



6701 South Archer Road
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Southwest Conference of MAYORS

MEETING AGENDA

January 31, 2024 ~ Wednesday

5:30 P.M. – Refreshments

6:00 P.M. – Cal Sag WSPC Meeting

7:00 P.M. – SCM Business Meeting

Bedford Park Village Hall

6701 South Archer Road, Bedford Park, Illinois

Village of Alsip
Village of Bedford Park
City of Blue Island
Village of Bridgeview
City of Burbank
Village of Chicago Ridge
Village of Crestwood
Village of Evergreen Park
City of Hickory Hills
City of Hometown
Village of Justice
Village of Lemont
Village of Merrionette Park
Village of Oak Lawn
Village of Orland Hills
Village of Orland Park
City of Palos Heights
City of Palos Hills
Village of Palos Park
Village of Willow Springs
Village of Worth

Gerald R. Bennett

President
Mayor, City of Palos Hills

David R. Brady

Vice President
President, Village of
Bedford Park

Robert S. Straz

Vice President
Mayor, City of Palos Heights

Rhonda Hyde

Treasurer
Treasurer, Village of
Bedford Park

Victoria A. Smith

Executive Director

- I. **Call to Order, Welcome & Approval of the October 30, 2023 Meeting Minutes**
Mayor Bennett
- II. **President's Report**
Mayor Bennett
- III. **Executive Director's Report**
Vicky Smith
- IV. **Committee Reports**
 - A. **Transportation Committee**
President Brady
 - 1. **Local STP/Planning Liaison Updates**
Brittany Matyas
 - 2. **Cook County Highway Department Update**
Eva DeLaurentiis
 - 3. **Illinois Tollway**
Reed Panther
 - B. **Legislation Committee Report**
Mayor Bennett
 - C. **Utilities Committee Report**
Mayor Wasowicz
 - 1. **Update Given by Utilities Companies' Representatives**
 - D. **Public Works Committee Report**
Brittany Matyas
 - E. **Cal Sag Watershed Planning Council Report**
Vicky Smith
- V. **Other Business**
 - A. **CSCVB Update**
Jim Garrett
 - B. **MVCC**
Steve Pappageorge
 - C. **Pathlights**
Elaine Grande
 - D. **Miscellaneous Task Forces/Committee Updates**

VI. Old Business /New Business

VII. Next Meetings/Events

March 27th, 2024 - Wednesday

SCM Business Meeting

6:30 P.M. - Refreshments

7:00 P.M. - SCM Business Meeting

Lipinski Center – Village of Justice

7256 Skyline Drive

April 17th, 2024 - Wednesday

SCM/IML Springfield Legislative Day

April 30th, 2024 - Tuesday

Cal-Sag WSPC/SCM Business Meetings

5:30 P.M. - Refreshments

6:00 P.M. – Cal Sag WSPC Meeting

7:00 P.M. – SCM Business Meeting

Oak Lawn Village Hall

9446 Raymond Avenue

May 22nd, 2024 - Wednesday

SCM Dinner Meeting

6:00 P.M. – Reception

6:30 P.M. - Meeting

7:00 P.M. – Dinner

*** Location To Be Determined**

June 19th, 2024 - Wednesday

SCM Annual Golf Outing

Cog Hill Country Club

VII. Adjournment

**Southwest Conference of Mayors
October 30th, 2023 – Meeting Minutes
Orland Park Village Hall**

NAME	TITLE	REPRESENTING
Keith Pekau	President	Village of Orland Park
Jerry Bennett	Mayor	City Palos Hills
John Egofske	Mayor	Village of Lemont
Kris Wasowicz	Mayor	Village of Justice
Nicole Milovich-Walters	Mayor	Village of Palos Park
Terry Vorderer	President	Village of Oak Lawn
Paul Mallo	Trustee	Village of Oak Lawn
Jack Lind	Trustee/PW Dir.	Village of Chicago Ridge/Merr. Park
Tom Hansen	Chief of Police	Village of Bedford Park
Gary Lewis	Trustee	Village of Bridgeview
Ken Klein	Mayor	Village of Crestwood
Jim Garrett	President/CEO	CSCVB
Adriana Carrasquillo	External Affairs Manager	ComEd
Lisa M. Aprati	External Affairs	ComEd
Kathy Hilton	Commissioner's Aide	C.C. Comm. Sean M. Morrison
Eva DeLaurentiss	Programming Manager	Cook County
Sam Balark	External Affairs	AT & T
Pat Eaves	Community Affairs	Nicor
Steve Pappageorge	Executive Director	Moraine Valley Community College
Housam Hajyous	CTO	GSI
Coleen Barkmeier	Grant Administrator	Village of Oak Lawn
Bill Meyer	Director of Public Works	Village of Oak Lawn
Sheila Sutton	Manager	Metropolitan Planning Council
Gordon Smith	Director of Govt. Affairs	Robinson Engineering
Evan Porter	Marketing Associate	Robinson Engineering
Dwight Welch	Public Affairs	Robinson Engineering
Elaine Grande	Executive Director	Pathlights
Brittany Matyas	Program Coordinator	Southwest Conference of Mayors
Vicky Smith	Executive Director	Southwest Conference of Mayors

Attachments referred to in these minutes can be obtained by contacting the Southwest Conference of Mayors' office at (708) 701-2232.

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. On a motion by President Pekau and seconded by Mayor Wasowicz the September 27th, 2023 Meeting Minutes were approved.

Guest Speakers

Trinity Christian College

Aaron Kuecker, President; Sundeep Vira, Dean of the Business Department; and Cote Soerens, Director of Tuition Transparency & Access – Trinity Christian College gave a presentation regarding a program the College is offering connecting students to the business community while earning income to be used towards tuition.

Metropolitan Planning Council

Sheila Sutton, Manager-MPC, provide information regarding MPC's Drinking Water 1-2-3 Academy.

President's Report

Mayor Bennett welcomed all the Mayors and Guests to the meeting and noted that he will give a Legislative Update under the Legislative Committee.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Smith thanked the City of Palos Hills for hosting the SCM's Joint Municipal Auction on October 14th and noted that in spite of the weather the SCM had another successful auction. Ms. Smith mentioned the Thomas Dodge Co-op Vehicle Purchase Program. Ms. Smith noted that she is working with the other COG Directors to host a lobby day in Springfield and additional details will be available at a later date. She also noted that she is working with the COG Directors to gear up for the next steps to address LGDF and that the COG Directors are also working collectively on the Paid Leave For All Workers Act, that goes into effect on January 1, 2024. The COG Directors are also working collectively with the Pension Coalition to prepare for what may come up in the next Legislative Session. Ms. Smith noted the 2024 SCM Golf Outing will be held on June 19th at COG Hill.

Committee Reports

Transportation Committee

Local STP Report

Ms. Matyas gave an update to the SCM STP Program. Ms. Matyas noted that the SCM's call for new STP Projects started on October 23rd and goes until December 4th. She asked that projects be submitted two weeks prior to December 4th so she can make sure the applications have all the necessary requirements. Once the application process closes Ms. Matyas will score the projects and a Public Comment period will take place between February and March. Please reach out to Ms. Matyas if you have any specific questions. All the information to submit an application, including the STP Methodology and the application, is on the SCM's website.

Cook County Highway Department Update

Ms. DeLaurentiis gave an update on the Cook County Transportation Program.

CMAP Report

Mayor Bennett, CMAP Board Chairman, gave a CMAP update and specifically spoke on the PART study CMAP is undertaking on behalf of the Illinois General Assembly.

Legislative Committee Report

Mayor Bennett gave an update on Legislative Issue, including but not limited to, Nursing Home Property Tax; Paid Leave for All Workers Act; LGDF; etc. The Mayors had a robust discussion on these subject matters.

Utilities Committee Report

Adriana Carrasquillo and Lisa Aprati, ComEd; Pat Eaves, Nicor and Sam Balark, AT & T were present for questions.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Matyas noted that the next meeting will be held on November 14th and she is looking for a host community for the meeting. She asked the Mayors to encourage their Public Works Directors to attend the SCM Public Works Committee meeting.

Cal Sag Watershed Planning Council Report

Ms. Smith noted that the next meeting for the Cal Sag Watershed Planning Council will be held on January 31st, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at Bedford Park Village Hall.

Other Business

CSCVB Update

Jim Garrett gave an update on the happenings of the CSCVB.

MVCC Update

Steve Pappageorge gave a brief update on the happenings at MVCC including that the College will be doing a Strategic Plan and that Dr. Haney will be doing a listening tour with the communities.

Pathlights

Elaine Grande, Executive Director, gave an update on the happenings of Pathlights including programs they offer to assist residents. Mayor Bennett asked the Mayors to consider supporting Pathlights because they are a great resource for our Seniors.

Adjournment

Mayor Bennett thanked the Village of Orland Park for hosting the meeting.

On a motion by Mayor Wasowicz and seconded by President Vorderer the Southwest Conference of Mayors' Business Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.