# Newsletter



## **FUNDING UPDATES**

## **RAISE 2023 Discretionary Grant**

The U.S. DOT published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for \$1.5 billion in grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program for 2023. Previously known as BUILD and TIGER Discretionary Grants, the RAISE program is for investments in surface transportation infrastructure that will have a significant local or regional impact. RAISE grants are for capital projects as well as planning, with awards ranging between \$1 million to \$25 million. The deadline for applications is 11:59 PM EST on February 28, 2023 and selections will be announced by June 28, 2023.

## Important Reminder Regarding 2023 CMAQ, TAP-L, and STP-SF CFP

In order to be eligible to apply for CMAQ, TAP-L, and STP-SF funding in the upcoming Call for Projects in January 2023, Phase I Engineering must be underway as defined by CMAP in the application booklet. Projects that are further along in the Phase 1 process will be allowed to apply for funding for phases outside of construction and may request cost increases. Staff will share the definitions and funding stipulations once the final application booklet is available. The application deadline is in March 2023.

## KKCOM STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jackie Forbes, Chief of Planning and Programming and former Director of the Kane Kendall Council of Mayors (KKCOM), has been promoted to the position of Executive Director. Heidi Lichtenberger of the Council of Mayors staff has been promoted to Director of KKCOM. Jackie has worked for Kane County for over 12 years, starting in the Health Department as a planner, transferring to KDOT in 2015 to work as Council of Mayors staff. She was promoted to Chief of Planning and Programming/Council Director in 2018 and has been instrumental in guiding the Council of Mayors. Heidi joined the Council of Mayors staff in September 2021 and led a recent competitive funding process to evaluate projects and distribute \$12 million per year in federal transportation funds to Council communities for the five-year Surface Transportation Program.

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023



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## SAVE THE DATE

January 11	CMAP Board
January 12	MPO Policy Committee
January 17	Council of Mayors Executive Committee
January 19	KKCOM Transportation Polic Committee
February TBD	KKCOM Bike Ped Committee
February 8	CMAP Board
February 9	STP Project Selection Committee
February 9	CMAQ & TAP Project Selection Committee
February 24	CMAP Transportation

#### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

-KKCOM STAFF



#### NORTHERN LONG EAR BAT (NLEB) ENDANGERED SPECIES

Circular Letter 2022-28 explains new regulations for projects involving tree clearing, bridge, or culvert work. If a LPA has a project that cannot start construction until after April 1st, they must take the necessary and proactive steps to ensure that all trees have been removed prior to the April 1st deadline.

## **KANE COUNTY UPDATES**

## Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update

Staff continues to work with Epstein and WSP on the Kane County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. With results from the initial survey, yielding over 1,000 respondents, and data provided by KDOT and partners, the consultant team is preparing an Existing Conditions Report that will be available in early spring. A brief discussion of findings from the initial survey will occur at the next KKCOM Bike/Ped Committee Meeting.

Currently, staff and the consultant team are hosting municipal and stakeholder meetings to conclude at the end of January. These meetings clarify municipalities' bike and pedestrian infrastructure priorities and where there are gaps in the Kane County system. Information gathered at these meetings is helpful to the consultant team and KDOT staff in forming draft recommendations. Draft recommendations will be available in late spring/early summer.

### **Fox Valley Bike Share Program**

On November 22nd, staff met with current Bike Share sponsors to discuss plans for the 2023 riding season. Current sponsors identified a need for better customer service, a more robust dashboard, and sponsorship opportunities when choosing a vendor. Staff has begun conversations with local healthcare entities to sponsor the Bike Share.

In January or early February, staff will work with sponsors through the agreement process with the selected vendor. For more information or to join the Fox Valley Bike Share, please contact; Kaci Crowley (<a href="mailto:crowleykaci@co.kane.il.us">crowleykaci@co.kane.il.us</a>).

## STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

## **Municipal Annexation/Disconnection Notice Requirements to IDOT**

<u>Public Act 102-969</u> revises, and makes it mandatory, to report any annexation disconnection and annexation, or disconnection to the Illinois Department of Transportation within 30 days of the action. While this best practice has been followed by many municipalities, the Public Act is now a statutory and legal requirement designed to ensure the Department is informed of these changes. This information, and the revised boundaries are used for many purposes including, but not limited to, calculation of Motor Fuel Tax distributions, jurisdiction of roads and bridges, and oversize and overweight permits. **Public Act 102-969 takes effect on January 1, 2023.** 

#### **Inflation Reduction Act Guidebook Available**

Communities in Illinois can check out a newly released <u>federal guidebook</u> for the <u>Inflation Reduction Act</u> that provides guidance on how communities can pursue the law's clean energy and climate programs. State, local, territorial, and tribal leaders, as well as the private sector, nonprofits, and communities, are encouraged to use it to better understand how to benefit from these investments and unlock the full potential of the law.

#### BABA (Build America Buy American) REQUIREMENTS

As part of the IIJA, signed into Public Law 117-58 on November 15, 2021, the Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act was expanded beyond what was previously required only for steel/ iron products, to now include a list of construction materials also required to be manufactured in the United States. Henceforth and commencing with the January 20, 2023 letting, all federal-aid contracts will be subject to the new BABA requirements as written in the "Source of Supply and Quality Requirements (BDE)" special provision. A "List of Construction Materials Subject to Build America, Buy America (BABA)" has been created (provided "for information only"), and is now available on the Department's website.

#### SIGN UP FOR FREE ADA TRAINING

CMAP invites you to join a free training session to learn about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title II. The workshop will be held Wednesday, January 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Frankfort Village Hall, 432 W. Nebraska St., Frankfort. The training will focus on the administrative requirements of the ADA and will look at the day-to-day interactions and activities that people with disabilities have with their local government. The training is intended elected officials, municipal administrators, program directors or managers, section leaders, city clerks, communications/media managers, administrative staff from libraries, parks and recreation, and other divisions of local government. Register here.



# **CMAP NEWS**

## CMAP Announces Inaugural Cohort for Equitable Engagement Program - The Community Alliance for Regional Equity (CARE) Launches January 2023

The Community Alliance for Regional Equity (CARE) is a new pilot program designed to bring greater equity into regional planning. Through CARE, CMAP will build stronger relationships with environmental justice communities, directly engage marginalized communities in long-range planning activities, and remove barriers to participation to drive more equitable outcomes in the region. This pilot program is federally funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Unlike more traditional advisory groups and committees, CARE members will be compensated for their work. Each of the 12 organizations in the cohort will receive a \$10,000 unrestricted honorarium. Over the coming year, participants will work on four focus areas:

- Accelerate transportation and safety issues
- Contribute to regional decision-making processes
- Collaborate in the development of engagement and planning tools
- Reflect and shape the alliance's processes and outcomes

Congratulations to the two Kane County-based organizations, **Batavia Community Diversity Initiative** and **Elgin Community Bikes**, for being selected for the inaugural CARE cohort. The Batavia Community Diversity Initiative cultivates and strengthens Batavia's commitment to diversity, equity, and belonging. The Elgin Community Bikes cohort uses bike riding to make Elgin a healthier, happier, and more equitable community.

# Traffic Congestion Growing, Transit Ridership Steadily Increasing — Analysis Shows How Travel is Changing

The ways people and goods move through northeastern Illinois has changed significantly in the years since the COVID-19 pandemic started. In 2022, the region saw traffic on its expressways return to pre-pandemic patterns, while the number of people using transit steadily increased as more workers returned to offices and hybrid arrangements. The past year brought additional changes, as well. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) recently updated its ongoing analysis of northeastern Illinois' transportation system — roads, transit, freight rail, and safety. The latest update provides a snapshot of how travel has changed in northeastern Illinois nearly three years after the pandemic began.

# New Tool and Strategies to Strengthen Regional Economic Development

A new innovative tool on job quality and access will help the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), economic development organizations across the region, and other partners improve northeastern Illinois' economic position. Communities can use the interactive data visualization tool to understand the advantages of their local labor market, identify where support is needed, and develop action plans to strengthen industries that support shared prosperity. CMAP worked with consulting firm TIP Strategies to develop the tool and an accompanying plan, which provides a set of strategies to improve regional coordination of economic development and COVID-19 recovery efforts. This work is the result of efforts by CMAP, the county board chairs, the City of Chicago, economic development organizations, and other partners to boost economic growth through regional coordination.

## Algonquin Huntley Carpentersville Hampshire West Dundee Gilberts Sleepy Dunder Pingree Grove Burlington KANE Elgin COUNTY South Elgin Campton Hills Wayne Maple Park St. Charles Genevo Batavia Kaneville North Aurora Aurora Montgome Plano **Yorkville** Sandwich Millbrook KENDALL COUNTY Millington Newark Plattville Lisbon

## **KKCOM STAFF**



Jackie Forbes
Executive Director



Heidi Lichtenberger
Council Director



**Kaci Crowley**Regional Planning Liaison

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

#### **Chairman**

Mayor Jeffery Schielke, City of Batavia

**Vice Chairman** 

**President John Skillman,** Village of Carpentersville

**Municipal Members** 

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Mayor Richard Irvin, City of Aurora

President Dean Hummell, Village of Big Rock

President Mary Wlezen, Village of Burlington

President Mike Tyrell, Village of Campton Hills

President Jeffrey Lynam, Village of East Dundee

President Jeffrey Walter, Village of Elburn

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Mayor Lora Vitek, City of St. Charles

President Jennifer Konen, Village of Sugar Grove

President Jamie LeBlanc, Village of Virgil

President Eileen Phipps, Village of Wayne

President Christopher Nelson, Village of West Dundee

Mayor John Purcell, City of Yorkville

**County Members** 

Madam Chair Corinne Pierog, Kane County Board

Chairman Scott Gryder, Kendall County Board

Carl Schoedel, County Engineer, Kane County DOT

Francis Klaas, County Engineer, Kendall County HD

#### **CONTACT INFO**

Kane Kendall Council of Mayors

41W011 Burlington Road

St. Charles, Illinois 60175

630-584-1170

www.kkcom.org

planningstaff@co.kane.il.us