



**Community
Planning Program**



Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning

**Local Technical
Assistance Program**

**Application form:
Community Planning program and
Local Technical Assistance program**

DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesday, June 26, 2013

This application form is online at www.rtachicago.com/applications. You may submit the form by email to applications@rtachicago.com.

Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

1. Name of Applicant:

Village of Glenview

2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email):

**Robyn Flakne
847-904-4536
rflakne@glenview.il.us**

3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply):

Local government

Multijurisdictional group* \longrightarrow Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):

Nongovernmental organization* \longrightarrow Name of local government partner(s):

*Applications submitted by multijurisdictional groups and nongovernmental organizations must include a letter indicating support from each relevant local government. See the FAQs for more information. Nongovernmental applicants are strongly encouraged to contact CMAP or the RTA prior to submitting their application to discuss their project and the demonstration of local support.

4. Project Type (please check any that apply):

Please check all statements below that describe characteristics of your project. (This will help us determine whether your project is best handled by CMAP or RTA.)

- My project involves preparation of a plan.
- My project helps to implement a past plan.
- My project links land use, transportation, and housing.
- My project has direct relevance to public transit and supports the use of the existing transit system.
- My project is not directly related to transportation or land use, but implements GO TO 2040 in other ways.

5. Project Location:

Please provide a brief description of the location of your project. You may include a map if that helps to describe location, but this is not required. If your project helps to implement a past plan, please include a link to that plan.

The project will focus on open space and land to be redeveloped throughout the Village of Glenview, Illinois, a 13.8-square-mile suburb of 44,692 people twenty miles north of Chicago (*see Attachment 1*). The focus of the project is to review, update, assist in implementing, and facilitate public outreach for the local natural resources plan, [A Plan for Nature in Glenview](#).

6. Project Description:

Please tell us what you would like to do in your community, and what assistance is needed. If you have more than one idea, please submit a separate application for each project. Please be specific, but also brief (less than two pages per project idea)—we simply want to have a basic understanding of what you want to do. CMAP and RTA staff will follow-up with you if we need any additional information to fully understand your proposed project.

(Please include any additional information that is relevant, preferably by providing links to online documents.)

The Village of Glenview (Village) is seeking CMAP Local Technical Assistance to 1) review and update our five-year-old natural resources plan, *A Plan for Nature in Glenview*, and expand its focus into a more comprehensive green infrastructure plan, 2) revise Village codes and ordinances to streamline green infrastructure implementation on public and private projects, and 3) improve public education and outreach regarding green infrastructure, in partnership with Glenbrook South High School's (GBS) Project Earth environmental club, CMAP's Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP) students, and a university environmental department. Students will participate in green infrastructure tours. Furthermore, they will research and present the benefits of green infrastructure to the Village's Natural Resources Commission, Board of Trustees, and public.

Introduction

In 2008, the Village adopted *A Plan for Nature in Glenview* as an amendment to the Village's Comprehensive Plan. The plan was driven by the Village's Natural Resources Commission (NRC). It was developed following a series of three open space assessments focused first on the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River (West Fork), then on areas that are tributary to the West Fork, and finally on all remaining open space larger than one acre. The plan emphasizes open space protection and natural area restoration, and to a lesser extent promotes engineered elements of green infrastructure (Flakne and Keller, 2012). Implementation has proceeded for five years as funding and other conditions have presented opportunities. Projects have included streambank stabilizations, river re-meandering, naturalization of detention basins and road medians, public and private rain gardens, permeable pavement and bioswales (*see Attachment 1*).

Review and update A Plan For Nature in Glenview

It is time to evaluate the accomplishments of the plan, the opportunities now lost, and those still available. In addition, some NRC and Village accomplishments over the past five years were not directly part of the plan, though they support the plan's goals. A revised and updated plan can expand to actively target such opportunities, which have largely consisted of implementing green infrastructure engineering practices in new developments where feasible.

The Village intends to update its Comprehensive Plan in 2015. Thus, now is the opportune time to ensure that the priorities of *A Plan for Nature in Glenview* are refreshed and ready for incorporation into the new Comprehensive Plan. With CMAP assistance, the plan and its implementation to date can be reviewed, analyzed, revised, and updated. The process will involve review of the ecological assessments that led to development of *A Plan for Nature in Glenview* and refinement of the conclusions and recommendations found in the *Plan for Nature* technical report and summary report in light of the intervening five years. Results should cohere with other relevant local plans, such as the local report of the Village's Stormwater Task Force, Downtown Redevelopment Plan, Waukegan Road Corridor plan, and current Comprehensive Plan. A key element that CMAP technical assistance can provide is alignment with regional plans including Chicago Wilderness' *Biodiversity Recovery Plan* and *Green Infrastructure Vision* and CMAP's *Go to 2040*. CMAP can also assist in expanding *A Plan for Nature in Glenview* to more explicitly recommend engineered green infrastructure techniques. Discussion of how green infrastructure can meet regulatory requirements at local, regional, and national scales, along with research comparing costs, benefits, and mutual compatibility of green and gray infrastructure, is particularly desirable.

Revise Village codes and ordinances

CMAP's assistance is also needed to implement a key recommendation of the existing *Plan for Nature*, reviewing local codes and ordinances and recommending revisions to ensure that natural open space and green infrastructure projects are supported. This focus on policy and planning is necessary because projects incorporating engineered green infrastructure elements are, at present, experimental novelties. Assistance is needed to elevate green infrastructure approaches, particularly regarding stormwater management, to accepted standard practice. Comprehensive code and ordinance revision may encourage the use of green infrastructure practices.

Improve Public Education and Outreach

The process of reviewing and revising *A Plan for Nature in Glenview* and local codes and ordinances relating to natural resources and green infrastructure carries with it an opportunity for education. The Village has collaborated with GBS's Project Earth club in naturalizing detention basins, hosting volunteer work days in natural areas, preparing for academic competitions, and designing signs to describe green infrastructure projects to the public. Including the club in the revision process described here is a logical next step. Furthermore, expanding the partnership to include additional student groups, such as CMAP's FLIP students and/or university students, is easily accommodated. CMAP and Village staff and NRC members can host workshops and green infrastructure tours for the students. For example, an annual green infrastructure bike tour hosted by the NRC has been conducted twice for the general public. A special student-oriented tour (by bike or other means) can be readily arranged.

Following such training, the students can assist CMAP and Village staff in presenting the findings of the natural resources plan and ordinance review and revision process to the NRC, and possibly to other interested commissions, the Village Board of Trustees, and the general public. Students can research and present projections about how the continued incorporation of green infrastructure into future private and public development projects will provide economic, environmental, and regulatory compliance benefits to the Village. They can also assist in making the information available online.

Additional partners, such as other local municipalities that have experimented with green infrastructure techniques or regional organizations such as the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission and Friends of the Chicago River, could be recruited to expand the students' exposure to green infrastructure applications throughout the region. Each of the student groups (GBS, FLIP, and university) could choose their level of participation in these educational opportunities. The university students could provide an additional layer of analysis about the planning and outreach process itself. Potential partners for this project include Northeastern Illinois University's Green Infrastructure or Environmental Interpretation classes or Roosevelt University's Water class. A possible model to consult for structuring such a program is the partnership between the Metropolitan Planning Council and the University of Chicago and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which is studying the effectiveness of incentive programs for private green infrastructure.

Anticipated Results

In the short term, this project will benefit the community by updating the natural resources plan and expanding its scope to engineered green infrastructure techniques just in time for inclusion in the newest Comprehensive Plan. It will help advance implementation of the current natural resources plan through conducting a review of local codes and ordinances to ensure that they support open space, natural areas, and green infrastructure. And it will provide intensive education of high school and university students, Village leaders, and the general public. In the long term, increasing acceptance, public support, and confidence in green infrastructure's benefits, along with facilitation of green infrastructure practices through code revisions, will lead to greater deployment of such practices. The Village's experience partnering with students will be documented and can be exported to other communities seeking to involve youth in improving both natural resources and future water quality in their region. Green infrastructure at present remains a boutique industry, featuring practices that are often perceived as novel and interesting, but also costly and dispensable. It is essential that these practices are perceived as vital to the region's environmental, economic, and regulatory future. Green

infrastructure may eventually become so commonplace as to be unremarkable; until that level of success is achieved, programs like this are key to maintaining its momentum.

References

Flakne, R. and R. Keller. 2012. *A Plan for Nature in Glenview: Creating and implementing a natural resources plan at the community level. Environmental Practice* 14(1):35-44.



Green Infrastructure Projects

▲ Private Rain Garden
 ● Federally Funded Projects
 ● Detention Basin (RatziB)
 ★ Erosion Stabilization
 + Lot 16 Stabilization
 X Reach 1 Re-manufacturing and Habitat Improvements
 ◆ Tier 1 Center Green Roof/Permeable Pavement
 ◆ Permeable Pavement/Bioswale Parking Lot
 ◆ Reach 1 Stabilization

— Road
 — Railroad
 □ Open Space
 □ Village of Glenview

See Green Village/Map 04, The Village of Glenview, Illinois, for a complete list of projects. For more information, contact the Village of Glenview at 847.424.2200.

Feet
 0 1,250 2,500 5,000

