



INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL

Newsletter

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The Infrastructure Council is an initiative of the Illinois Chamber that brings together Chamber members with a focus on increasing infrastructure investments in a strategic and thoughtful way to boost the overall business climate in Illinois. Our focus is on the public and private systems that are essential to Illinois businesses.

[View Past Newsletters](#)

School starts next week, and I am not (mentally) prepared. Where has summer gone?

Just in This Morning: IDOT Releases MYP

This morning at 9:30 am, Governor Pritzker joined the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to announce the \$34.6 billion Multi-Year Program to fund improvements for roads, bridges, transit, rail, airports, and ports over the next six years. This funding was made possible by the Rebuild Illinois capital program.

From the Governor's we see the following notable funding areas:

- \$6.36 billion will go toward highway reconstruction and preservation
- \$6.4 billion for bridge improvements
- \$2.03 billion for strategic expansion
- \$2.48 billion for system support such as engineering and land acquisition
- \$1.55 billion for safety and system modernizations.

This MYP is the first in which road projects that add capacity were evaluated by a new [Data-Driven Decisions Tool](#). This tool is said to ensure greater equity and transparency in transportation planning and was supported by the Governor's office. The FY2023-28 MYP looks to improve 2,562 miles of roads and nearly 10 million square feet of bridge deck. Of \$3.7 billion in improvements is identified for the current fiscal year.

Due to last year's passage of the federal bipartisan Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, IDOT was able to increase the funding for Illinois roads and bridges in the six-year program by \$4 billion.

Gov. Pritzker also released the FY2023-28 [Proposed Multimodal Multi-Year Improvement Program](#). The program identifies a combined federal, state, and local investment of \$6.5 billion for transit, \$2.5 billion for passenger and freight rail, \$817 million for aviation, and \$150 million for ports.

View the full MYP [here](#).

View the Governor's release [here](#).

Bills Filed this Month

[HB 5765 \(Vella\)](#) - Provides that, in determining the lowest responsible bidder, a county board of a county with fewer than 2,000,000 inhabitants shall for certain procurements take into consideration, among other things, the bidder's active participation in an apprenticeship program registered with the United States Department of Labor.

[HB 5782 \(Severin\)](#) - This bill is similar to the Chamber's HB 5555 (Yednock). It tasks DCEO with reforms to expediate permitting issuance. It requires the office to utilize information technology to track projects, adds a process for expedited reviews and creates an "interagency permitting advisory committee".

[HB 5774 \(Batinick\)](#) - Adds payment of municipal pension obligations for employees in public safety as a purpose for which net proceeds that a municipality receives from civil penalties imposed under an automated speed enforcement system, after deducting all non-personnel and personnel costs

associated with the operation and maintenance of such system, shall be expended or obligated by the municipality.

HB 5761 (Nichols) - Establishes a smart pole pilot program in Cook County in areas with a high concentration of gun violence.



Illinois Chamber Annual Luncheon- Sponsorships Available!

The Chamber's biggest event of the year is our annual luncheon. This year's event will be held

at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago on October 6th from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. We have a fantastic lineup.

The agenda includes our one-hour pre-event reception "All Council Mix & Mingle". The luncheon program is the "Future of Energy and Impact on Illinois: Actions of the Federal Reserve". Featured speakers include the Chief Sustainability Officer at Boeing, the Vice President of Strategic and Corporate Planning at CITGO and the CEO of LS Power. We will also hear from Charles Evans, the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

Sponsorship of the All Council Mix & Mingle is available for \$2,500.00. Benefits of sponsorship are:

- Two seats for your company at the Annual Luncheon
- Acknowledgement on signage at pre-event reception, on website, and invite for the event
- Exhibitor space to highlight your company during the pre-event reception.

View more about the sponsorship levels [here](#).

For more information or to register call Clark Kaericher at (618) 806-1501 or ckaericher@ilchamber.org or go to www.ilchamber.org/annual-meeting

The event is always a great time and I hope to see you there!

Waterways Update: Brandon Road Lock to Temporarily Close

The following is an update on the temporary closure of the Brandon Road Lock from the Army Corp of Engineers.

“Starting next week, Brandon Road Lock will be completely closed for 3 weeks, as scheduled, to complete bulkhead recess installation in preparation for next summer’s Illinois Waterway 2023 Consolidated Closures effort:

- The last nighttime-only traffic (the same condition we’ve been under since MAY) will be from 14 AUG @ 1800 through 15 AUG at 0700.
- There will be a full closure (no traffic will be able to pass) from 15 AUG @ 0700 through 04 SEP @ 1800. I’ll keep you posted if that changes.
- There will be another nighttime-only traffic / width restriction period immediately following the full closure, lasting through 08 SEP.
- After 08 SEP, we anticipate that all traffic will be able to pass without restriction until next summer’s big maintenance effort.

Thank you for your patience as we work to restore the safety, efficiency and reliability of the Illinois Waterway.

We will continue to keep our website up to date:

<https://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Navigation-Status/>. “

RTA Movers Conference Highlights

On Tuesday, August 9th the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) held an afternoon workshop to initiate the beginning stages of the 2023 Regional Transit Strategic Plan implementation.

The event started with discussion of current problems faced by the system. They pointed to a \$730 million budget gap faced by the RTA, the lack of transportation options for some disadvantaged communities and a dearth of youth voices in consultation that’s out of step with their usage rates. Also of note, the panel mentioned a potential "ask" of the General Assembly to help meet funding needs. If that were to occur, it was suggested that a coalition be quickly put together. Others pointed out that the system to allocate operating funds is somewhat outdated.

During the conference, the potential budget shortfall of the future was spoken of often. By 2026, there is a potential budget deficit in all modeled scenarios. While all scenarios lead to a budget deficit, **the baseline assumption is a**

\$730 million shortfall by 2026. This is with about \$3.2 billion in revenue and \$3.9 billion in expenses.

The Transit System is supported by both public funding, primarily through RTA sales tax receipts, and operating revenue. The operating revenue comes from fares paid by riders. Fares have been down since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic but so far have largely been replaced by federal funding. Ridership is only expected to recover to around 70 % pre-pandemic levels over the next 10 years. The Chamber has always been supportive of mass transit as its necessary for many employees and utilized by the region's tourists. However, we are leery of reflexively looking for taxpayer assistance and encourage groups like this to look hard for additional solutions. Ways to increase safety- and alleviate concerns that draw potential users to other methods- and other means to increase ridership should be the first step.

A public input survey will be arriving late summer with transit rider interviews taking place between August and October. The next RTA Board Meeting is August 18th.

Legislative Schedule Updates

We still do not have any announced dates for the long rumored special session. That session was originally rumored for this month. Now the gossip is September. The expected topics are the Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision and guns. That said, any time the legislature is in town business needs to be on our toes. I'll let you know a date as soon as we have one.

The General Assembly has released the schedule for veto session. Lawmakers will be back in Springfield Tuesday, November 15 -November 17 as well as November 29-December 1.

View and download the veto calendar [here](#).

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Insight
Interactive Panels & Discussions

Technology Showcase
Evaluate the Latest Solutions from (partial list)

KEYNOTE
Opening Security Briefing with U.S. Government Expert

PANEL 1
Securing the Cloud

PANEL 2
Ransomware and Resiliency - To Trust or Not Trust?

PANEL 3
Securing the Hybrid & Remote Workforce

IBM Security | verizon | DARKTRACE | deepswatch | DELLTechnologies | CHECKPOINT | ExtraHop | chrome | imperva | RECIPIRY | SentinelOne | tenable

View all confirmed exhibitors, speakers & agenda topics at CyberSecuritySummit.com

Limited passes available. This pass is for C-Suite & Sr. Level Executives only. Sales/marketing professionals & students will not be admitted. Contact: MHutton@CyberSecuritySummit.com for business development opportunities.

CHICAGO 2022 | CyberSecuritySummit.com | August 26, 2022

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For event details, visit <https://CyberSecuritySummit.com/summit/Chicago22/>

If you would like to exhibit and / or speak at the Cyber Security Summit, contact Megan Hutton at MHutton@CyberSecuritySummit.com

Articles of Interest

[United Airlines Puts Down Deposit on Flying Taxis](#)

[The Other Electric Vehicle: E-Bikes Gain Ground for Americans Avoiding Gas Cars](#)

[Turner 'humbled to be named the Illinois Chamber of Commerce's "Freshman of the Year"'](#)

[As recession grips U.S., certain Illinois industries see slowdowns](#)

[Jaguar Land Rover owner Tata Motors to buy Ford car plant in India](#)

[ADM and Benson Hill Partner to Scale Innovative Ultra-High Protein Soy for North American Food Ingredient Markets](#)

[Boeing to open new research center in Japan for sustainable aviation](#)

[Pritzker Administration Approaching \\$1 Billion in Capital Investments for 24/7 State Facilities through Rebuild Illinois](#)

Until next time,

Clark

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