

Newsletter

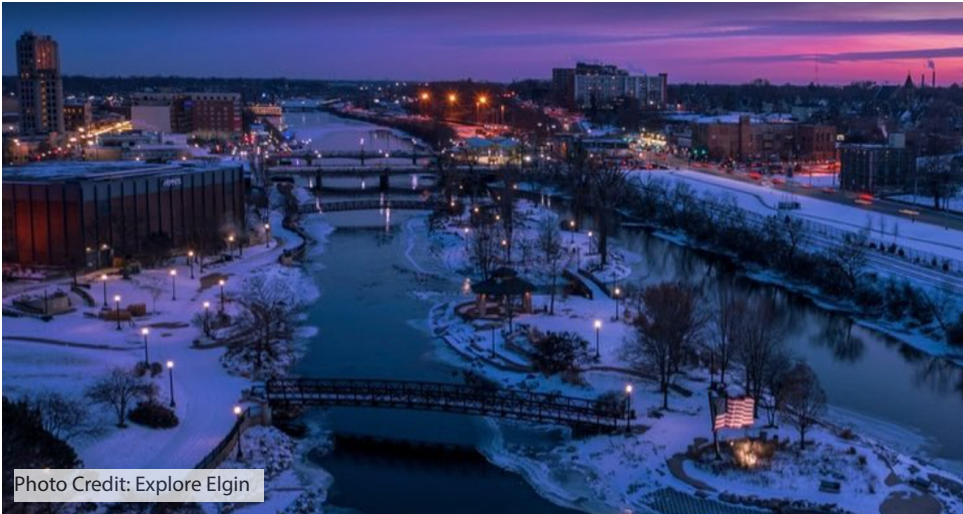


Photo Credit: Explore Elgin

FUNDING UPDATES

Kane Kendall Council of Mayors STP-L Call for Projects

KKCOM received a total of 56 STP-L applications to fill FFYs 2030 and 2031. Scoring is underway and the draft recommended program will be posted on March 2. Then, a 30-day public comment period will be open until April 1. The recommended program will be considered by the KKCOM Transportation Policy Committee and Full Council followed by the CMAP Transportation Committee and the CMAP MPO Policy Committee for final approval in June 2026.

RTA Access to Transit

The RTA's [Access to Transit](#) program is open until **January 16 at noon**. This program funds design and construction of small-scale capital projects (under \$1M) that improve access to the regional transit system for pedestrians and bicyclists. The RTA will host a second open house Q&A session on Wednesday, January 7 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m: [Open House Registration](#).

IDOT Section 130 and ICC CSIP Program

IDOT has released [Circular Letter 2025-16](#) announcing two NOFOs related to rail-highway safety. The FY 2027 and FY 2028 Local Rail-Highway Grade Crossing Safety Program (Section 130 Funds) managed by IDOT is open until **January 30**. Separately, the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) opened their FY 2027-2031 Crossing Safety Improvement Program (CSIP) through **January 15**. These programs have separate, but overlapping scopes and coverage.

BUILD FY2026 NOFO

USDOT has released a NOFO for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program: [BUILD NOFO](#). This program (previously known as TIGER and RAISE) is open now through **February 24 at 4:00 p.m.** CT. The BUILD program is designed for projects with significant local or regional impact, especially those with multi-modal and multi-jurisdictional focuses. Applications for planning grants and capital grants can be submitted on Valid Eval: [Application Details](#).



Photo Credit: Village of Oswego

In this Issue

- 1 FUNDING UPDATES
SAVE THE DATE
- 2 KANE COUNTY UPDATES
PARTNER UPDATES
- 3 CMAP NEWS
- 4 KKCOM COUNCIL INFORMATION
KKCOM STAFF
KKCOM CONTACT INFORMATION

| SAVE THE DATE | |
|---------------|--|
| January 8 | MPO Policy Committee |
| January 13 | Council of Mayors Executive Committee |
| January 14 | CMAP Board |
| January 22 | KKCOM TPC |
| February 5 | STP Project Selection Committee |
| February 5 | CMAQ & TAP Project Selection Committee |
| February 11 | CMAP Board |
| February 27 | CMAP Transportation Committee |

HAPPY NEW YEAR

KKCOM Staff wishes everyone and their families a safe and healthy New Year!!!



Paratransit Vehicle
Photo Credit: Ride in Kane

SAFE STREETS FOR ALL AWARDS

USDOT announced the awards for the [FY 2025 cycle of Safe Streets for All](#). Almost \$1 Billion was awarded for implementation, planning, and demonstration grants for 521 communities. In the CMAP region, McHenry County will receive \$2,250,000 for a roundabout project. The FY2026 NOFO is expected to be announced spring of 2026: [SS4A Upcoming](#).

SAFE STREETS FOR ALL WEBINAR

DuPage County hosted a webinar regarding Safe Streets for All funding and implementation guidance. This information is applicable to all municipalities that are included in the six county-level safety action plans that CMAP approved last summer. The webinar is available to view online: [SS4A Webinar](#).

QUARTERLY STATUS UPDATES

CMAP is working on transferring Quarterly Status Updates to the eTIP platform. Due to this, the December QSU's will be completed in the usual manner, but will be delayed until January. The March 2026 QSU's will be completed on eTIP. More information will be provided at the January 22 TPC meeting. We apologize for the delay.

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY 2026 BUDGET

The Illinois Tollway Board of Directors has approved a [balanced budget](#) of \$1.79 billion. This includes \$1.26 billion in capital spending to fund both the Move Illinois capital program and Bridging the Future capital plan. There is no increase planned in 2026 for passenger vehicle tolls.

IDOT 2025 SUMMARY

IDOT released an [end-of-year memo](#) highlighting the agency's accomplishments throughout 2025 including releasing the largest multi-year construction program in state history in October. Through six years of Rebuild Illinois, the State has accomplished almost \$20.8 billion of improvements to numerous transportation facilities. More details on the progress of Rebuild Illinois can be found on IDOT's [interactive dashboard](#).

KANE COUNTY UPDATES

Kane County 2027 Impact Fee Program Update

Kane County is in the process of updating its [Impact Fee Program](#), which includes the Comprehensive Road Improvement Plan (CRIP) and the Impact Fee Ordinance. A public hearing regarding the plan's land use assumptions will be held Tuesday, January 14 from 4-7 p.m. in the Kane County Government Center Auditorium and online. The County encourages participation from residents, municipal staff, and other stakeholders. Additionally, a Virtual Public Hearing will be available on the [plan's engagement site](#) until January 15.

Ride In Kane New Parameters

KDOT has been working with Pace, the RTA, and local sponsors to transition the Ride in Kane Program to a countywide coordinated program which will provide equal access for all eligible Kane County residents and a more streamlined system for riders to register. Prior to the update, the program was administered by over 18 community sponsors with separate parameters and eligible trip types. The enhanced program will feature one system, one set of rules, and the same travel destinations for all eligible residents across Kane County. Service is available for seniors over 65, people with disabilities, and veterans traveling to select facilities. Kane County will serve as the grant recipient and program administrator, while Pace Suburban Bus will continue to operate the dial-a-ride service and will manage a new unified rider registration system and call center. The program's funding includes a 50 percent operating subsidy from Pace Bus, with the remaining 50 percent funded with ARPA funds for veterans trips and Section 5310 funds through the RTA for other trips. All trips outside Kane County must start or end within Kane County and may travel to any municipality that is partly within Kane County. Information about eligibility, registration, and fares is available at the [Ride in Kane website](#). Details can also be found in the updated [Ride in Kane Rider's Guide](#).

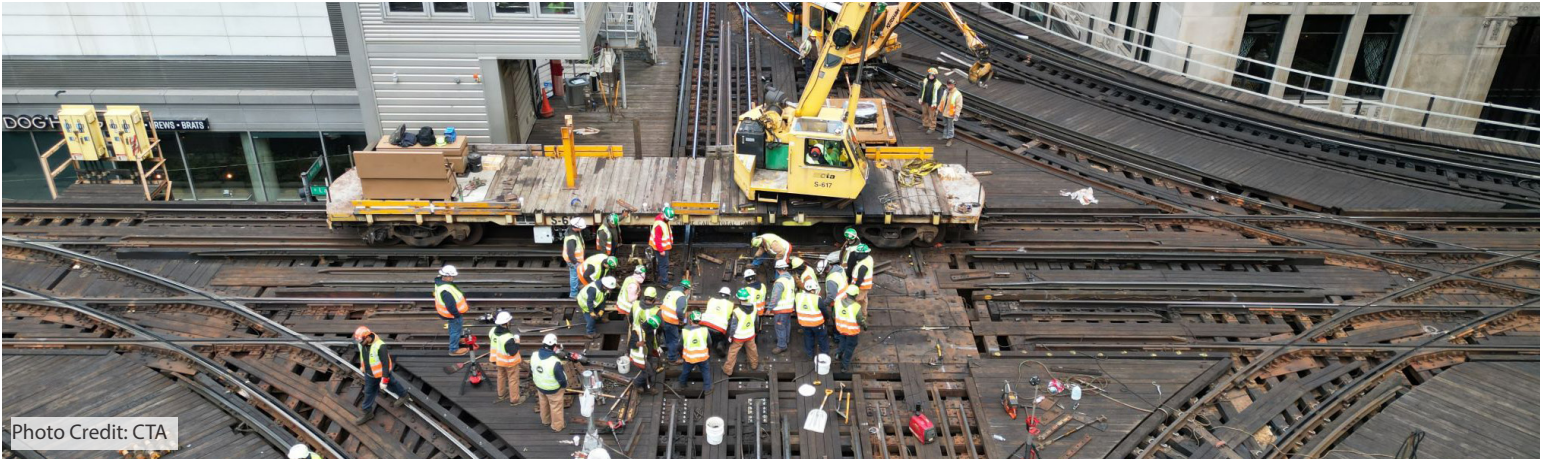
PARTNER UPDATES

Governor Pritzker Signs Transit Bill

On December 16, Governor JB Pritzker signed SB2111. This landmark transit funding and reform bill replaces the RTA with the Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) and provides approximately \$1.2 billion in new funding for the CTA, Metra, and Pace. The RTA will be replaced by NITA on June 1, 2026 and the new 20-member board will be seated by September 2026. The RTA has released a [preliminary summary of SB2111](#) which includes an implementation timeline with key deadlines and milestones for the transition of the agency and development of programs identi-

RTA Budget Approves Transit Budgets

The RTA Board of Directors has [voted to approve](#) the 2026 regional transit operating budget and 2026-2030 capital program. This budget ensures continuity across the region with no fare increases and no service cuts, but also supports Service Board improvements while positioning the system for larger changes ahead.



CMAP NEWS

Regional Water Workshops

CMAP is launching a new five-part virtual workshop series titled “Shared Waters, Shared Future: Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Sustainability Workshops.” These workshops are a partnership between CMAP, the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resource’s Office of Water. Topics and details are available online and include water governance, water sustainability, and groundwater impact: [Water Workshops](#). Sessions will be hosted virtually and will feature community leaders, water utilities, planners, policy makers, and residents. Registration is now open for each of the five workshops which will take place between February to November: [Webinar Registration](#). The first session, Collaborating with Water Utilities and Local Governments, will be held on February 18 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

State of the Region Snapshots

As part of the launch of CMAP’s Century Plan at the State of the Region event, CMAP shared State of the Region Snapshots. These snapshots include details about the region’s population, workforce, travel, and economic trends and more: [State of the Region Snapshots](#). More information on the development of the Century Plan is available online: [Century Plan](#).

Regional Transportation Plan Policy Briefs

In support of the development of the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan, CMAP has worked with a consultant to develop four policy briefs on different transportation topics: [Asset Management](#), [Emerging Technologies](#), [Innovative Finance and Project Delivery](#), and [Intercity Rail and Bus](#). These topics are identified as priority areas for CMAP and partner agencies and expand on themes identified in previous planning efforts including the ON TO 2050 Plan.

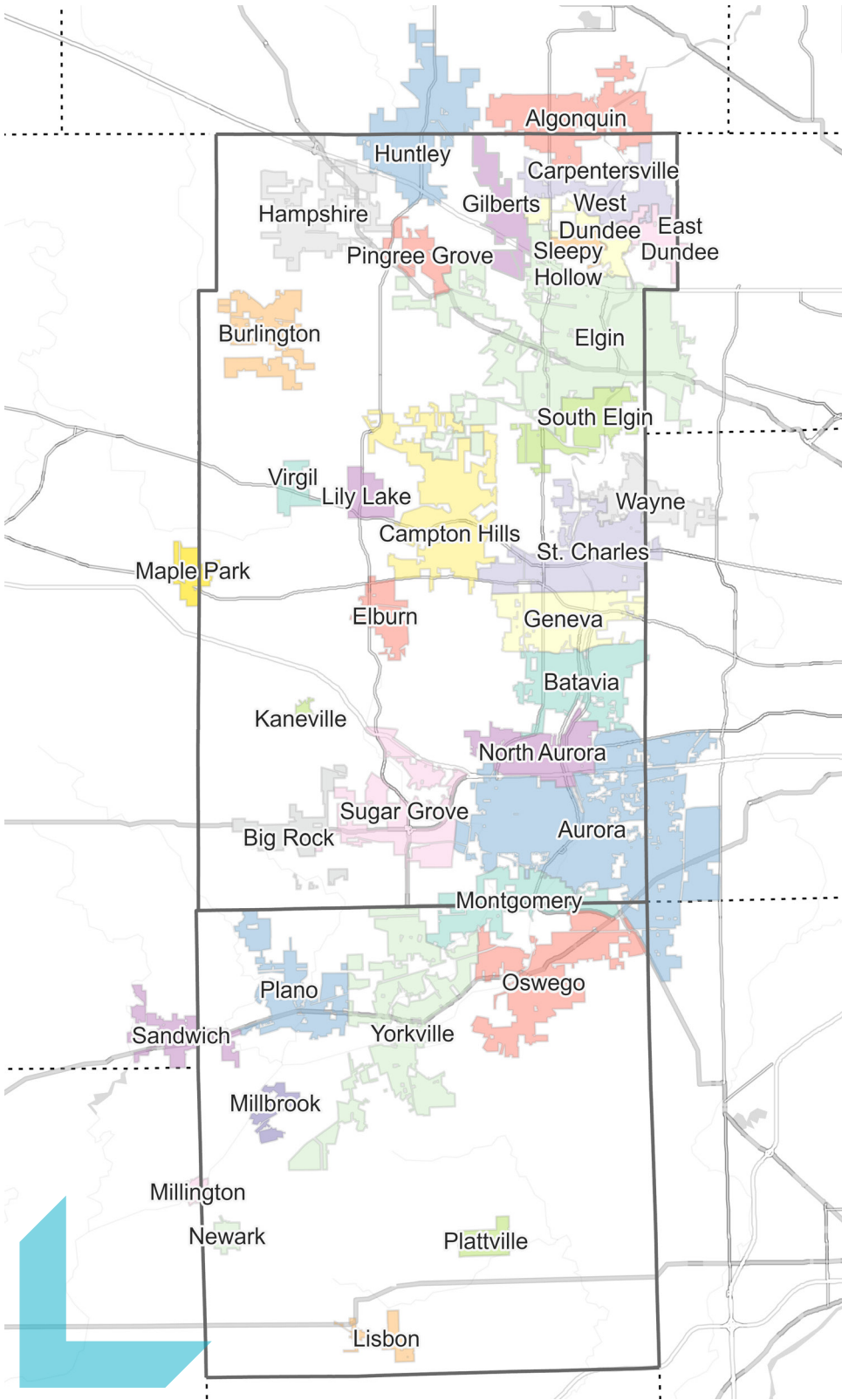
2026 RTP: Financial Forecast

CMAP continues to advance the [2026 Regional Transportation Plan](#) (RTP) through extensive research, data analysis, and public engagement. To meet federal requirements for fiscal constraint, CMAP is developing long-range financial forecasts for the RTP to estimate baseline revenues and expenditures and identify additional reasonably expected revenues. Working with a [financial plan resource group](#), CMAP has refined transparent and accurate forecasting methods to guide investment priorities through 2050. A forthcoming Financial Plan Risk Assessment will evaluate key uncertainties and identify realistic and resilient mitigation strategies.

Through coordination with partner agencies, CMAP has identified 137 regional capital projects (RCPs) for possible inclusion in the RTP. A [draft RCP Benefits Report](#) summarizing the benefits that each proposed project offers to the region is now available. The RCP candidates can also be viewed in an [interactive map](#). CMAP will continue to update and refine this report.

Northeastern Illinois Development Database

Since 1987, CMAP (and its predecessor agency) has tracked significant developments and redevelopments in the region to inform the local forecast model, which predicts household and job placements. For the first time this year, CMAP made that data publicly accessible through the Northeastern Illinois Development Database interactive map. Using the map, municipalities can view and submit proposed, in-progress, or completed developments. The data is also available on the CMAP Data Hub. Thanks to municipalities around the region, more than 400 developments were added to the database. Municipalities can view and contribute to the database online: [Development Database](#).



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