

Item #6B:
Village President Underwood
IL Route 53 Extension - Update

From: Christine Gentes [christine@lakecountyleague.ccsend.com] on behalf of Christine Gentes [lcml@sbglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2013 2:16 PM
To: David Lothspeich
Subject: News You Can Use - LCML

LCMLetter

News you can use
September 18, 2013

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Greetings!

The **LCMLetter** is published twice a month and its goal is to keep Lake County Municipal League members informed on municipal issues. As issues relevant to municipal officials arise, the **LCMLetter** will provide you with a synopsis of the issues and provide you with a link for further details.

Blue Ribbon Advisory Council Meets on Rt. 53

The Blue Ribbon Advisory Council (BRAC) met on Tuesday, September 17, to discuss future plans for the Route 53/ Route 120 project. Tollway Director Kristi Lafleur said, "Our next step is to establish a more detailed understanding of how to fund, build, operate and maintain the type of roadway the Council has recommended."

Two committees have been formed: Finance and Land Use. The Finance Committee will consider detailed project information from the feasibility analysis to develop a financing strategy for the project. Ultimately, the Finance Committee will seek to answer the questions

- Is the project feasible?
- Should the Tollway build the

Medical Marijuana Siting Committee

LCML, Lake County and various village managers are meeting to discuss zoning options relative to the new Medical Marijuana law.

Local jurisdictions are granted the right to enact "reasonable zoning regulations" in addition to the standards prescribed by the state. Statutory standards include:

- Cultivation centers (of which there will be no more than 22 in the state) cannot be located within 2,500 feet of the property line of a pre-existing public or private preschool, elementary or secondary school; day care center, day care home, group day care home, part day care facility; or an area zoned for

project?

Its work will be the basis to develop a recommendation to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors as to whether the Tollway should continue to move forward with the project. Communities in the direct path of the corridor will have a representative on the Finance Committee.

The Land Use Committee will develop a corridor-wide land use plan that feeds into the Tollway's analysis and establishes an integrated strategy for land use, transportation and economic development in the corridor.

Committees will meet quarterly and the BRAC will meet again in late spring/early summer 2014, with the final reports to be presented to the Tollway by the end of 2014. For more information go to [click here](#).

2013 Cutting Edge Program Applications

Does your municipality have a program, policy or procedure that is Cutting Edge? Submit an application to LCML's *Cutting Edge Program*. **Programs need not have originated in 2013.** If you have instituted a policy, program or procedure prior to 2013, enter it.

For an [application](#) and for [information](#) concerning *The Cutting Edge* program click on the links above.

residential use.

- Distribution centers (of which there will be as many as 60 in the state) cannot be located within 1,000 feet of the property line of a pre-existing public or private preschool, elementary or secondary school; day care center, day care home, group day care home, part day care facility; or an area zoned for residential use.

For an excellent summary of the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act, produced by Lake County Planning, please [click here](#).

Veto Session set for October 22-24 and November 5-7

The General Assembly has scheduled Veto Session for October 22-24 and November 5-7. Among the bills to watch are:

HB 924 (Hoffman) Responsible Bidder - This passed the House 60-50 and is in the Senate Assignments Committee. This bill will increase costs to municipalities for projects covered by the Prevailing Wage Act. LCML Opposes.

SB 1681 (Link) Unified Fire Protection - This bill is designed to hinder consolidation of fire departments and districts by requiring petitions and a referendum. LCML Opposes.

State Pension Reform - Although the pension committee has been working all summer, it is believed no bill will be introduced until the issue of legislator pay has been resolved. No action has been taken on public safety pension reform.

Please share this LCMLetter with staff. It is our aim to keep elected officials and their village staff informed about the issues facing municipalities.

Sincerely,
Christine Gentes

David Lothspeich

From: ctaylor@lakecountyil.gov on behalf of Craig Taylor, Lake County Board [ctaylor@lakecountyil.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 11:11 AM
To: David Lothspeich
Subject: Route 53/120 Advances, Economic Opportunities, Community Events and More

September 20, 2013



LAKE COUNTY NEWS

CRAIG TAYLOR
District 19 Representative



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Get to know me and my role as your District 19 Board Member

I would like to take a moment to say that as your District 19 Board Member, it is my honor and privilege to be able to serve the needs of the Lake Zurich, Barrington, Deer Park, Killdeer and Long Grove communities. For those of you that I haven't met in person, please watch [this video](#) to learn more about my top priorities and about my history with this district.



Meet Lake County Board Member Craig Taylor

Next Phase of the Proposed Illinois Route 53/120 Project Advances

Efforts to establish a more detailed understanding of how to fund, build, operate and maintain the proposed Route 53/120 into Lake County are moving forward. The Illinois Route 53/120 Project Blue Ribbon Advisory Council (BRAC) met recently to discuss the next phase, which specifically includes a two-pronged effort to examine the feasibility of the project with respect to financing and land use. The next phase of work builds on the BRAC's report that recommends a four-lane, 45 mph, tolled parkway that will address specific needs for congestion relief and provide greater connectivity, as well as protect the natural environment and preserve the character of Lake County.

[View presentation from September BRAC meeting](#)
[Visit IL Route 53/120 Website](#)

County Update: Enhancing Economic

the RTA claiming the Chicago Transit Authority owed it \$56 million.

Twelve votes are required to set funding levels for Metra, Pace and the CTA, but with the four RTA directors representing Chicago opposing a late-breaking, supposed consensus plan, the 10 votes in favor by suburban directors fell short.

"It may not be everything everyone wants, but it's the most agreed-upon so far," Chairman John S. Gates said.

in 2012, and "no one went to RTA jail," Director James Buchanan of Chicago said.

The friction boils down to not enough money for transit and differences on how the money should be divided.

Two of six funding options discussed Tuesday would give the CTA \$50 million, Metra \$45 million and Pace \$5 million of a \$100 million RTA bond issue, \$185 million to the CTA and \$3.8 million to Pace of "discretionary funds";

in 2015 and 2016.

"We're working with the RTA and service boards to come up with a solution we all favor," Metra spokesman Michael Gillis said.

"We're disappointed that Metra appears to be holding up the budget process by not supporting (one plan) that had the backing of the other three agencies," Pace spokesman Patrick Wilnot said.

The funding formulas weren't the only disconnect surfacing Tuesday. Although

The board also dithered over \$56 million the RTA borrowed in 2009 for the CTA and whether it was a loan, which RTA staff say it was, or a grant with several directors requesting documents to back up administrators' claims.

Meanwhile, after withholding budget documents under discussion from reporters until the meeting was nearly over, RTA administrators refused to comment to the media.

Route 53 extension now on front burner

By MARNI PYKE
mpyke@dailyherald.com



"There are a lot of decisions that need to be made regarding how to raise revenue."

Lake County Chairman Aaron Lawlor

An advisory group will start tackling the difficult issues of how to pay for a proposed northward extension of Route 53 and what its ultimate design should be.

The Illinois tollway is leading an effort to expand Route 53 from Lake-Cook Road to Route 120 in Lake County and on Tuesday reconvened a Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee that includes community leaders, industry representatives and environmental organizations.

The committee envisions a four-lane, 45 mph parkway that's sunken below grade in places to accommodate forest preserves and marshes along

the route. A Route 120 component would extend east to the Tri-State Tollway and west to Route 12.

The group agreed in May 2012 to adopt the parkway plan, but questions about paying for it and technical details of the design remained.

Planners have been operating under the assumption of a 20-cents-a-mile toll for the parkway, which will cost from \$2.3 billion to \$2.7 billion to build. But tolls on

the extension itself won't be enough, financial estimates show.

Tuesday's meeting resulted in the development of finance and land use committees. In addition to the revenue issue, there's a need for coordinated planning among the towns along the project, officials said.

"There are a lot of decisions that need to be made regarding how to raise revenue," Lake County Chairman Aaron Lawlor said. Because

some of those choices could include tolling access points that are free now, such as Routes 120 and 176, "we need to build consensus," said Lawlor, co-chair of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee.

Lake County and the tollway also are looking at ways to manage development around a new tollway.

"Now the next phase begins in earnest," tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur said. "We've got to look at the impact of this large roadway. The goal is to achieve a balance in the region — where will the housing be? Where will the transit be? How will the retail versus commercial space work?"

Family of man killed by police wants answers

Associated Press

The family of a 95-year-old man who was killed by police during a confrontation at his suburban Chicago nursing home this summer is demanding answers and that those responsible be held accountable for the World War II veteran's death.

John Wrana was killed by officers who shocked him with a stun gun and, when that failed to subdue him, fired

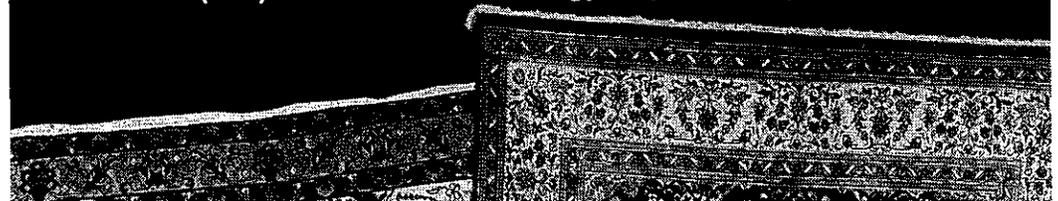
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advantage of the Tax Assessment Help Centers. At these centers, residents can get one-on-one assistance evaluating their property tax assessment from a member of the Chief County Assessment Office. Centers are held in Grayslake and Vernon Hills. [More](#).



Transportation News

Illinois Route 53/120 Project Update

Efforts to examine the feasibility of the [Illinois Route 53/120 project](#) are moving forward. The Illinois Tollway, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and Lake County are partnering on a combined, two-pronged effort to examine the feasibility of the project with respect to financing and land use. This phase builds on the recommendations and framework outlined by the [Blue Ribbon Advisory Council \(BRAC\)](#). The council-co-chaired by Lake County Board Chairman Aaron Lawlor and George Ranney, President and CEO Metropolitan Strategies and Prairie Holding Corporation-will meet on Sept. 17.

Illinois Route 53/120 Blue Ribbon Advisory Council Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2 - 4 p.m.
Lake County Central Permit Facility
500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville
[More](#)

Bike Lake County: Have you biked the Grand Illinois Trail?

The [Grand Illinois Trail \(GIT\)](#) is a 500-mile loop between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, using existing and proposed state and local trails. It hugs historic canals, crosses unglaciated hills, parallels the Rock and Fox Rivers, and includes one of America's first rail-trails. Two GIT alternate routes traverse Lake County through many towns, using regional bike ways like the Robert McClory Bike Path and the Millennium Trail. For more information about the GIT, scan the QR code on posted trail signs or visit [GIT IDNR's website](#).

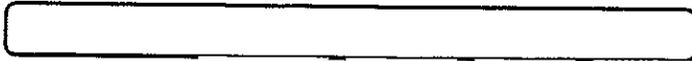


Send your biking stories and pictures about Lake County bike paths to bike@lakecountyil.gov.

Lake County Pace Suburban Bus Restructuring to Take Place in November 2013

If you regularly use Pace, take note-there are service changes coming to a number of Lake County routes, starting in November. The changes affect the following routes:

- Route 565 - Grand Avenue
- Route 569 - Lewis
- Route 570 - Fox Lake - Gurnee Mills via College of Lake County
- Route 571 - Zion
- Route 572 - Waukegan - Grayslake - Westfield Hawthorne
- Route 272 - Milwaukee Avenue North
- Routes in downtown Waukegan will only serve limited stop locations



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Article updated: 9/10/2013 5:34 AM

Mundelein again backs Route 53 extension plan

Only one trustee remains a holdout

By Russell Lissau

A little more than a decade ago, some Mundelein officials were among the loudest voices opposing the proposed extension of Route 53 into Lake County.

At a village board meeting in July 2000, then-Mayor Marilyn Sindles said the proposal would "create a nightmare for the people of Mundelein."

That same night, Trustee Ed Sullivan — on the board then for about a year — angrily alleged the highway would create "an environmental disaster" for the town.

"I'll oppose it more seriously than I've ever opposed anything in the past," Sullivan said.

With the passing years, however, the plans and the attitudes have changed.

On Monday, the village board authorized Mayor Steve Lentz to sign a letter to regional transportation officials that supports the long-awaited road project.

It's Mundelein's second public proclamation of support for the Route 53 extension. In 2011, the board unanimously approved a resolution backing the proposal.

The current Route 53 proposal calls for a four-lane road with a 45 mph speed limit and intersections with existing roads. It would stretch from Lake-Cook Road to Route 120 — through Mundelein, Long Grove and other communities — and then east and west along Route 120 in the Grayslake area.

The latest cost estimates exceed \$2 billion. Tolls could help fund the project, officials have said.

Five of the village board's six trustees approved the letter. The only holdout was Sullivan, who called the proposal "a pipe dream."

"They'll never do it," he said.

In an interview before Monday's board meeting, Sullivan said he likes the current concept for the road extension because it's not a traditional, restricted-access highway that would split Mundelein in half like the original plan.

But he criticized the idea of charging tolls on an open road.

"You can't collect tolls at a stoplight," Sullivan said.

Potential Illinois Route 53/120 Project



DRAFT

As of February 2013, subject to change

MOVE
ILLINOIS

The Illinois Tollway
DRIVING
THE FUTURE

ILLINOIS ROUTE 53/120 Project Overview

The Illinois Route 53/120 Project is proposed to be a 21st century urban highway – a modern boulevard with a small footprint to protect the natural environment and preserve the character of Lake County. It is envisioned as a multi-modal, sustainable and innovative transportation system that will address specific needs for congestion relief and provide greater connectivity.

BACKGROUND

An Illinois Route 53 northern extension has been considered since the 1960s. However, due to the lack of consensus among various interests, the project has not yet come to fruition. The Illinois Tollway established the Illinois Route 53/120 Blue Ribbon Advisory Council (BRAC) in 2011 to develop regional consensus on whether the Tollway should move forward with the project. The BRAC outlined its work and findings in the June 7, 2012 Resolution and Summary Report, which concluded that there is consensus for the Tollway to move forward with the project and provided the scope, configuration and design elements of the new roadway. The report also suggested potential methods for financing the project. The BRAC identified necessary next steps for the project, which serve as the basis for this current phase of work.

The BRAC defined a set of guiding principles to ensure the outcomes are clearly defined and the project fulfills its goals. The most important of these principles is to use innovative and environmentally beneficial design solutions to strike a balance between improving mobility and access while minimizing negative environmental and long-term developmental impacts.

The current proposal includes the following improvements:

Extension of Illinois Route 53 – four lanes at 45 mph

- From Lake Cook Road to just south of Illinois Route 120

Upgrade of existing Illinois Route 120 (west end) – four lanes

- From U.S. Route 12 to west terminus of Illinois Route 120 Bypass

Illinois Route 120 Bypass – four lanes at 45 mph

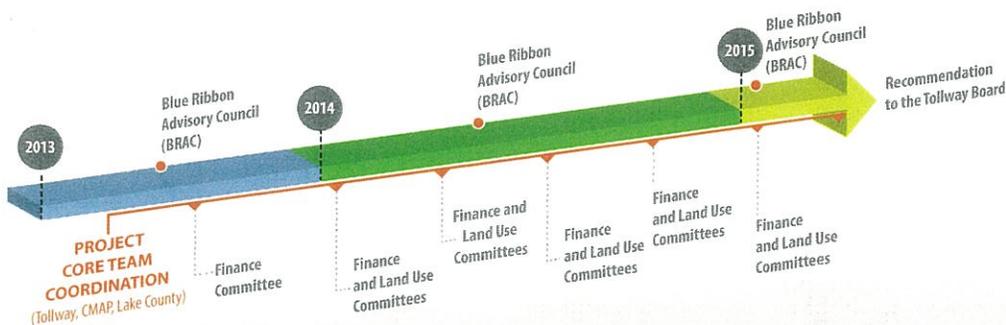
- From east of Wilson Road to east of U.S. Route 45

Upgrade of existing Illinois Route 120 (east end) – four lanes

- From east terminus of Illinois Route 120 Bypass to the Tri-State Tollway (I-94)

Current Phase of Work

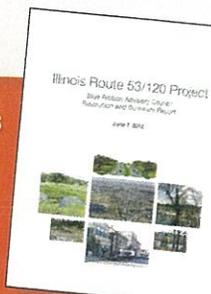
The current phase of this project builds on the recommendations and framework outlined by the Blue Ribbon Advisory Council (BRAC). The Illinois Tollway, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and Lake County will partner on a combined, two-pronged effort to examine the feasibility of the project with respect to financing and land use. To facilitate this effort, new Finance and Land Use Committees will help provide a recommendation to the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors as to whether the Tollway should continue to move forward with the project.



To determine the feasibility, the analysis will focus on five key study areas: design, environmental, financing, operations and regulatory. CMAP's Land Use Plan will feed into the design, environmental and financing aspects of the analysis. The outcome of this effort will help to answer the overarching questions "Is the project feasible?" and "Should the Tollway build the project?"

To view the BRAC's recommendations, as captured in the **June 2012 Resolution and Summary**, please

go to the "Construction/Planning" section of www.illinoistollway.com click on "Community Outreach", then click on "Illinois Route 53/120."



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning



Lake County

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