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HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER OF ILLINOIS

Honoring the Innovative Work of Municipal Governments in Illinois's 10th District

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the creative accomplishments of our local municipalities who have gone above and beyond to serve our communities. Innovation is alive and well in the cities, towns and villages of Illinois's Tenth Congressional District.

Some of these local achievements were recently recognized by the Lake County Municipal League highlighting the commitment, vision and ingenuity of our civic leaders.

The Village of Mundelein, Illinois won top honors for the "Mayor's Cup STEM Challenge", established by Mayor Steve Lentz. The program encourages Mundelein students' interest in fields such as mathematics and engineering, while promoting access to higher education. More than 1,000 students have participated, and 31 businesses have donated more than \$80,000 to the program. Since the Mayor's Cup STEM Challenge was established in 2014, the program has grown significantly and serves as a model for how municipal governments can partner with local schools, students, and businesses for the greater good.

The Village of Bannockburn was also honored for the creation of the Last Mile shuttle pilot program, which sought to solve the Village's transportation problem. The program's goal was to connect Bannockburn Lakes Office Complex with four Metra stations nearby and allow

commuters a subsidized Lyft ride to and from the Office complex and station. Since the creation of the project, more than 900 rides have been provided, and the program continues to see growth. The improvement earned an Honorable Mention at the awards dinner.

Other Lake County municipalities made significant strides in the past year to bolster their local small businesses, improve public safety and beautify their communities. The Village of Beach Park earned an Honorable Mention at the awards dinner for their work with neighboring communities to create the Northern Lakeshore Trail Connectivity Plan, which would improve walking and bicycling connections between five northern lakeshore communities.

We all strive to live in vibrant, healthy and dynamic communities. The work of these, and other, municipalities are helping to realize that dream.

I proudly applaud these municipalities and the dedicated civil servants for their commendable efforts to serve our communities. I look forward to learning more about these innovative efforts, and to continuing to work closely together in the months ahead.

Bradley Scott Schneider MEMBER OF CONGRESS