

THE CHRONICLE

County pavement repair program to include work on Kedzie Avenue in Homewood

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Cook County's 2015 pavement preservation and rehabilitation projects will include work on Kedzie Avenue from 175th to 183rd streets in Hazel Crest and Homewood, according to an April 8 news release from the county.

The Kedzie Avenue project is one of a number of road improvement projects that will cover about 56 miles of roadway in 28 communities and will cost \$38 million, county officials said.

Other projects in the area will include:

- Reconstruction of Center Street, the trucking gateway to CN Railroad's massive intermodal facility, in Harvey. The project will add a lane and relieve chronic flooding problems on the road.
- Extending Joe Orr Road, which currently ends at Torrence Avenue, to Burnham Avenue in the village of Lynwood. The project calls for construction of a four-lane roadway.
- Bridge repairs are planned for Ridgeland Avenue at Interstate 80 in Tinley Park and Cottage Grove Avenue over North Creek (Glenwood).

County Board President Toni Preckwinkle noted that in addition to work on the summer construction projects, the Department of Transportation and Highways is continuing its work on development of its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Once completed and approved, the LRTP will be the first time Cook County has had such a plan in more than 70 years.

"By the end of this year, we expect to have a roadmap that establishes how we can best prioritize projects and utilize resources to ensure that Cook County meets the transportation needs of its citizens, connects population bases with jobs, and produces a sustainable transportation future," Preckwinkle said.

Cook County's Department of Transportation and Highways oversees 557 miles of roads and highways, 134 bridges, 351 traffic signals and seven pumping stations.