

**From:** Ed Barsotti [mailto:[ed@bikelib.org](mailto:ed@bikelib.org)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 20, 2013 1:15 PM  
**To:** Jesse Elam  
**Cc:** Don Kopec; Randy Blankenhorn  
**Subject:** Draft TAP program from CMAP

Jason (and Don),

The League of Illinois Bicyclists commends CMAP's draft slate of Transportation Alternatives Program projects. The criteria is wise, and the process is transparent – a model for others to follow.

In addition, matching what Randy Blankenhorn said would be done back in our 2012 meeting, CMAP did a good job avoiding the temptation to spread the money too thinly. Instead, the funds were focused on larger, regionally significant projects.

Great work!  
Ed

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Matteson  
Midlothian  
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New Lenox  
Oak Forest  
Olympic Fields  
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Park Forest  
Phoenix  
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December 16, 2013

Dear Mr. Jesse Elam:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft set of projects selected for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's FY 2013-14 Transportation Alternatives program (TAP).

The Cal-Sag Trail has long been a high priority of SSMMA. I thank CMAP for recognizing its regional significance by recommending that two segments - Dolton and Alsip - receive TAP funding. However, I was surprised to see that the Riverdale segment was not selected because it scored low (5 points) on the *Completion of Regional Greenways and Trails Plan* category. It was judged neither to connect two existing trail sections nor to extend an existing regional trail, which would have increased its score to 30 or 25 points, respectively. This apparent oversight is a result of the age of the 2009 *Northeastern Illinois Regional Trails and Greenways Plan*, which maps a Cal-Sag Trail alignment north of the channel instead of through Riverdale.

My understanding is that the Friends of the Cal-Sag and the project sponsors have determined that the Riverdale segment is viable and have completed Phase 1 engineering. But until the project is included in the regional plan, it seems unlikely that it will be funded with regional dollars.

Inclusion on the regional trails and greenways plan map is an effective threshold criterion, so long as the map is accurate. Therefore, I urge CMAP to consider establishing a process for amending or updating the regional map so that it includes the best and most current information. This will ensure that worthy projects receive funding in the future.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Thomas Vander Woude  
Deputy Executive Director for Transportation and Infrastructure,  
South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

**From:** terry@spindoctorcyclewerks.com [mailto:terry@spindoctorcyclewerks.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 16, 2013 1:21 PM  
**To:** Erin Aleman  
**Cc:** Ricardo Lopez; Jesse Elam  
**Subject:** RE: public comments on selected transportation alternatives projects

Erin, thanks. I definitely want to become more involved in this process as I learn more of what we do. The scoring and selection look good to me. Omitting those two projects near the top are justified and the recommended ones that I am familiar with are important to the entire region. I did not see any that warranted being moved into the recommended list.

I am surprised not to see some significant DuPage needs presented so I will have to do some homework to see how we get ready for the next time around. Terry

-----Original Message-----

From: "Erin Aleman" <[EAleman@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:EAleman@cmap.illinois.gov)>  
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2013 3:35pm  
To: "terry@spindoctorcyclewerks.com" <[terry@spindoctorcyclewerks.com](mailto:terry@spindoctorcyclewerks.com)>  
Cc: "Ricardo Lopez" <[rlopez@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:rlopez@cmap.illinois.gov)>  
Subject: public comments on selected transportation alternatives projects

Hi Terry,

I thought this item might be of interest to you. The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a new program the CMAP is managing. This program's focus is to fund bicycle and pedestrian facilities. CMAP held a call for projects this past summer and is now looking for public comments on the draft set of projects.

**Transportation Alternatives Program comment period.** The [draft set of projects](#) for the FY 2013-14 CMAP Transportation Alternatives program was released for public comment today following the Transportation Committee meeting. Interested parties should submit comments to Jesse Elam ([jelam@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:jelam@cmap.illinois.gov)). Comments will be accepted until December 16, 2013. More information is available at [www.cmap.illinois.gov/transportation-alternatives](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/transportation-alternatives).

Have a great weekend!

Erin

**Erin L. Aleman**

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