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ICYMI: COMMISSIONERS: CHICAGO NEEDS INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FROM \$830 MILLION BOND SALE

Commissioners Carney, Conner, and Hernandez-Tomlin pen Sun-Times Op-Ed on the importance of infrastructure investment for Chicagoans.

CHICAGO – Yesterday, the Sun-Times published an <u>editorial</u> written by Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) Commissioner Tom Carney, Department of Water Management (DWM) Commissioner Randy Conner, and Department of Fleet and Facility Management (2FM) Commissioner Julie Hernandez-Tomlin. The piece hits on the critical needs of Chicagoans that the proposed bond issuance would fund. Some key takeaways:

"The funding will support CDOT's work to resurface more than 150 miles of streets each year, extending the lifespan of our roadways on both high-traffic arterial roads and residential streets."

"Additionally, a \$63 million investment in street lighting will replace hazardous poles and install new fixtures along more than 150 blocks, significantly boosting visibility and overall safety."

"Out of a commitment to equity and ensuring that those who are least able to afford lead service line replacement work can receive these upgrades, the city has been working for years to identify and secure funding for line replacements. The water department needs the \$100.3 million allocated by this bond to perform water and sewer main upgrades, as well as lead service line replacements to continue delivering fresh, clean drinking water."

"The reality is that we will face negative consequences if we ignore these projects or kick the can down the road. A pothole on the road that we cannot repair expeditiously will only grow, making it more expensive to repair."

Read the full piece at this <u>link</u>.



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. 10