



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

**DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesday, June 26, 2013** 

This application form is online at <a href="https://www.rtachicago.com/applications">www.rtachicago.com/applications</a>. 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 Thornton**
- 2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email): Jason Wicha, Village Administrator. (708) 877-4456. Email: jwicha@thornton60476.com
- 3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply):

X Local government	
Multijurisdictional group*	Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):
Nongovernmental organization*	Name of local government partner(s):

<sup>\*</sup>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.)

X	My project involves preparation of a plan.
	_ My project helps to implement a past plan.
<u>X</u>	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 creation of a formal Comprehensive Plan would impact all property located within the Village of Thornton's corporate boundaries.

## **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.

The Village of Thornton would like to develop a formal Comprehensive Plan to help guide future decision-making and to establish a long-term vision for the direction of the community. As a small community the Village of Thornton has limited resources, both in terms of staffing and finances, to carry out the development of a Comprehensive Plan without outside assistance. As a full-service, Cook County municipality, however, it is important that the Village adequately plan for the challenges facing our community and our region.

Specifically, the Village desires to formulate long-term planning objectives associated with, but not limited to, the following key areas:

- Transit-oriented development stemming from the eventual creation of a METRA new- start line (the South East Service Line) which, as proposed, includes a station in downtown Thornton. Given this opportunity to incorporate access to public transportation into the Village's long-term development objectives, it is important that the Village begin proactively planning for the future.
- Undertaking a formal SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) utilizing stakeholder input to determine overall community values and visions. This would facilitate long-term goal setting, and eventually a formal plan dictating appropriate methods to achieve those goals.

The Village of Thornton is thus hereby requesting assistance from CMAP and/or RTA for the development of a new Comprehensive Plan for the Village. Assistance is requested in one of two forms:

Either in the form of adequate funding for the Village to hire an outside consulting firm to assist in the development of a formal Comprehensive Plan; Or in the form of direct technical assistance from CMAP/RTA staff to sufficiently guide the Village through the Comprehensive Plan development process. Despite the essential need to develop a Comprehensive Plan for our community, in the absence of outside assistance it is unlikely that the Village has the resources and technical expertise to carry out that task on our own. I thank you in advance for your consideration on this matter.