compete for funding from the USEPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program. The PCAP was the first step in ensuring that CMAP municipalities are eligible for USEPA funding. CMAP's more comprehensive climate action plan is due to be released in June. Also, CMAP has released a 2020 land-use inventory database as well as an imagery explorer. These two are both available on CMAP's website. During the March Executive Board Meeting, the board approved language that modernizes the Regional Planning Act which is CMAP's enabling legislation. CMAP is also seeking a \$5 million appropriation from the Illinois State General Assembly to support CMAP work that goes beyond the transportation sector. Additionally, the Illinois Municipal League is pursuing changes to the Open Meetings Act that would allow more flexibility for public bodies to meet remotely.

E. Transportation Improvement Plan Update

- IDOT Program Report District 1 – Jackie Forbes mentioned that Katie Herdus of IDOT was absent but the report was in the agenda packet.

- IDOT Program Report District 3 – Ryan Lindenmier of IDOT was not present to provide the report.
- Illinois State Toll Highway Authority Report – Reed Panther of the State Toll Highway Authority was not present to provide the report. Mayor Schielke asked that someone from the State Toll Highway be present for the next meeting due to suspicious behavior exhibited toward his senior citizen population from persons purporting to be from the State Toll Highway Authority.
- RTA Report – Kendra Johnson from the RTA delivered the report. RTA recently submitted a joint application to the EPA’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program. CTA, Metra, and Pace created an application to electrify their fleets. Kendra asked attendees to keep an eye out for RTA’s Transportation Tuesdays webinar series.
- Metra Report – Demetri Skoufis from Metra delivered the report. Demetri first mentioned that Metra operates 11 rail lines in the region, ten diesel and one electric. He also mentioned that compared to pre-Covid numbers, Metra has reached about mid to high 60% return to ridership. The bulk of the ridership is on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Demetri encouraged municipalities with downtown rail stations to consider eliminating parking permits and use a daily parking fee structure instead since ridership trends have changed. Demetri also mentioned that the board approved a budget for this year, and the biggest change was to their fare zone structure. The number of fare zones decrease from 11 to four. RTA and Metra have worked together to reduce Metra fares for people on the SNAP Program. Those people can apply at: getaccess.org. This pilot project will be in effect until the end of July 2025. Metra has also put in an order for 200 passenger rail cars, and the deliveries will happen mid to late 2025. Also, Metra no longer has ticket agents at their stations. Agents have been replaced with ticket vending machines. The rail crossing at Gifford Rd in Elgin will be rehabilitated by Metra, and it will be closed for about a week to ten days in mid-May. The other big project in the area is the Chicago to Rockford intercity rail Governor Pritzker announced. IDOT selected Metra to operate that service and it is anticipated to begin operating in 2027. Trains running on this line will be separately branded trains, and trains on this line going westward will bypass all stops until reaching Elgin.
- Pace Report – Mayor Schielke spoke about Pace in place of Niko Gyori. He mentioned that Pace ridership has increased. He believes that a catalyst for this increase is a huge increase in senior citizen living communities in Kane and other counties.
- Kane County Report – Mike Zakosek gave the report. He mentioned the federal funding award of \$25 million received for the Randall Rd at Hopps Rd project. Longmeadow Parkway will start its final segment of construction in early May. The Dauberman Rd extension is continuing and is expected to finish at the end of the year.
- Kendall County Report – Fran Klaas was not present to provide a report.
- Municipal Reports – A member mentioned that IDOT had closed IL-31 by the trolley museum to do a culvert replacement. Jennifer Hughes mentioned that they are starting a study of an alternate commuter rail to Oswego that would utilize the Illinois Railway instead of the BNSF. This would preclude service south of Yorkville but it is being studied to see if it will be feasible. It’s a long-term project but seen as important to the growth of Kendall County.

VII. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

VIII. Next Business

Fall 2024.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:02 am.