

Environment Committee – July Meeting

Enabling Active Transportation – Tools, Capacity, and Barriers

Join us for the next Environment Committee meeting to learn about an array of tools and resources to support robust and safe active transportation infrastructure for all. We invite your participation in a conversation about municipal priorities and needs related to bicycle and pedestrian resources as we anticipate future investments in climate action.

Meeting Details

Topic: Enabling Active Transportation – Tools, Capacity, and Barriers

Date: Tuesday, July 18

Time: 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Register: Please register in advance for the Zoom meeting with the link sent to Committee members.

Last year, we began a project in partnership with Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) and Active Transportation Alliance (ATA) focusing on the Climate Action Plan for the Chicago Region objective, “Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled.” In addition to [a series of events](#), we collaborated to produce [an innovative database benchmarking municipal bike/ped](#) resources like policy implementation, infrastructure development, and grants awarded. The MPC and ATA team will demonstrate the database and share the findings of their study.

ATA will also offer guidance to help municipalities [secure funding](#) for walking, biking and trail projects. Additionally, the ATA team will briefly discuss the Statewide Active Transportation Plan that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is developing, and how you and your residents can provide input into this.

New collaborations and plans are in place to address critical barriers to safe, accessible active transportation, too. The UIC Institute on Disability and Human Development is partnering on a crowd-source tool to map barriers to accessibility called [Project Sidewalk](#). This project seeks community partners to input accessibility issues in the Chicago region.

Unfortunately, our region is experiencing a traffic safety crisis. Roadway deaths have risen sharply since COVID-19, and an increasing number of those killed are people walking or riding a bike. CMAP is leading in the development of a comprehensive [Safe Travel for All Roadmap](#).

Following short presentations on these projects, we are seeking your input and ideas for taking climate action by prioritizing walking, biking, and transit.

Related [GRC](#) goals:

Support safe and effective active transportation. Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely. Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs, and regulations. Promote public and sustainable transportation choices.

Climate Action Plan objective and strategies:

Reduce vehicle miles traveled. Build and maintain safe, resilient, and accessible active transportation infrastructure, and encourage others to do so. Encourage walking, biking and transit use through education, incentives, and collaboration. Plan and design roadways and corridors to benefit all road users and promote active transportation.