



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:

Urban Innovation Center
3440 South Dearborn Suite 130S
University Technology Park @ IIT
Chicago, IL 60616

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

Paula Robinson
Co-founder
Paula@urbaninnovationcenter.com
312.569.0250

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

Local government

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

- Bronzeville Community Development Partnership
- Center for Neighborhood Technology
- University Technology Park @ IIT

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.

In a broad context the location for this project is the Black Metropolis National Heritage Area (BMNHA) which lies between 18th and 71st Streets and between Lake Michigan and Stewart Street in the city of Chicago. In a previous LTA project CMAP helped the Urban Innovation Center and the Bronzeville Community Development Partnership secure a designation of this entire urban geography as a National Heritage Area. More narrowly, this project focuses on the half mile radius area around the planned Green Line station at 22nd and Michigan and on industrial areas within a one-mile radius of the planned expansion of the Norfolk Southern intermodal freight terminal to 61st Street between Wallace and Stewart.

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 Bronzeville Community Development Partnership (the Partnership) focuses on redevelopment opportunities based on three types of assets with which the BMNHA Corridor is richly endowed: Tourism, Technology, and Transportation. Tourism opportunities spring from BMNHA's rich African-American heritage, the presence of McCormick Place, and proximity to the Loop with which it enjoys excellent transit connections. Technology opportunities are linked to IIT and the University of Chicago, the nearby Loop business center, and high-speed fiber optic cables embedded in CTA lines. Transportation opportunities include both transit-oriented development (TOD) around Red and Green Line stations and cargo-oriented development (COD) around rail lines and intermodal terminals. Efforts to build on these assets are complimentary and dovetail with the City of Chicago's programs to bring investment to the Bronzeville Opportunity Area and place the thousands of workers being trained for logistics jobs at Olive Harvey College. In collaboration with the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT) and in concert with the City, the Partnership seeks to create a systematic plan to achieve TOD and COD according to the market opportunities of each of station area and industrial district in the BMNHA

Corridor. A concept statement for this plan, called the *TAG Initiative* is provided with this link <https://www.dropbox.com/s/qyf55o1bg5de2rp/Bronzeville%20TAG%203%20A.docx>.

The LTA program requested in this application would launch the *TAG Initiative* by creating a community-based TOD plan for the planned 22nd Street & Michigan Avenue Station and a COD plan for industrial districts within a one-mile radius of the Norfolk Southern Terminal's new expansion area. This COD plan would marry community aspirations for substantial job creation and environmental improvement with industrial development expertise. CNT is prepared to contribute professional assistance to these planning projects. Beyond benefitting their immediate communities these plans will perform the strategic role of demonstrating the potential of TOD and COD on Chicago's South Side and the value of the overall *TAG Initiative*.