



6701 South Archer Road
Bedford Park, Illinois 60501

P: 708-701-2232
F: 708-458-2079

Southwest Conference of MAYORS

MEETING AGENDA

October 29th, 2025 ~ Wednesday

5:30 P.M. – Refreshments

6:00 P.M. – Cal Sag WSPC Meeting

7:00 P.M. – SCM Business Meeting

Palos Park Village Hall

8999 West 123rd Street

***PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED TRAVEL INSTRUCTIONS**

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 September 30th, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
Mayor Bennett

II. **Guest Speakers**
Mariyana T. Spyropoulos
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

CMAP - Socioeconomic Forecast Update
Carlos Lopez and Alex Bahls

III. **President's Report**
Mayor Bennett

IV. **Executive Director's Report**
Vicky Smith

V. **Committee Reports**
A. **Transportation Committee**
1. Local STP/Planning Liaison Updates
2. IDOT Local Roads Update
3. IDOT Program Update
4. Cook County Update
5. Illinois Toll Highway
President Brady
Brittany Matyas
Kevin Stallworth
Tavis Farmer
Joseph Seymour
Kelsey Passi

B. **Legislation Committee Report**
Mayor Bennett

C. **Utilities Committee Report**
1. Update Given by Utilities Companies' Representatives
Mayor Wasowicz

D. **Public Works Committee Report**
Brittany Matyas

E. **Cal Sag Watershed Planning Council Report**
Vicky Smith

VI. Other Business

A. MVCC

Steve Pappageorge

B. Pathlights

Elaine Grande

C. CSCVB Update

Mary Patchin/Kim Kislowski

D. Miscellaneous Task Forces/Committee Update

VII. Old Business /New Business

VIII. Next Meetings/Events

IX. Adjournment

November 11th, 2025 - Tuesday

SCM Public Works Committee Meeting

9:30 A.M.

*** Location To Be Determined**

December 9th, 2025 - Tuesday

SCM Transportation Committee Meeting

9:30 A.M.

*** Via Zoom**



Coming from the NW:

Take Cal-Sag Road/Route 83 east and turn Right (North) on 86th Avenue. Travel one mile and turn Right (West) on 123rd Avenue to 8999 W. 123rd Street.

Coming from the SW:

Take LaGrange Road and turn Right (East) on 131st Street. Turn Left on Southwest Highway. Travel one mile and turn Left on 124th Street, follow the curve to 88th Avenue and turn Left on 123rd Street to 8999 W. 123rd Street.

**Southwest Conference of Mayors
September 30th, 2025 – Meeting Minutes
Palos Hills City Hall**

NAME	TITLE	REPRESENTING
John Ryan	Mayor	Village of Alsip
Jerry Bennett	Mayor	City Palos Hills
Terry Vorderer	Mayor	Village of Oak Lawn
Kris Wasowicz	Mayor	Village of Justice
Mary Werner	Mayor	Village of Worth
Jim Dodge	Mayor	Village of Orland Park
Frank E. Finnegan	Mayor	City of Hometown
Gary D. Lewis	Trustee	Village of Bridgeview
Bob Straz	Mayor	City of Palos Heights
Kyle Hasting	Mayor	Village of Orland Hills
Nicole Milovich-Walters	Mayor	Village of Palos Park
Kelly Burke	Mayor	Village of Evergreen Park
Paul Mallo	Trustee	Village of Oak Lawn
Lance Beigh	Village Engineer	Village of Justice
Coleen Barkmeier	Grants Administrator	Village of Oak Lawn
George Schafer	Administrator	Village of Lemont
Adam Jasinski	Administrator	City of Palos Heights
Dean Casper	Outreach Coordinator	Village of Orland Park
Steve Pappageorge	Vice President	Moraine Valley Community College
Alison Parker	Development Manager	Pathlights
Mary Patchin	President/CEO	CSCVB
Kim Kislowksi	Exec. Vice President	CSCVB
Brian O'Neill	Administrator	Village of Orland Hills
Houssam Haj Yousf	CTO	GSi
Adriana Carrasquillo	External Affairs	ComEd
Greg Castellamos	External Affairs	ComEd
Luke Burrows	Outreach Coordinator	ComEd
Toni Garza	Municipal Outreach	ComEd
Danny Walker	Outreach Specialist	ComEd
Sue Lehr	Dir. of Public Works	Hickory Hills
Matthew Zarebczan	Economic Develop. Director	Village of Justice
Joe Seymour	Senior Planner	Cook County DOTH
Kevin Stallworth	Civil Engineer	IDOT-Local Roads
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 7:10 P.M. On a motion by Mayor Wasowicz and seconded by Mayor Finnegan the October 30th, 2024 Meeting Minutes were approved.

Guest Speakers

Tim Gainer, FORTRESS Plus Solutions, presented information about his company and how they have the ability to properly secure and store many items that municipalities have to securely store for various reasons.

Danny Walker, Toni Garza, Luke Burrows and Adriana Carrasquillo of ComEd gave an overview of ComEd's Energy Efficiency Program including municipal matters, small business matters as well as residential matters.

President's Report

Mayor Bennett congratulated President Ryan for being selected to serve on the IML Board of Directors and he congratulated Mayor Straz for being selected to serve on the MMC Board. He thanked all Mayors for their service and commitment to the SCM.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Smith Thanked everyone who participated in the SCM's June 18th golf outing. Thank you to the many sponsors – we appreciate it. She noted that the SCM is already working on next year's golf outing and once the details are confirmed we will let you know. We are considering having only one course – but that has not been decided yet. The last few years we've had a difficulty filling both courses while having to pay for both courses. Thank you to everyone who attended the Newly Elected Officials Workshop on Saturday, June 14th. Ms. Smith noted that she hopes everyone found the workshop to be useful. The SCM hopes to offer more training in the future as a joint effort with other COGs. Ms. Smith noted that the SCM will hold their Joint Municipal Auction on Saturday October 4th at Palos Hills Public Works Facility. The following municipalities are participating in the auction: Evergreen Park, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Chicago Ridge, Bedford Park and Palos Hills. Ms. Smith asked everyone to submit their Membership Directory information as soon as possible. Ms. Smith noted that the SCM is a member of the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition and that she will be sending information that the municipalities can use on their social media accounts as well when they contact your legislators. Ms. Smith noted that the SCM partner with DMMC, NWMC, SSMMA, and LCML to send a letter to the Governor regarding the transit issue. Knowing that transit reform needs to take place in Illinois in order for it to remain vital these are the items that our letter addressed: Governance and Representation; Local authority and Transit-Oriented Development; Transit Funding and our Commitment to Collaboration. The SCM will continue to monitor the transit issue and participate when and where we can. Ms. Smith reminded everyone of Pathlights' 500 for 50 Campaign and encouraged everyone to make a donation.

Committee Reports

Transportation Committee/Local STP Report

Ms. Matyas reported that Quarterly STP Projects reports are due. Ms. Matyas also noted that the SCM will be having a call for new STP projects in October.

On a motion by Mayor Milovich-Walters and seconded by Mayor Finnegan the Southwest Conference of Mayors' updated STP Methodology was approved.

On a motion by Mayor Straz and a second by Mayor Wasowicz a cost increase for Lemont's Phase I Engineering for the 131st Street project was approved.

IDOT Local Roads Update

Mr. Stallworth, IDOT, presented the Local Roads and Street Status Sheets for Federal Aid Projects in the Southwest Conference of Mayors area. Attachment A

IDOT Program Update

Mr. Farmer, IDOT, presented the Management and Monitoring Schedule for FY 2025-2030 for the Southwest Conference of Mayors. Attachment B

Cook County Highway Department

Mr. Seymour, Cook County, presented the Cook County DOTH Project Status Report for the Southwest Conference of Mayors. Attachment C

Legislative Committee Report

Mayor Bennett gave a Legislative update which included the transit issue, LGDF and pensions. Mayor Bennett noted that the MMC's Legislative Committee met to discuss the transit issue in Illinois and it was decided that the MMC would not take an official position because there was not consensus among its Members. For this reason the SCM participated with other COGs to send a letter to the Governor as noted in the Executive Director's Report.

Utilities Committee Report

Ms. Adriana Carrasquillo, ComEd, noted that ComEd will be sending out the municipal surveys in two years. She thanked everyone for their attention during their presentation.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Matyas reported that the SCM Public Works Committee will meet next on November 11th.

Cal Sag Watershed Planning Council Report

Ms. Smith noted that the next meeting for the Cal Sag Watershed Planning Council will meet next on September 29th, 2025 at the Village of Palos Park.

Other Business

MVCC Update

Mayor Bennett congratulated Mr. Pappageorge on becoming a Vice President at MVCC. Mr. Steve Pappageorge gave a brief update on the happenings at MVCC and he noted that enrollment is up about 3%. The southwest Education center is in the process of being updated and will become a Healthcare Professions facility.

Pathlights

Ms. Alison Parker gave an update on the happenings of Pathlights including programs and encouraged everyone to participate in Pathlights' 500 in 50 Campaign. They are hoping to raise \$25,000 by October 25th.

CSCVB Update

Ms. Mary Patchin and Ms. Kim Kislowski gave an update on the happenings of the CSCVB.

Adjournment

Mayor Bennett thanked his staff for preparing for and hosting the meeting tonight.

On a motion by Mayor Finnegan and seconded by Mayor Burke the Southwest Conference of Mayors' Business Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.