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2020 CENSUS INFORMATION

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In the KKCOM region, the City of Elgin and the City of Aurora have created Census Committees. Both Kane and Kendall Counties have passed resolutions to create countywide commissions as well.

There are also several temporary Census jobs available, including census takers, recruiting assistants, office staff, and supervisory staff. To be eligible you must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security card, and be a U.S. citizen. To learn more about the jobs available, visit the Illinois Census’ website.
KDOT and the Kane County Health Department have partnered to create an exciting new program. The program, the Kane County Cycle Club, will reward students from participating schools rewards and raffle prizes for choosing to ride their bikes for transportation and recreation.

Each participating student that completes their specified riding goal will receive a ticket to a Kane County Cougars and Windy City Bulls game. They will also be eligible to enter to win several exciting raffle prizes. The Cycle Club will also be providing bicycles to participating students that don’t have access to a bicycle, thanks to community partners and bicycle donation drives. The program will begin in mid-April 2020 and conclude in mid-May 2020.

For the first year of the program, five schools were selected to participate in the program. Schools were selected based on their past participation in school-wide biking programs, willingness to host future events, and inclusion of bicycle safety-based curriculum. The five schools that will be participating in the program in 2020 are:
1. Ronald D. O’Neal Elementary School (Elgin)
2. Clinton Elementary School (South Elgin)
3. H.C. Strom Elementary School (Batavia)
4. Lily Lake Grade School (Maple Park)
5. Hoover Wood Elementary School (Batavia)

All the students from these schools will be eligible to participate. To learn more about the program, including registration information for parents, please visit the KKCOM website.

IDOT BRIDGE PRESERVATION GUIDE

IDOT has recently released their first Bridge Preservation Guide. This guide provides goals, measures, and strategies for the preservation of bridges within the State of Illinois, and contains criteria used to identify condition based and non-condition based cyclical preservation, maintenance, and improvement work actions for bridges. These actions maximize system-wide life expectancy and performance of bridges. To access the guide, visit IDOT’s website.

BIKE MAP UPDATE

KKCOM staff has begun efforts to update their publicly distributed Bike & Highway Maps. Staff will share their first draft of the new formatting at the first KKCOM Bike & Pedestrian meeting in 2020. There will also be an opportunity for residents, municipal staff, and elected officials to provide comments on the drafts or notify staff of missing/incorrect infrastructure. More details will be released at a later time.

BIKE SHARE UPDATE

The Kane County Bike Share Program has made lots of great progress in recent months! Several local municipalities have committed to participating in the program, which is set to launch June 1, 2020! Council staff is confident that the system will easily reach its goal of having at least 12 stations for the initial launch. Interested agencies and municipalities are still welcome to join. The deadline for stating your intent to participate is January 20, 2020.

FREE COMPLETE STREETS WEBINAR

Active Transportation Alliance, a Chicago-based transportation non-profit recently hosted a free Complete Streets 101 webinar. The webinar provided background of creating policies, regional examples of best practices, and the elements that comprise a successful Complete Streets policy. To view a recording of the webinar, visit this link.

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CMAP NEWS

CMAP Executive Director Testifies before U.S. House

Erin Aleman, CMAP executive director, was recently in Washington D.C. to address a joint subcommittee hearing of the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure on behalf of the agency and the Coalition for America’s Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC). Pointing to the inextricable link between freight infrastructure investment and the long-term health of our national economy, Aleman said, “We must focus on the system as a whole, rather than viewing our nation’s transportation infrastructure as several different systems that occasionally interact. We must think in terms of an entire network, interconnected and interdependent.” Read her full testimony, a CAGTC press release and coverage in Transportation Topics and the American Journal of Transportation.

Oswego Begins CMAP-Led Zoning Update

The Aurora-Beacon News reported on an effort between the village of Oswego and CMAP to update the village’s zoning regulations. Village Administrator Dan Di Santo said he hopes the updated code will help create “a downtown that is vibrant and pedestrian-oriented.” CMAP has worked with a number of communities in the region through its Local Technical Assistance program to update, streamline, or simplify zoning and subdivision regulations. Learn more in this video.

Learning From Other Regions on Improving Water Quality

The need for clean, abundant, and reliable water resources tends to be taken for granted until shortages, flooding, or low water quality make the water unfit for its intended use. ON TO 2050 recommends strategies to protect and enhance the integrity of aquatic systems to ensure all residents have access to clean drinking water.

Chicago Region Green Spaces Survey

The Forest and Urban Systems Ecology (FUSE) Lab at Purdue University is seeking input from residents who are 18 years or older on the accessibility in terms of value and usage of local green spaces within Illinois and Northwestern Indiana. The survey is available in both English and Spanish.

NEW TRANSPORTATION LAWS IN EFFECT

There are several new transportation-related laws that have been enacted as of January 1, 2020. Summaries of some of these laws are listed below:

- Mandatory fines for illegally passing a school bus raises from $150 to $300 for the initial violation;
- “Zipper merging” is now required to be included in the Illinois Rules of the Road;
- Created the DUI Prevention and Education Commission, which will distribute grants to crash victims and facilitate prevention programs;
- Increased the maximum penalty for hitting a construction worker to $25,000;
- Parking area operators will be required to register with the State of Illinois and begin collection tax on the rental of parking spaces; and
- Increase of vehicle registration fees for automobiles, farm vehicles, and trailers.

NBC Chicago has created a summary of the new laws going into effect. For a full list of new laws that have been created, please refer to the Illinois General Assembly site.
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