

**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**April 20, 2016**

The meeting of the Libertyville Economic Development Commission was called to order at 7:34 a.m. at the Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT), 600 W Winchester Rd, Libertyville, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman John Cortesi, Commissioners William Abington, Glenn Bockwinkel, Brian Grano, Thomas Kreuser, Jeff Mateer, and Steve Martin.

Members Absent: Edward Werdell.

Staff Present: Heather Rowe, Economic Development Coordinator.

Others Present: Pam Hume, Main Street Libertyville; Jon Nelson, LCDOT; and Emily Karry, LCDOT

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Minutes:* The Commission approved the minutes of the February meeting with the correction that Commissioner Abington was present.

*Presentation by LCDOT:* Chairman Cortesi expressed appreciation to VW Credit for hosting and introduced Mr. John Nelson. Mr. Nelson reviewed the LCDOT's efforts to coordinate with various state and regional agencies so as to provide the most information possible through the Passage travel system which is available to the public through their website ([www.lakecountypassage.com](http://www.lakecountypassage.com)), email notification requests, and smartphone app. He noted high usage rates on the system not only by commuters but also, police enforcement and traffic reporting bureaus. In addition to tracking information on traffic volumes, travel times, construction and accident zones, the system also allows staff to review current conditions and change traffic signals to adjust as needed. He indicated it was one of the most robust systems in the country. Commissioner Abington noted that Medline's trucking system makes regular use of the data.

Ms. Karry then reviewed the consensus based road improvement planning effort of Lake County. A lot of community feedback went into their 2040 Plan which guides how road projects are prioritized for budgeting. For instance, the recently completed Peterson Rd widening was on this Plan. Through planning with CMAP they also try to tie in transit and bikeway improvements. There is a bike planning effort currently to improve along Rt 137 east to Sheridan Road and this summer the North Shore Bike Path will be paved from Carmel to 22.

The Commission then requested that LCDOT's help to make improvements to the rail infrastructure through Libertyville and surrounding communities so as to increase Metra's ability to add express hour and reverse commute stop times. As per Metra this needs to start with improvement at the Rondout interchange, then additional tracking through Libertyville west to Grayslake. Ms. Karry indicated she would raise this subject at her staff meeting for further consideration.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS:**

The Commission then requested information on the proposed Places for Eating Tax. Ms. Rowe noted that the Village Board is considering the tax. The item was placed on a recent agenda for discussion but has been postponed for action, in the interim discussion meetings are being planned with the restaurateurs. An announcement of this date will be sent along with additional information on the proposal. The proposal is for a 1% tax on food sold for on-site consumption. Commissioner Grano inquired how funds would be spent and requested that some of the funds could be utilized for additional restaurant promotion. The Commission requested the Village's Finance Director's attendance at the May meeting for further conversation regarding the tax.

Chairman Cortesi requested additional discussion on the TOD efforts at the May meeting.

The meeting was concluded so as to proceed with a demonstration of the Passage control room capabilities by Mr. Nelson. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather J. Rowe,  
Economic Development Coordinator