



# Illinois Health and Hospital Association

July 13, 2017

## *IHA Weekly Regional Roundup*

### City of Chicago

The Chicago Dept. of Public Health (CDPH) announced dates and locations for a series of town hall meetings. The meetings are designed to gather feedback from content experts and Chicago residents on policy ideas aimed at improving the health and well-being of Chicago's youth. The town halls will focus on five key areas surrounding youth health: improving homes, empowering working families, promoting vaccines, reducing obesity, and mitigating trauma.

The meetings will be held:

- July 25 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the West Pullman Library;
- July 31 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at James Shields Middle School. This town hall meeting will be available in both English and Spanish;
- Aug. 8 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Rowan Park Fieldhouse. This town hall meeting will be available in both English and Spanish; and
- Aug. 16 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Legler Branch Library.

[RSVPs](#) are encouraged but not required. Residents who are unable to attend a town hall meeting may [submit comments online](#) through Aug. 31. Following the town hall meetings, CDPH will release a report conveying the feedback from participants and policy recommendations that emerge as part of the discussions.

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Last month, Progressive Reform Caucus Chair Ald. Scott Waguespack (32nd Ward), Ald. Toni Foulkes (15th Ward), Ald. Ameya Pawar (47th Ward), and several other aldermen introduced the [Chicago Fair Workweek Ordinance](#). The proposed ordinance would reform employer scheduling practices to require that workers receive two weeks advance notice of their work schedule, the opportunity to consent or decline to hours being added to their schedule with less than 14 days' notice and additional predictability pay added for last minute shifts being removed, among other requirements. Such legislation has already been passed in San Francisco, New York and Seattle. The proposed ordinance was referred to the Committee on Committees, Rules and Ethics.

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Two upcoming trainings will provide an overview of immigrant statuses in the United States, the trends in mental health needs among immigrant and refugee communities, and an introduction to psychological first aid and ongoing clinical work with these groups. [Culturally-Sensitive Mental Health Services for Immigrant & Refugee Populations – Preparing First Responders](#) will be offered:

- July 14, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Northeastern Illinois University  
El Centro Campus  
3400 North Avondale, Room 115; and
- July 28, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Lurie Children’s Hospital  
Stanley Manne’s Children’s Research Institute  
2430 North Halsted, Wolfson Conference Room.

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### [Cook County](#)

As a result of a Circuit Court judge’s temporary restraining order preventing the collection of the county’s sweetened beverage tax, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle this week announced that more than 1,100 county employees will receive layoff notices next week, including physicians, nurses, public defenders, and sheriff’s officers. In addition to those layoffs, the President’s Office has required a 10 percent holdback from Aug. 1 through Nov. 30 for all bureaus, departments and separately elected officials’ offices. These measures are aimed at making up for the anticipated sweetened beverage tax revenues, part of the county’s projected \$287.5 million operating gap.

Preckwinkle noted that she would not consider property tax or sales tax increases as revenue alternatives, as neither has sufficient support from commissioners. The county has not raised its property tax since the 1990s, and the County Board previously raised the sales tax in 2015. A hearing on a preliminary injunction on the tax has been scheduled for July 21.

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Cook County recently released its [Comprehensive Annual Financial Report](#) for fiscal year (FY) 2016. Highlights from the report include:

- Cook County closed out FY 2016 with more than \$2 billion in tax revenue and over \$5 billion in expenses;
- The county had a \$15.3 billion deficit at the end of the fiscal year, representing an increase of \$819 million from FY 2015;
- Total FY 2016 expenses for governmental activities were \$3.016 billion, which is an increase of \$353.5 million (13.3 percent) over FY 2015, mainly driven by pension, infrastructure and election costs;
- The county generated \$760.4 million in sales taxes, following the County Board’s vote to increase the rate from 0.75 percent to 1.75 percent; and

- About a quarter of the county's revenues come from property taxes. The net property tax levy has been held constant at \$720.4 million since 1996, excluding expiring TIF districts and new properties.

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With the support of Cook County Clerk David Orr, Commissioners John Fritchey (District 12) and Jesus Garcia (District 7) [announced plans](#) to introduce an ordinance creating a Cook County identification card. Under the proposal, the ID card would be available to anyone living in Cook County who provides sufficient documentation to establish identity and residence. Once issued, it would serve as proof of identification and county residency and would be accepted by all county agencies and any entity receiving county funds. The program would be administered by the office of the Cook County Clerk and is estimated to cost up to \$500,000 to start, although it is expected to eventually be self-funding.

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On July 1, both the [Cook County Minimum Wage Ordinance](#) and the [Cook County Earned Sick Leave Ordinance](#) became effective for municipalities that did not opt out of the legislation. The minimum wage increased from the state-mandated \$8.25 per hour to \$10 per hour. It will continue to rise annually until it reaches \$13 per hour in 2020. Likewise, the paid sick leave legislation requires that employers provide employees with one hour of sick time for every 40 hours worked.

Cook County municipalities that have opted out of the paid sick leave requirements so far include: Alsip, Arlington Heights, Barrington, Bartlett, Bedford Park, Bellwood, Bensenville, Berkeley, Blue Island, Bridgeview, Broadview, Brookfield, Buffalo Grove, Burbank, Burnham, Burr Ridge, Calumet City, Calumet Park Village, Chicago Heights, Chicago Ridge, Country Club Hills, Crestwood, Des Plaines, East Hazel Crest, Elgin, Elk Grove Village, Elmwood Park, Evergreen Park, Flossmoor, Forest Park, Forest View, Franklin Park, Glenview, Glenwood, Golf, Hanover Park, Harvey, Harwood Heights, Hickory Hills, Hillside, Hinsdale, Hodgkins, Hoffman Estates, Hometown, Homewood, Inverness, Justice, La Grange, La Grange Park, Lansing, Lemont, Lincolnwood, Lynwood, Lyons, Markham, Matteson, Maywood, Melrose Park, Merrionette Park, Midlothian, Morton Grove, Mount Prospect, Niles, Norridge, North Riverside, Northbrook, Northlake, Oak Forest, Oak Lawn, Orland Hills, Orland Park, Palatine, Palos Heights, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Park Forest, Park Ridge, Posen, Prospect Heights, Richton Park Village, River Forest, River Grove, Riverside, Rolling Meadows, Roselle, Rosemont, Sauk Village, Schaumburg, Schiller Park, South Barrington, South Chicago Heights, South Holland, Steger, Stickney, Stone Park, Streamwood, Summit, Thornton, Tinley Park, Westchester, Western Springs, Wheeling, Willow Springs, Wilmette, and Worth.

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At the latest Cook County Board of Commissioners meeting, an [ordinance amendment](#) was introduced that would increase several fees at the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office:

- The storage fee would rise from \$50 per day to a flat fee of \$500;
- The lab use fee would rise from \$100 per week to \$250 per day;
- The expert witness fee would rise by \$100 each; and
- The cremation fee would rise from \$100 to \$250;

If approved, the new rates would take effect Dec. 1. The legislation was referred to the Finance Committee.

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### **Boone County**

As part of its process for updating the county's Comprehensive Plan, Boone County is gathering public input through its Comprehensive Plan Vision Survey, available [here](#). The county's Comprehensive Plan guides the future of all unincorporated land within the county and county government functions.

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### **Champaign County**

The Champaign County Board recently approved a [contract](#) with a brokerage firm to begin researching and marketing for the possible sale or transfer of the county-owned Champaign County Nursing Home. In April, voters approved a referendum giving the county the authority to sell the nursing home, although no decision has been made. Selling the nursing home would require approval from 15 of the County Board's 22 members. County Administrator Rick Snider has previously estimated that, if approved by the County Board, the sale of the nursing home could take about a year to finalize. In related news, the County Board also approved a [contract](#) for a new company to assume management of the nursing home, effective July 1.

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### **DeKalb County**

DeKalb County Community Action (DCCA), the county's official anti-poverty agency, is requesting that residents complete its [community needs assessment survey](#). Responses to the survey will help inform its 2018 Community Action Plan, which directs the implementation of programs administered by DCCA and other social service agencies in DeKalb County.

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### **Jackson County**

Public Health Administrator Miriam Link-Mullison recently retired from the Jackson County Health Department after 20 years as public health administrator, effective July 1. The health department's new administrator is Sarah Patrick, M.P.H., Ph.D., who previously served as deputy director of the St. Louis County Department of Public Health. IHA congratulates both Link-Mullison on her retirement and Patrick on her new position.

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Jackson County Board Vice Chair Orval Rowe (R-District 1) this week resigned from his position to become deputy coordinator at the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency. Rowe was first elected in 2008. Within 60 days, Board Chairman John Rendleman (D-District 5) is

expected to appoint a successor who, if confirmed by the County Board, will serve the remaining 20 months of the term. IHA congratulates Rowe on his new position.

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### **Lake County**

On July 21, the Lake County Board of Health will hold a [hearing](#) to receive public comments on [proposed revisions](#) to the county's tobacco regulations that would ban the sale of tobacco products to anyone under the age of 21. The hearing will be held at 10 a.m. at the Lake County Central Permit Facility. Written comments received by July 18 will be read into the public hearing record. Municipalities that have already increased the minimum age for tobacco sales include Chicago, Deerfield, Evanston, Highland Park, Naperville, and Oak Park.

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### **Macon County**

Effective July 1, the Macon County sales tax increased by 0.25 cents per dollar. Voters approved the increase in a referendum earlier this year. The tax is expected to generate \$2.5 million annually, which will fund public safety efforts, including operation of the county sheriff's office and the county jail.

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### **McHenry County**

The McHenry County Substance Abuse Coalition [announced](#) that six weeks into the operation of [A Way Out Program - McHenry County](#), 23 individuals have so far been served by the program. The initiative offers around-the-clock treatment for substance use disorder to county residents who request to participate in the program at a [partnering police department](#). Participants have the opportunity to turn over to police any drugs or contraband in their possession without being arrested or charged. They are then transported to Centegra Hospital – Woodstock for an evaluation and placed in a participating treatment facility.

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### **Montgomery County**

Montgomery County Board Vice Chairman Evan Young (District 3) was elected board chairman this week, following the death of Chairman Roy Hertel (District 6) earlier this year. Finance Committee Chairman Megan Beeler (District 1) was selected as the board's vice chairman. In addition, the board appointed Nokomis resident Sandra Johnson to succeed Joe Gasparich as representative for District 2, and Hillsboro resident Mark Hughes to succeed Hertel as representative for District 6. IHA congratulates Young, Beeler, Johnson, and Hughes on their new positions.

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### **Will County**

Will County [announced](#) that for the second year, the Illinois Dept. of Human Services awarded the county the [Prevention Prescription Drug/Opioid Overdose-Related Deaths](#) grant to further its efforts in combating the opioid overdose epidemic. According to the press release, the county's initiatives in this area include:

- Will County serves on the Illinois Opioid Crisis Advisory Council;

- The county's grant-funded Narcan Distribution Program trained 168 people to administer the opioid reversal drug naloxone between February and June 2017 and gave each participant two free doses of the drug;
- In 2016, all police departments in Will County were trained to administer naloxone. To date, naloxone has been deployed 16 times in 2017, compared to 16 times total in 2016;
- The county is conducting an inventory of treatment services and school programs offered in Will County, including access to medication-assisted treatment; and
- The county worked with five police departments to establish a Safe Passage program, which allows those who struggle with opioid use disorder to ask for help at a police department without fear of prosecution and be connected directly to a treatment program.

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### City of Naperville

The city of Naperville recently [launched Open Data Naperville](#), an online portal that provides the public with raw, relevant data and a dashboard monitoring the city's progress towards long-term performance management goals. The open data program is aimed at making the city's data easily available to the public in order to: improve service delivery; increase transparency and access to public information; and enhance coordination and efficiency among departments, partner organizations and residents. The new site contains nearly 30 datasets, including all of the city's maps and information about building permits, debt service, public safety incidents, budgets, and more. In addition to downloadable spreadsheets, the site allows viewers to create visualizations like maps, charts and graphs that can be embedded into other websites. The city will continue to release additional datasets as they become available.

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### City of Park Ridge

Park Ridge is [accepting applications](#) to fill two vacancies on the Community Health Commission, which seeks to promote healthy living and awareness of opportunities to improve individual, family and community health. Applications are due July 14.

#### **For more information, please contact:**

Sarah Calder  
Director, Government Relations  
312-906-6141  
[SCalder@team-iha.org](mailto:SCalder@team-iha.org)

*The IHA Weekly Regional Roundup is researched, written and edited by Sarah Calder and Elyse Kallen in IHA's Government Relations and Corporate Communications and Marketing departments.*