

IN BRIEF

A Publication of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference
1220 Oak Brook Road, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 (630) 571-0480

JANUARY 2007

DMMC AND NWMC HOST JOINT MEETING

On December 13, 2006, the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference and the Northwest Municipal Conference hosted the first ever joint meeting between the two councils of government. The guest speaker was **U.S. Senator Richard J. Durbin**. Also present were **U.S. Representative Melissa Bean, Illinois State Senator Jeffrey Schoenberg**, and **Illinois State Representative Kathleen Ryg**. We thank all of the elected officials for attending and showing their support of intergovernmental cooperation. A special thank you to the Village of Schaumburg for its generosity and assistance with the event.



ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE DINNER AND LEGISLATIVE ACTION PROGRAM

DuPage area legislators are our special guests at DMMC's annual legislative event on Wednesday, January 17, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hyatt in Lisle. At this meeting, the Legislative Committee will present the Conference's 2007 Legislative Action Program for membership approval. The finalized document will serve as the basis for our work in the 2007 legislative session.

2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR

The 2007 Legislative Session Calendar is now available. Please visit www.ilga.gov to view the current schedule. If you have questions, please contact Associate Director **Nancy Hill** at (630) 571-0480, ext. 24.

SPRINGFIELD DRIVE DOWN DATES ANNOUNCED

Plans are being made for the 2007 Springfield Drive Down on Tuesday, April 24 and Wednesday, April 25. This year's trip promises to be action-packed, as both houses will be in session and there are many issues of concern to municipalities. Registration packets will be mailed to members in early March.

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17 **Conference Business Meeting**

Program: 2007 Legislative Action Program
5:30 to 9:00 p.m.
Hyatt Lisle

JANUARY 24-26 **U.S. Conference of Mayors 75th Winter Meeting**

Washington D.C.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 **Conference Business Meeting**

Program: Clean Air Counts
Location to be Announced

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 **Interoperability Briefing**

8:00 to 10:30 a.m.
Lombard Village Hall

THURSDAY, MARCH 8 **Workshop: Lessons in Radical Leadership**

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Itasca Village Hall

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY APRIL 24-25 **Springfield Drive Down**

CALL FOR CMAQ PROJECT PROPOSALS

The Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) is calling for projects for the FY 2008 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. CMAQ funds are used for projects that reduce congestion and related air pollution. Examples of eligible projects are transit service improvements, traffic signal interconnects, and bicycle/pedestrian projects. For a complete list of eligible project types, see the CATS website: www.catsmpo.com/prog-cmaq.htm. Forms and instructions can also be downloaded from the CATS website. Project proposals must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2007.

ILLINOIS SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL TRAINING

The Illinois Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a federal initiative that provides \$23 million in funding through 2009 to Illinois schools and communities. Funds can be used for projects and programs that encourage and enable students to safely walk and bike to school. Schools serving grades K-8 are eligible for grants. Local governments and non-profit organizations may act as project sponsors. To help communities prepare for this opportunity, IDOT is sponsoring a special advance training session on Friday, January 19 at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hinsdale Memorial Building in Hinsdale. Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 16 to **Melody Geraci**, Chicagoland Bicycle Federation, at (312) 427-3325, ext. 240. There are several other training sessions scheduled across the region in January and February. For a listing of these sessions and their locations, visit the IDOT SRTS website at www.dot.il.gov/saferoutes/training.html.

Congratulations to **Sandra Hartwig**, wife of Addison Mayor Larry Hartwig, for being named Serenity House's 2007 Woman of the Year!

HABITAT RESTORATION GRANTS

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is soliciting applications for Ecosystem Project Grants under its Conservation 2000 Ecosystems Program. The Program brings together the interests and participation of communities, landowners, environmental organizations, and recreational enthusiasts to enhance and protect watersheds through ecosystem management. The deadline for online grant applications is 5 p.m., Wednesday, February 28, 2007. The deadline for hard-copy applications is Wednesday, January 31, 2007. For more information go to www.dnr.state.il.us/orep/c2000/ecosystem/fy08/.

INNOVATION + INTEGRATION SUMMIT

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is hosting a summit to examine current economic development, housing, and transportation policies and explore ways for the region and its communities to take an integrated approach to planning. The event is on Tuesday, February 6, 2007, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Please visit www.chicagoareaplanning.org for more information.

LUCA IS COMING!

The next decennial census is just 39 months away, and the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program begins this year. Each municipality will have the opportunity to add any missing addresses to the Census Bureau's records before Census forms are distributed. An accurate record of addresses results in a more complete count of residents and more State-shared revenue. The Conference will work with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the Census Bureau to assist you with this program. We will contact municipal managers and administrators in the next few months to provide more information and schedule workshops for this program.

Founded in 1962, the DuPAGE MAYORS AND MANAGERS CONFERENCE is a council of 35 municipal governments representing over 1,000,000 people. A coalition of cities and villages, the Conference works to voice municipal concerns on local, regional, state, and national issues. It also serves its members and the region by fostering intergovernmental cooperation. The Conference is a not-for-profit organization supported by membership dues and grants.

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CLEAN AIR COUNTS

Learn how your organization can improve air quality and lower emissions that contribute to global warming and ozone depletion at our February Conference Business Meeting on February 21, at Embassy Suites Hotel in Lombard. **Eve Pytel** from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Clean Air Counts campaign will describe proven strategies to help municipalities improve air quality in DuPage and the region.

HOME GROWN: LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGIES IN ACTION

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus recently released *Home Grown: Local Housing Strategies in Action*, a collection of more than 30 housing-related Best Practices from the Chicago region. *Home Grown* shows how municipalities in the region are addressing housing issues and provides ideas for replicating or improving upon these approaches to address local challenges. Copies of this resource will be distributed to each member municipality at the February 21 Conference Business Meeting. Additional copies are also available online at www.mayorscaucus.org/.

DMMC 2007 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

On January 17, DMMC held its Legislative Reception and Dinner at the Hyatt Lisle. Over one hundred thirty people attended the annual presentation of Legislative Priorities. Special thanks to the following legislators for their attendance and participation: **Senators Dillard, Hultgren, and Millner; and Representatives Bellock, Chapa La Via, Coladipietro, Durkin, Froelich, Fortner, Meyer, Pihos, Ramey, and Reboletti.** Copies of the DMMC 2007 Legislative Action Program are available at www.dmmc-cog.org/proglegis.cfm.

2007 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- ◆ Protect Municipal Revenues
 - ◆ Regional Air Capacity
 - ◆ Deferred Retirement Option Programs (DROP)
 - ◆ VoIP and Telecommunications Regulations
 - ◆ Regional Transit Funding and Administration
 - ◆ Regional Planning for Land Use and Transportation
 - ◆ Open Meetings Act - Electronic Meeting Attendance
 - ◆ Water Supply Consumer Confidence Report

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

President's Day
DMMC Offices Closed

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Conference Business Meeting
Program: Clean Air Counts
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Embassy Suites Hotel
Lombard

~~FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23~~
~~**RESCHEDULED**~~
~~*Illegibility Briefing*~~
~~8:00 to 10:00 a.m.~~
~~Lombard Village Hall~~
DATE TBA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Conflict Resolution Workshop
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Westchester Village Hall

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Radical Lessons in Leadership Workshop
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Itasca Village Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Conference Business Meeting
Program and Location to be announced

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY APRIL 24-25

Springfield Drive Down

(continued on reverse)

175TH ANNIVERSARY

Happy birthday, Downers Grove!
This year marks the 175th anniversary of Pierce Downer settling in the area in 1832. The village will celebrate the milestone through its signature events, such as the Ice Sculpture Festival and Heritage Festival, block parties, and sale of commemorative items.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING AWARD NOMINATIONS

The DuPage Homeownership Center (DHOC) is now accepting nominations for the 2007 Robert Christ Affordable Housing Award. The award, named for founding DHOC Board President and affordable housing activist Robert Christ, recognizes individuals for their significant achievement in promoting or creating affordable housing opportunities in DuPage County. To submit a nominee, please contact the DuPage Homeownership Center at (630) 260-2500. The award will be presented at the DHOC's 15th anniversary celebration in June.

DUPAGE COUNTY CDBG

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible grant program that provides communities with funds to address a wide range of unique community development needs. Communities may apply to DuPage County for funding of comprehensive neighborhood planning, neighborhood infrastructure and facilities, improvements to facilities that are open to the public and individuals with disabilities, economic development, affordable housing planning, historic preservation, and environmental protection. For more information on CDBG funding and an application, contact the DuPage County Development Department at (630) 407-6602. The next round of applications are due October 2, 2007.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL WORKSHOP - APPLICANTS SHOULD ATTEND

If your municipality is sponsoring a Safe Routes to School grant application, attending IDOT's Safe Routes to School Workshop is beneficial. Before you begin the application process, grantees are required to create a School Travel Plan, a written document identifying the barriers to active transportation to and from school and outlining plans to make travel safer. This requires much effort on the applicant's part, including forming a task force or committee, conducting surveys, and hosting public forums. The School Travel Plan must be submitted to IDOT no later than April 30, and must be approved before submitting the grant application (which is due May 31). Attending a Workshop will help you prepare the school travel plan and apply for funding. There are two upcoming workshops in the Chicago area: Thursday, February 15 at the Orland Park Civic Center; and Tuesday, February 27 at the DuPage County Judicial Office Facility in Wheaton. For more information and to register for a workshop, visit www.dot.il.gov/saferoutes/SafeRoutesHome.aspx.

INTEROPERABILITY BRIEFING RESCHEDULED

The Interoperability Briefing scheduled for February 23 is being RESCHEDULED with a new date to be announced. The rescheduling is due to a decision to expand the Interoperability Briefing to address more specific issues in the two systems being developed in DuPage. Those already registered for the Briefing will be contacted with the new date. DMMC is also sponsoring the following workshops:

Wednesday, February 28
Conflict Resolution Workshop
Westchester Village Hall

Thursday, March 8
Radical Lessons in Leadership Workshop
Itasca Village Hall

For detailed information about these workshops, contact **Kim Sumner** at (630) 571-0480, ext. 226.

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MARCH 2007

VIDEO SERVICE STATEWIDE FRANCHISE UPDATE

Please join us for our monthly Conference Business Meeting on Wednesday, March 21, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. at the Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort. We will receive an update on statewide cable and video franchise legislation and hear how communities are dealing with providers wishing to enter the market today. Also at this meeting, DMMC members will consider a bylaws amendment. If you cannot attend, members can authorize a proxy vote to be cast by a member of the Board of Directors. Please contact Executive Director **Mark Baloga** at (630) 571-0480 for more information.

MAKE PLANS NOW FOR THE SPRINGFIELD DRIVE DOWN

Conference members will head to the State Capitol on Tuesday, April 24 and Wednesday, April 25 to meet with Legislative Leaders at the 2007 Springfield Drive Down. With many important issues and several new faces in the DuPage area legislative delegation, the Drive Down promises to be an exciting event. Registration information has been mailed. Please RSVP early to guarantee room availability and a seat on the bus.

ELECTION OF DMMC OFFICERS

The Conference will hold its Annual Corporate Meeting at the Springfield Drive Down Welcome Luncheon on Tuesday, April 24, in order to elect our 2007-2008 Conference Officers.

The slate of candidates will be presented to members at our March 21 Conference Business Meeting. To allow participation by members not attending the Drive Down, nominations from the floor will be accepted on both March 21 and April 24.

DMMC AND WCMC PRESENT

Automated Red Light Enforcement Workshop
Wednesday, March 28, 2007
Lombard Village Hall
8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Cost: \$70 for members

Registration Deadline is Friday, March 23, 2007. For more information, contact **Kim Sumner** at (630) 571-0480, ext. 226 or ksumner@dmmc-cog.org.

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Conference Business Meeting

Program: Video Service and Statewide Franchising Update
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Automated Red Light

Enforcement Workshop

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Lombard Village Hall

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

APRIL 24-25

Springfield Drive Down and Annual Corporate Meeting

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

MMC Annual Gala

Location to be Announced

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

DMMC Vehicle and

Equipment Auction

College of DuPage

Glen Ellyn

(continued on reverse)

DMMC'S DELUGE

Recent cold temperatures caused a frozen storm sewer line at the Conference office, allowing water to enter the meeting rooms, kitchen, and back sections of the building through several roof top drains. Immediately, the affected areas were cleaned and thoroughly dried to prevent mold issues. Staff is working with the Conference's insurance carrier to facilitate restoration repairs, including replacement of drywall and painting.

Normal Conference operations continue. However, due to the unanticipated disruption, meetings scheduled at the Conference during the coming weeks may be impacted. Staff will notify members and other attendees as far in advance as possible of any location or time changes. Thank you for your patience.

CIRCULATOR STUDY ADVANCES WITH FIRST FOUR COMMUNITIES

On January 30, DMMC met with the first set of communities that will receive detailed bus service plans. The communities - Addison, Downers Grove, Lombard, and Wheaton - were selected based on criteria that evaluated potential service success. The study will now develop service designs, including detailed route alignment, schedule, fare, and operations, as well as an implementation strategy. Each community will distribute a survey in targeted neighborhoods, business areas, and local destinations to refine route preferences.

As a result of additional RTA funds, DMMC is able to work with four communities; the original scope covered only three. DMMC will seek funding for another nine communities to receive similar planning in 2008. These communities include Bensenville, Elmhurst, Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, Oak Brook, Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, West Chicago, and Wood Dale. Together, these 13 communities demonstrate the market, destinations, and local support needed to make circulators successful in DuPage.

SUCCESSFUL TRAINING EVENTS

In the past several weeks, DMMC has hosted three training events: the Conflict Resolution Workshop in February, and the Radical Lessons in Leadership Workshop and the Interoperability Briefing in March. All had great attendance and were well received by participants. Thank you to the Villages of Itasca and Lombard for allowing the use of your facilities for these events.



A full house at the Conflict Resolution Workshop.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT DEADLINE EXTENSION

The Illinois Department of Transportation has extended this year's Safe Routes to School grant program deadlines. School Travel Plans will now be due by May 31 (formerly April 30); and Project Applications will be due June 30 (formerly May 31).

DMMC WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

DMMC received a grant from the AT&T Foundation to improve our website with a new layout and graphics. Through an RFP process, web consultant Propeller, Inc. was selected to create a user-friendly design. Work on the project began in January, and an initial design has been selected. We hope the new website will be accessible to members by this summer. We appreciate the assistance and resources members have given to us throughout this process.

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APRIL 2007

DMMC BUSINESS MEETING TO BE HELD IN SPRINGFIELD

The April Conference Meeting will be held during the Springfield Drive Down opening lunch on Tuesday, April 24. This meeting is also the Conference's Annual Corporate Meeting and members will elect the President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer for 2007-2008. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

ANNUAL DINNER AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AWARD

The Conference's Annual Dinner will be held on Friday, May 18, 2007 at the Westin Hotel in Itasca. The Intergovernmental Cooperation Award will be presented at the dinner. Past recipients include both members and others in the region. Invitations will be mailed after the Springfield Drive Down.

FOND FAREWELLS FROM DMMC

Election results and planned retirements will alter the makeup of the DMMC. We take this opportunity to honor outgoing Mayors **James Carr, Ross Ferraro, Diane Hiller, Brian Krajewski** and **Kevin Quinlan**. We thank them for their service to their respective municipalities and DMMC.

STP WORKSHOP

The Conference's annual STP Workshop will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2007, at the Lombard Village Hall from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Attendance at the Workshop is mandatory for any agency that will be submitting an application for STP funds in 2007. The Surface Transportation Program provides federal funds for projects that improve the local transportation system. Applications are due on August 10, with project awards made in November. Registration forms will be distributed in late April. For more information, please contact Transportation and Planning Director **Rick Curneal** at rcurneal@dmmc-cog.org.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS TWICE

If you missed the March 10 Interoperability Briefing, it is now available on DVD. Each member municipality will be mailed one DVD. For additional copies, contact **Rick Curneal** at rcurneal@dmmc-cog.org.

SAVE THE DATE

**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
APRIL 24-25**

Springfield Drive Down

FRIDAY, MAY 18

DMMC Annual Dinner

Westin Chicago Northwest
Itasca

THURSDAY, MAY 24

STP Workshop

8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Lombard Village Hall

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

MMC Annual Gala

6:00 p.m.

Chicago History Museum

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

***DMMC Vehicle and
Equipment Auction***

College of DuPage
Glen Ellyn

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

***Conference Business Meeting
Program and Location to be
Announced***

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

DMMC Annual Golf Outing

Glendale Lakes Golf Course
Glendale Heights

(continued on reverse)

COD CONNECTOR TEAM TO MARKET PACE ROUTE 714

The diverse collaboration that brought the College of DuPage Connector/Pace Route 714 to western DuPage neighborhoods will now turn its efforts toward marketing the route. Leaders from Naperville, Wheaton, DuPage County, Pace, Metra, RTA, the College of DuPage and other educational institutions met in earlier this month to discuss ways to increase and sustain ridership. Some strategies include: outreach to homeowners associations, places of worship, colleges, and other markets; cross-marketing the route with businesses along the route; and news articles focusing on new riders. The COD Connector was identified as a priority in the DuPage Area Transit Plan and is the first route to be implemented as part of the Plan. DMMC continues to work to implement other Plan components to help ease congestion and increase access to public transit.

PERFORMANCE AUDITS OF NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS' PUBLIC TRANSIT

The Office of the Illinois Auditor General has completed performance audits of the RTA, Metra, CTA, and Pace. The audits concluded the agencies are facing a serious financial shortfall, and revenues are not sufficient to pay for current operations, capital renewal programs, and new services. In addition, the audit made several recommendations to improve efficiency and effectiveness through increased coordination and reduced redundancy in route planning, fare systems, etc. It also called for the RTA to establish a set of criteria for prioritizing and funding major new Service Board initiatives. Lastly, the audit raised several matters for consideration by the General Assembly, including RTA governance and pension funding. Copies of the audits are available for review or downloading at <http://www.auditor.illinois.gov>.

NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PUBLICATIONS

Retail 1-2-3 is the third workbook in a series by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, along with the International Conference of Shopping Centers (ICSC), the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), and the Campaign for Sensible Growth. These workbooks are prepared for local officials to help them attract and retain valuable retail businesses. It provides a wealth of information on retail developments including case studies, creative financing options, and resources for local communities. To request a copy of the workbook, please contact **Jackie Diaz**, MPC, (312) 863-6016.

Economic and Community Development Resources is a new booklet by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) for use by municipalities, government agencies, businesses and non-profit organizations. It is a comprehensive directory of funding programs that serve economic and community development initiatives in the seven-county Northeast Illinois region. Funding sources include both public and private organizations. For copies of the publication or on how CMAP is involved in economic and community development, please call (312) 258-0012.

ILLINOIS PLANNING AWARDS

The Illinois Chapter of the American Planning Association (ILAPA) annually recognizes excellence in planning through its Chapter Awards Program and invites nominations for 2007. Nominations must be made in one of six categories: Plan; Program/Project or Tool; Public Education, Implementation of a Plan, Special Community Initiative; or Distinguished Service. The deadline for nominations is Monday, June 4, 2007. For more information and nomination forms, go to www.ilapa.org.

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MAY 2007

DMMC OFFICERS ELECTED

We are pleased to announce our Officers for 2007-2008:

President, Kenneth Johnson

Mayor, City of Wood Dale

Vice President, Joseph Broda

Mayor, Village of Lisle

Secretary/Treasurer, Steven Stricker

Administrator, Village of Burr Ridge

Officers will be inducted and President Johnson will announce appointments to the Board of Directors at the May 18th Annual Dinner. All terms begin June 1.

Members were sent a committee sign-up form earlier this month. Please consider sharing your expertise with us on one of our standing committees in the coming year.

WELCOME NEW MAYORS

We wish to congratulate and welcome new member Mayors. The newly elected Mayors are **Frank Saverino**, Carol Stream; **Thomas Karaba**, Clarendon Hills; **Ron Sandack**, Downers Grove; **Rodney Craig**, Hanover Park; **John Craig**, Oak Brook; **Michael J. Gresk**, Wheaton. Also, **Michael Kwasman**, who was appointed West Chicago's Acting Mayor in 2006, became the city's Mayor in a special election.

TIME TO HIT THE LINKS!

Save the date!

The DMMC Annual Golf Outing

will be held on

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

at the Glendale Lakes Golf Club in
Glendale Heights.

Registration and sponsorship forms will be
mailed in the coming weeks.



SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, MAY 18

DMMC Annual Dinner

6:00 p.m.

Westin Chicago Northwest
Itasca

THURSDAY, MAY 24

STP Workshop

8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Lombard Village Hall

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

MMC Annual Gala

6:00 p.m.

Chicago History Museum

SATURDAY JUNE 9

**DMMC Vehicle and
Equipment Auction**

College of DuPage
Glen Ellyn

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

Conference Business Meeting

Program to be Announced

Midwestern University
Downers Grove

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

DMMC Annual Golf Outing

Glendale Lakes Golf Course
Glendale Heights

(continued on reverse)

DMMC SPRING AUCTION

DMMC will hold its semi-annual Vehicle and Equipment Auction on Saturday, June 9, 2007, at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. Bidding begins at 10 a.m. Managers and Administrators were mailed information in April. Please submit your items as soon as possible - as auction slots are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Contact **Marcy Ramirez Velez**, Administrative Assistant, at mvelez@dmmc-cog.org for more information.

SUCCESSFUL DRIVE DOWN

On April 24 and 25, over 90 municipal officials from DuPage and Kane Counties made the trek to the State Capitol for the 2007 Springfield Drive Down. During the day, we met with **Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn, Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias, Senate Republican Leader Frank Watson, House Republican Leader Tom Cross, House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie**, and legislators from throughout the state. On Tuesday evening participants and legislators attended a reception and dinner at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and had exclusive access to exhibits. Thank you to all of the participants who made this year's event a great success!



Mayors Broda and Johnson participated in a meeting with Senate Republican Leader Frank Watson in Springfield.

COOK DUPAGE CORRIDOR APPOINTMENTS

Addison Trustee **Joe McDermott** is the DMMC's newest appointment to the Cook DuPage Corridor Policy Committee. Lombard's **Dave Hulseburg** and Naperville's **Karyn Ryg** also have been appointed to the Technical Committee. Congratulations and thanks to all.

REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WORKSHOPS

On Thursday, June 21, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Addison Village Hall, CMAP will conduct a workshop to engage municipal leaders in applying the regional framework plan and envisioning how to use it in the future. The workshop will summarize CMAP's overall direction and progress to date; demonstrate the Centers Toolkit, a new tool from the framework plan designed to help local communities enhance their center places; and initiate a discussion about the upcoming Regional Comprehensive Plan, an integrated plan for land use and transportation scheduled for completion in 2010. To register for the workshop, contact **Tam Kutzmark**, Transportation Project Manager, at tkutzmark@dmmc-cog.org.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CHARRETTE

The City of Wood Dale held the county's first housing charrette on April 21. A charrette is a forum for developing design solutions for specific community issues. Wood Dale was studying ways to incorporate affordable homeownership into the mixed-use, mixed-income redevelopment of the Georgetown Square area on Irving Park Road. The charrette was sponsored by the Wood Dale City Council, facilitated by the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and attended by about 40 property owners, businesses, local officials, and design professionals. Solutions identified will ultimately be used to assist in the modification of local ordinances and zoning codes to accommodate affordable mixed-density housing. Two additional charrettes are being planned for later this year.

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CONFERENCE MEMBERS HONORED AT ANNUAL DINNER

DMMC held its 45th Annual Dinner and Recognition Ceremony at the Westin Chicago Northwest in Itasca on Friday, May 18, 2007. Entertainment for the evening was provided by bagpiper Trudianne Temple and drummer Kyle Woodring.

Congratulations to former Carol Stream Mayor **Ross Ferraro** and Woodridge Village Administrator **John Perry**, who were each honored with a 2007 Intergovernmental Cooperation Award.

The 2006-2007 Board of Directors was recognized for its hard work and dedication during the past year. The ceremony concluded with the induction of Wood Dale Mayor **Ken Johnson** as Conference President. We look forward to working with the incoming Board members during the 2007-2008 term year.



Former Carol Stream Mayor Ross Ferraro (left) and Woodridge Village Administrator John Perry accept their Intergovernmental Cooperation Awards from 2006-2007 Conference President George Pradel.



GOLF OUTING REGISTRATION

Registration and sponsorship forms have been mailed out for the 2007 DMMC Annual Golf Outing. The Outing will be held at the Glendale Lakes Golf Club in Glendale Heights on Wednesday, July 18. The registration deadline is July 6, so round up your foursome and get ready to hit the links! Contact **Nancy Hill** (630) 571-0480, ext. 224 for more information.

SPRING VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT AUCTION A SUCCESS

At the June Auction, 103 items were sold resulting in sales of \$307,335. There were 18 participants from various municipalities, fire protection districts, and park districts. A special thanks to the College of DuPage, which allowed us to use its facilities.

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

Conference Business Meeting *Program: Municipal Innovation Award*

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Midwestern University
Downers Grove

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Newly Elected Officials Workshop

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
DMMC Offices
Oak Brook

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

CMAP Watershed Workshop

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
CMAP Office
Chicago

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

Annual Golf Outing

Glendale Lakes Golf Club
Glendale Heights

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

John Noel Public Transit DuPage Discovery Conference

8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Oak Meadows Golf Club
Addison

(continued on reverse)

COD CONNECTOR RIDERSHIP UP

Ridership on Pace Route 714, the *DuPage Area Transit Plan's* first project to result in new service, reached 240 per day in April. This is up from 139 in January. The COD Connector Team of Naperville, Wheaton, DuPage County, College of DuPage, Illinois Institute of Technology, Pace, Metra, RTA, and DMMC, met in May to develop strategies for raising ridership to 350 by October. This increase will be accomplished by marketing to apartment complexes, large businesses, Edward Hospital, and the university/college community. For more information on the COD Connector, contact **Tam Kutzmark** at (630) 571-0480, ext. 228.

WATERSHED PLANNING GUIDE

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency have released the new publication *Guidance for Developing Watershed Action Plans in Illinois*. This guide will be useful to anyone interested in starting a locally-led watershed planning initiative or in strengthening an existing plan. CMAP is also offering a workshop on Thursday, June 28, 2007 to provide additional information on using the Guide. For more information, contact **Amy Talbot** at CMAP at (312) 386-8646. A copy of the guide is available at www.chicagoareaplanning.org/watershed.

GREAT PLACES IN ILLINOIS

Congratulations to the DuPage communities with buildings, streets, parks, plazas, bridges, and streets selected by the Illinois chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) as Great Places in Illinois. To commemorate its 150th anniversary, AIA Illinois recognized places in the built environment for significantly contributing to their community's quality of life. The list includes schools, churches, offices, court houses, museums, and planned communities. Though half of the places are historically significant, many others were built in recent years. For the complete list of Great Places to go www.illinoisgreatplaces.com.

AURORA H2O WINS AWARD

Member municipality Aurora has been honored with the title of "Best Tasting Water in the State". This is according to the Illinois chapter of the American Water Works Association. During a blind taste test in Springfield earlier this year, Aurora's water beat out the other competitors and will proceed to the national competition. We wish them the best of luck.

BURR RIDGE & WILLOWBROOK DISCUSS JOINING FORCES

The Villages of Burr Ridge and Willowbrook have announced they will begin discussions to examine the feasibility of consolidating their municipal police services and facilities. Burr Ridge Mayor **Gary Grasso** and Willowbrook President **Gary Pretzer** acknowledge that such an effort will require a great deal of work, but they also indicated they are determined to expeditiously examine opportunities for service enhancements and financial efficiencies. While no timetable has yet been established, Mayor Grasso and President Pretzer expect to begin discussions with respective Village Administrators and Police Chiefs in the near future.

WOOD DALE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AVAILABLE ON PODCAST

In an attempt to attract the attention of younger city residents, the City of Wood Dale has begun podcasting its city council meetings. The meetings are digitally recorded, downloaded onto a computer, and converted to MP3 formats. Residents can download the MP3 file from the website <http://exchange.wooddale.com/audio/>. From there the file can be loaded onto any iPod or other MP3 player.

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IN BRIEF

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JULY/AUGUST 2007

DMMC PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENTS

DMMC is pleased to announce several staffing changes that are now taking place. **Rick Curneal** is transitioning from the Transportation and Planning Director to become the Legislative Director. The Legislative Director position is newly created to expand and enhance the Conference's legislative activities. In this role, Rick will staff the Legislative and Regulatory Issues Committees.

In addition, **Tam Kutzmark**, the former Transportation Project Manager, has been promoted to Transportation and Planning Director. She will staff the Planning, Transportation Policy, and Transportation Technical Committees.

Along with these changes, Associate Director **Nancy Hill** will now staff the Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

We look forward to hiring a new Transportation Project Manager in the near future.

SUCCESSFUL GOLF OUTING IS PAR FOR THE COURSE

DMMC held its annual golf outing on Wednesday, July 18 at the Glendale Lakes Golf Club in Glendale Heights.

Congratulations to the foursome with the best score - **Jeff O'Dell** (Roselle), **Karl Ottosen** (the Law Firm of Ottosen, Britz, Kelly, Cooper & Gilbert, Ltd.), and **Ron Putzell** and **David Williams** (Itasca). **Joe McDermott** (Addison) and **Jo Ellen Charlton** (RHA&A) won the Closest to the Pin contest. **Dave Hulseberg** (Lombard) and **Lisa Van Bogget** (Westmont) won the Longest Drive contest and the Longest Putt winners were **Tom Karaba** (Clarendon Hills) and **Christine Winger** (Wood Dale).



Special thanks to Glendale Heights Mayor **Linda Jackson** and the Glendale Lakes Staff for hosting a wonderful event. Also, thank you to the sponsors for assisting in making the outing possible. Mark your calendar for next year's golf outing scheduled for Wednesday, July 16, 2008!

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

Salt Creek Basin Meeting

9:00 a.m.
DMMC Office

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Conference Business Meeting

Program: To Be Announced
6:00 p.m.
Medinah Shriners Center
Addison

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

DMMC Vehicle & Equipment Auction

Cypress Cove
Family Aquatic Center
Woodridge



(continued on reverse)

DMMC MEMBERS MAKE THE MONEY LIST

Congratulations to the Villages of Lisle and Woodridge for making *Money* magazine's list of Best Places to Live. The list this year focused on smaller communities that offer the best combination of economic opportunity, good schools, safe streets, things to do and a sense of community.

Lisle's downtown development project on the site of the old village hall, proximity to the I-88 corridor and the Metra line, and annual 4th of July Eyes to the Skies festival contributed to the village being ranked 20th among the top 100.

Money ranked Woodridge 61st, citing its Internationale Centre, one of the largest multi-state use business parks in the Chicago area, as well as its universal accreditation of all schools by a local agency, and its festivals.

CLEAN AIR EARNS MUNICIPALITIES RECOGNITION

Several DuPage communities received awards for participation in Clean Air Counts, a voluntary program in which municipalities implement various emission reduction strategies. The City of Aurora achieved the highest level, the Platinum Award. The Villages of Lombard and Roselle and the City of Wood Dale each received a Bronze Award. Congratulations to these new winners, as well as past Silver Award winner Schaumburg and past Bronze Award winners Bartlett, Burr Ridge, and Naperville.

Becoming a Clean Air Community is an excellent way for municipalities to demonstrate their commitment to clean air. The program recognizes each municipality's efforts with awards for reaching various levels. Applications for the next round of community awards are due September 18, 2007. For more information, visit www.cleanaircounts.org.

WOODRIDGE RECOGNIZED WITH THE MUNICIPAL INNOVATION AWARD

Congratulations to the Village of Woodridge for receiving DMMC's 2007 Municipal Innovation Award. At the June Conference Business Meeting, Woodridge was recognized for its *Dancing with the CRC Kids* program, in which 50 kids in its Community Resource Center (CRC) practiced ballroom dancing and gained important traits that will last a lifetime. The pinnacle of the program was a performance by the kids and special guest dance partners, including Woodridge Administrator **John Perry**.

Five other innovations were finalists for the award: Addison's GIS mapping and technology integration, Bloomingdale's Leadership Academy, Westmont's Safe and Secure Intergovernmental Task Force, Winfield's Commuter Parking Permit Renewal process, and Wood Dale's Council Meeting Podcasts.

The Municipal Innovation Award process allows officials to share new ideas and programs with their peers. Thank you to all who participated.

FINANCE SEMINARS OFFERED

The Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA) is offering seminars to non-finance professionals such as elected officials, department heads, assistant department heads, and new finance department personnel.

Local Government Budgeting 101 is scheduled for Thursday, September 20 and *Local Government Revenue 101* is scheduled for Friday, November 9. Both will be held at NIU Naperville Campus, 1120 E. Diehl Road, Naperville from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

For more information or to register, go to www.igfoa.org or call (630) 505-0679.

IN BRIEF

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SEPTEMBER 2007

NEW FACE AT THE CONFERENCE

DMMC welcomes **Kama Dobbs**, who joined the Conference on August 27 as Transportation Project Manager. Kama will work on a variety of transportation projects including STP fund distribution and *DuPage Area Transit Plan* implementation. Kama brings 10 years of transportation planning experience as staff and consultant to the Brevard County MPO in Florida.

DMMC OFFERS TWO TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Cable and Video Competition Law of 2007 Briefing:** This briefing will cover the provisions of the new law and will provide an overview of AT&T's Project Lightspeed. This free briefing will be held on Friday, September 21, 2007, at the Woodridge Park District Community Center, 2600 Center Drive, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The deadline for registering is Monday, September 17, 2007.
- **Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act Workshop:** A representative from the Illinois Attorney General's office will answer your questions about the Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act, and will present tangible examples of how these statutes apply to municipalities. The workshop will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2007, at the Addison Village Hall, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The deadline for registering is Friday, September 21, 2007.

To register for either of these opportunities, contact **Kim Sumner**, DMMC Member Services and Communications Manager, at (630) 571-0480, ext. 226.

SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE BUSINESS MEETING

The next Conference Business Meeting will be Wednesday, September 19, 2007 at the Medinah Shriners Center in Addison. Representatives from DuPage County will summarize the County's investigation of alternative funding methods for its stormwater management programs. Please invite municipal engineers and other staff who would be involved in this project. For registration, contact **Mary Ann Jurevich** at (630) 571-0480.

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 **Conference Business Meeting**

Program: Stormwater Utility
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Medinah Shriners Center
Addison

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 **Briefing: Cable and Video Competition Law of 2007**

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Woodridge Park District
Community Center

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 **Workshop: Open Meetings Act and FOIA**

8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Addison Village Hall

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 **John Noel Public Transit Discovery Conference**

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Oak Meadows Golf Club
Addison

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 **DMMC Vehicle and Equipment Auction**

Cypress Cove
Family Aquatic Center
Woodridge

OCTOBER 18-21 **IML Annual Conference**

Hilton Chicago Hotel
Chicago

(continued on reverse)

THANK YOU MAYOR SMOLINSKI

The Conference wishes to recognize Roselle Mayor **Gayle Smolinski** for her service over the past year as the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Executive Board Chair. Under her leadership, the Caucus influenced statewide video service and cable franchise legislation, developed a position on education funding reform and financial accountability, and partnered with other groups to affect transportation, affordable housing, regulatory, and environmental issues. Mayor Smolinski's term ends in September, and new officers will be presented to the full Caucus at the next quarterly meeting.

EMERALD ASH BORER LOAN PROGRAM

Legislation recently approved in Springfield created the Emerald Ash Borer Revolving Loan Program. This new State initiative will provide low-cost loans to local governments for replanting trees on public lands within the boundaries of the State's Emerald Ash Borer quarantine area (which includes DuPage County). The Illinois Finance Authority will administer the program and issue loans to eligible communities pursuant to the recommendations of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Loans must be paid in full within 20 years. Note, however, no funding was authorized in the current State budget for this program. If a State capital program is developed this year, it is expected to include \$2 million for the loan program.

INNOVATIONS IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AWARD AND GRANT

Each year, the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government's Innovations in American Government Awards program offers grants to support replication and dissemination activities of creative and effective government initiatives. For more information or to nominate a program for this award, visit www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu. The deadline for submission is October 15, 2007.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM'S COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is hosting a free workshop on the Community Rating System for floodplain management. The workshop is Friday, September 21, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Lisle Police Department. To register contact **John Lentz**, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, at john.lentz@illinois.gov or call (847) 608-3100, ext. 2022.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKSHOP

The EPA is offering an online training class for local governments on improving energy efficiency. "Promoting energy efficiency to your community" will be offered Thursday, September 27, 2007 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. The class will teach how to accelerate energy efficiency activities and publicity in your community. To register, visit <http://energystar.webex.com>.

DMMC VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT AUCTION



- Saturday, October 13, 2007
- Cypress Cove Family Aquatic Center, Woodridge
- Viewing and Bidder Registration begins at 9 a.m.
- Bidding begins at 10 a.m.
- Auction slots are first-come, first-serve

For more information contact
Marcy Ramirez Velez
at (630) 571-0480

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OCTOBER 2007

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMING TO REGULATORY ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING

Representatives from ComEd will attend DMMC's Regulatory Issues Committee meeting on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss the company's response to the August wind/rain storms, including ComEd's own assessment of its performance, and to provide the opportunity for feedback from municipal representatives. They will also provide preliminary information on the energy efficiency measures required under the rate relief legislation approved this summer, and discuss concerns about ComEd's response time for local construction projects - especially road improvements. The Committee is opening the meeting to all DMMC members to discuss these issues or to ask questions about these topics. Due to space limitations, we ask that you send only one representative knowledgeable of your community's reactions and concerns about ComEd issues and that you **RSVP to Rick Curneal, Legislative Director, at rcurneal@dmmc-cog.org for this meeting no later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 16, 2007.**

OCTOBER CONFERENCE BUSINESS MEETING

The October Conference Business Meeting will be Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at the Klein Creek Golf Club in Winfield. The topic for this month, *Emerald Ash Borer Found in DuPage - Now What?* will address how municipalities should plan and react when they find the destructive bug in their communities. Speakers from the Morton Arboretum will present an overview and outline what you should expect when Emerald Ash Borer is found in your town. To register, contact **Mary Ann Jurevich**, Executive Assistant/Event Planner, at (630) 571-0480.

CONFERENCE MEMBERS RECEIVE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) has announced its 2007 service award recipients. Among those honored are Lombard Village Manager **Bill Lichter** and Bartlett Village Administrator **Valerie Salmons** for Career Excellence. Schaumburg Village Manager **Ken Fritz** and Senior Assistant to the Village Manager **Kathleen Tempesta** received the Community Health and Safety Program Excellence Award for populations 50,000 and greater, and they were also nominated for the Strategic Leadership and Governance Program Excellence Award. Congratulations to these four DMMC members!

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Vehicle & Equipment Auction

9:00 a.m.

Cypress Cove

Family Aquatic Center

Woodridge

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Conference Business Meeting

Program: Emerald Ash Borer

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Klein Creek Golf Club

Winfield

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Regulatory Issues Committee Meeting with ComEd

1:30 p.m.

Location TBD

RSVP to Rick Curneal

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Conference Business Meeting *Program and location TBD.*

Note: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the meeting will be on the fourth Wednesday of the month



(continued on reverse)

CABLE/VIDEO ORDINANCES AVAILABLE

With the passage of the Cable & Video Competition Law of 2007 (Public Act 095-0009), municipalities will need to adopt some new/revised ordinances to protect the public rights-of-way and assure the receipt of franchise and PEG revenues. The Illinois Municipal League has developed a series of model ordinances to address these issues. All of the model ordinances, along with supporting materials, are available to download from the IML website at www.iml.org.

AT&T filed its application on September 24 with the Illinois Commerce Commission for authorization to provide cable or video service. Each municipality should have received a notification of the filing from AT&T. A copy of the application is also posted on the ICC website at www.icc.illinois.gov. The ICC has until October 14, 2007 to confirm the application is complete and then must issue the authorization by October 24, 2007. Municipalities will be notified by the ICC within three days after the authorization is issued.

COD CONNECTOR BOASTS BIG NUMBERS AT ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

After just one year in service, Pace Route 714, commonly known as the COD Connector, reached a record high of 365 riders during the day on September 12. Determined to see the route succeed, DMMC, the cities of Naperville and Wheaton, DuPage County, RTA, Pace, Metra, COD, and the Illinois Institute of Technology have worked together for two years to design and market the COD Connector to students, residents, and employers along the route. While most routes take two to three years to mature, in its first year the COD Connector shows all signs of becoming a sustainable route for western DuPage municipalities.

GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASIN WATER RESOURCES COMPACT UPDATE

With the approval of House Bill 375 (Public Act 095-0238), Illinois joins Minnesota as states that have approved the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact. This Compact, negotiated by the eight Great Lakes States and the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, will improve and protect the health and economic vitality of the Great Lakes ecosystem for future generations. For Illinois, the Compact secured the ability to continue to make withdrawals from Lake Michigan at current levels and acknowledged the ability to increase withdrawals under the provisions of the U.S. Supreme Court Decree in *Wisconsin et al. v. Illinois et al.*

AFFORDABLE HOUSING SYMPOSIUM

The third DuPage Housing Breakfast Symposium, *Homeownership: A Benchmark for a Vital Community*, will be held on Thursday, November 29, 2007 from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Benedictine University. This grassroots network of developers, lenders, employers, government officials and community leaders has been working to spur private-sector development of affordable starter homes by creating a paradigm shift in the way people view affordable housing in DuPage County. The agenda will include a panel of policy makers to highlight local government efforts underway in DuPage municipalities. Please RSVP to **Tam Kutzmark**, Transportation and Planning Director, at (630) 571-0480, ext. 228 by Friday, November 16, 2007.

The Symposium coincides with Illinois Affordable Housing Month, which is November. If your community plans on recognizing Illinois Affordable Housing Month in any way, please let DMMC know by contacting **Tam Kutzmark** at the number above.

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007

DMMC WEBSITE RECEIVES A MAKE-OVER

With the launch of the Conference's new website on October 22, DMMC entered a new era of providing information on Conference activities in a convenient fashion. Information such as news, publications, and upcoming events are available around the clock. There is also a calendar of events that can be searched by date or keyword, a page dedicated to helpful links to other agencies and organizations, and a password protected area for members only. If you have any questions about the website, contact **Kim Sumner**, Member Services and Communications Manager, at (630) 571-0480, ext. 226. Visit the new website at www.dmmc-cog.org.



CMAQ RECIPIENTS FOR FY 2008

Congratulations to the following recipients of FY 2008 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds:

- **Carol Stream** - Kuhn Road Bike Path
- **Bensenville** - Grand Ave. Sidewalk
- **Villa Park** - Ardmore Ave. at High Ridge Rd. Intersection Improvement
- **DuPage County** - Roosevelt Rd. at Kautz Rd. Bottleneck Elimination and three Signal Interconnect Projects on Chicago/Maple Rd. and College Rd., Lemont Rd., and Naperville Rd.
- **Westmont** - 2008 Village-wide Sidewalk Project
- **Pace Suburban Bus** - Year 2 Operating Funds for College of DuPage Connector

2008 LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

The 2008 Legislative Calendar has been released. Only two substantive Session days will be held prior to the February 5 Primary Election (January 9 and 10). Both the House and Senate will be in Session during our Springfield Drive Down, Tuesday, April 8 and Wednesday, April 9. The complete legislative calendar is available at the General Assembly website, www.ilga.gov.

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17 *MPC Third Annual Mayors and Developers Forum*

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Roosevelt University
Schaumburg

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16 *Conference Business Meeting*

*Program: Legislative Reception
and Presentation of Legislative
Action Program*
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Select
Naperville

THE CONFERENCE WILL
BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
AND
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
THE DMMC STAFF!



(continued on reverse)

FINDINGS ON PENSION STUDY RELEASED

The Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University has released a study on the fiscal health of the downstate police and firefighter pension funds. The profile, co-authored by Professor James Banovetz and Dawn Peters, Executive Director of the Illinois City/County Management Association, reaches the following conclusions:

- Illinois' downstate police and firefighters' pension funds are generous when compared to the pension systems in other states;
- Illinois' police and firefighter pension funds are in unsound financial condition -- in even worse financial condition than the funds serving Illinois teachers and state employees;
- Recent benefit enhancements approved by the General Assembly have imperiled the pension funds' financial condition despite substantial increases in municipal contributions to them; and
- The General Assembly must avoid further benefit enhancements until the funds are returned to sound financial condition.

This study complements the Illinois Municipal League's study of police and fire pensions. More details of the NIU study can be found at www.rdinu.org/publications/policy_profiles/policy_v7n1.pdf.

FORUM GEARED TOWARD MAYORS AND DEVELOPERS

The Metropolitan Planning Council's Third Annual Mayors and Developers Forum will be held on Monday, December 17, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Penthouse Room at Roosevelt University's Schaumburg campus. The program will be *Cooperation and Partnerships: A Conversation with Mayors and Developers on Innovative, Collaborative Strategies for Getting Deals Done*. It will be a hands-on working session, featuring a development scenario including multiple parties, various new tools, and competing interests. RSVP by Friday, December 7, 2007 to **Angie Leyva** at (312) 863-6017.

NEW BILL ALLOWS LONGER LOAN PERIOD

As reported in DMMC's 2007 Legislative Wrap Up, Senate Bill 689 was approved by the General Assembly. This legislation allows municipalities to borrow money from any bank or financial institution, provided the money is to be repaid within ten years (as opposed to the previous limit of one year). Senate Bill 689 has now been signed by the Governor and is effective immediately as Public Act 95-0693.

SURVEY SEEKS MUNICIPAL FEEDBACK ON CMAP VISION

As part of its efforts to develop a Regional Comprehensive Plan, CMAP has issued an on-line survey to gather feedback on a set of draft vision statements. The survey is designed to receive feedback from CMAP's planning partners, including local governments, transportation agencies, civic organizations, and other groups. Additional activities to solicit input from the general public are planned for 2008. Municipalities are invited to complete this survey, and multiple responses from each community are encouraged. The survey is available through December 2007 at www.cmap.illinois.gov/survey.aspx. Please contact **Tam Kutzmark**, Transportation and Planning Director, at (630) 571-0480, ext. 228 if you need assistance with the survey.

HAPPY TRAILS IN DUPAGE COUNTY

The Southern DuPage County Regional Trail is already showing impressive usage. This trail, which connects 11 communities from Aurora on the west to Burr Ridge and Hinsdale on the east, represents the largest new trail initiative in the County since the Great Western Trail in the mid-1980s. During a one-day count performed by CMAP in August, the number of trail users at three locations exceeded those on portions of the Great Western Trail and Illinois Prairie Path. This positive outcome is the result of collaboration between DuPage County and DMMC.

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