



**Regional
Transportation
Authority**

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To: CMAP Transportation Committee
From: Jay Ciavarella
Division Manager, Local Planning and Programs
Date: September 6, 2011
Re: **PRELIMINARY RTA FUNDING PROGRAMS OF PROJECTS**

At the upcoming September 30 CMAP Transportation Committee, RTA staff will be seeking input on the preliminary programs of projects for our grant funding programs. A public comment period is currently underway through September 30. The RTA Board of Directors will consider adoption of the programs of projects on October 20. The RTA Board will then consider adoption of the 2012 budget on December 15. Public comments may be mailed, e-mailed or delivered until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2011. Please send your comments to the following:

Mail or drop off comments:

ATTN: Funding Programs Public Comment
The Regional Transportation Authority
175 W Jackson Blvd – Ste. 1550
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Phone: 312-913-5516

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On April 7, 2011, the RTA released a Call for Projects for the Community Planning, Subregional Planning, and JARC/NF programs. RTA staff hosted four open houses throughout the region to answer questions and provide direction on potential project submittals. A total of 18 applications were received by the June 9, 2011 deadline. Since that time, RTA staff has reached out to all three Service Boards, CMAP, other planning partners, and the applicants themselves to better understand each application. Using the Board-approved selection process and criteria, RTA staff has developed the following preliminary programs of projects for public comment:

Community / Subregional Planning Program (7 Projects)

Funding for the Community and Subregional Planning program is provided with RTA funds along with a 20% local match from project sponsors.

- **Village of Lake Villa Downtown Transit-Oriented Development Plan (Community Planning)** - This project will create a transit-oriented development plan for an approximate ½ mile radius of the existing Metra station within the Village. The plan will focus on expanding new development and redevelopment opportunities and provide a balanced mix of housing and jobs in the Metra station area.
Estimated Project Budget - \$125,000 (\$100,000 RTA Share)
- **Village of Fox Lake Station Area Plan (Community Planning)** - This project will create a transit-oriented development plan for the Metra station area located in the Village's downtown area. The Village would like the plan to provide recommendations to improve walkability and improve streetscaping, redevelop vacant and underutilized land, promote the Village as a tourist destination and encourage the use of Metra.
Estimated Project Budget - \$100,000 (\$80,000 RTA Share)
- **Village of Kenilworth Corridor Transportation and Streetscape Plan (Community Planning)** - This project will develop a transportation and streetscape plan for the Green Bay Road corridor, which includes the Village's Metra station and a Pace bus route. The plan will provide recommendations for a balanced, multi-modal corridor that ensures the safe and efficient movement of vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists and improved access to both the Metra station and Pace service.
Estimated Project Budget - \$75,000 (\$60,000 RTA Share)
- **Village of Mt. Prospect Downtown Implementation Plan (Community Planning)** - This project will build off an initial downtown strategic plan completed by the Village in 1998. The Village was successful in implementing much of that plan, but needs to reevaluate how the remainder of the TOD area will develop and prepare a detailed implementation strategy.
Estimated Project Budget - \$100,000 (\$80,000 RTA Share)
- **Village of Carpentersville East to West Bus Route Transit Improvement Plan (Community Planning)** - This project will examine ways to improve transit options to employment areas within the Village and in neighboring communities. A detailed market analysis will be completed to determine the feasibility for a variety of transportation services with recommendations focusing on low-cost, easily-implementable improvements.
Estimated Project Budget - \$75,000 (\$60,000 RTA Share)
- **Town of Cicero Connections Initiative: Assuring Mobility and Fostering Economic Development Through Transit Connectivity (Community Planning)** - This project will create a transit-oriented development and transit improvement plan, focusing on the Town's Metra station, two CTA stations (Cicero and 54th / Cermak) and eleven Pace and CTA bus routes. The plan will provide recommendations to improve mobility and connections between

transit services, stimulate TOD investment in the Town's transit station areas, and connect dense housing areas with transit, walkable commercial development, and job centers.

Estimated Project Budget - \$150,000 (\$120,000 RTA Share)

- **City of Evanston Main Street Station Transit-Oriented Development Plan (Community Planning)** - This project will provide a transit-oriented development plan for the City's Main Street Metra and CTA stations. The plan will evaluate ways to introduce high-quality office and technology space into the station area and improve connections between the two stations.

Estimated Project Budget - \$125,000 (\$100,000 RTA Share)

Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) / New Freedom Program (6 Projects)

The JARC/New Freedom program is federally funded with project sponsors responsible for the local match. No RTA funds are required to support the projects. Project sponsors provide a 50% match for operating projects and a 20% match for capital/mobility management projects.

- **Association for Individual Development (AID) Ride in Kane Phases 7 & 8 (JARC & NF)** - This program, now in its fourth year of operation, coordinates paratransit services in Kane County into a centralized system that optimizes transportation resources for older adults, persons with disabilities, and low-income individuals. The sponsors of Phases 7 and 8 include 19 private, non-profit organizations and local units of government.

Estimated Project Budget - \$5,484,186 (\$2,786,170 Federal Share)

- **Hanover Township Volunteer Express (NF)** - Funding for this project will support a volunteer driver program supplementing the services offered by Hanover Township's Dial-A-Bus program. Volunteer drivers utilizing their own vehicles will provide the door-to-door service. Local share will be provided with transportation development credits, formerly known as toll credits.

Estimated Project Budget - \$15,454 (\$15,454 Federal Share)

- **Lake County Northwest Demonstration Project (JARC & NF)** - This project, originally funded in 2008, is an outgrowth of the county's coordinated paratransit plan funded through the RTA's Subregional Planning program. The service provides dial-a-ride transportation in four townships to persons with disabilities, the elderly and low-income individuals.

Estimated Project Budget - \$974,408 (\$487,204 Federal Share)

- **City of Naperville Community Based Ride to Work (JARC)** - This project is a continuation of the DuPage County Transportation to Work Program that operates as part of Ride DuPage program. Eligible riders are afforded increased employment opportunities by providing them with transportation to

jobs outside of their own town and at times that may extend beyond traditional work hours.

Estimated Project Budget - \$1,038,810 (\$519,405 Federal Share)

- **Pace Phase IV Regional Call Center Project (JARC & NF)** - This is the 4th Phase of the project that originally received 2007 New Freedom Funding. The project enables low-income individuals, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities to access multiple transportation programs through the call center. The call center takes reservations for demand response services and assigns trips to the appropriate provider. *Estimated Project Budget - \$4,728,603 (\$3,782,883 Federal Share)*
- **Will County Mobility Management Program (JARC & NF)** - This program will provide transportation and mobility management services for persons with disabilities, the elderly and low-income individuals residing in eastern Will County townships. The program is an outgrowth of the county's coordinated paratransit plan funded through the RTA's Subregional Planning program. *Estimated Project Budget - \$864,054 (\$488,956 Federal Share)*

Projects Not Selected

- **South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) Multimodal Plan (Subregional Planning)** - The scope of work for this project was too broad and did not have a clear enough connection to improving the transit system. This project did not have strong support from the Service Boards.
- **South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) Intermodal Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Information and Planning System (Subregional Planning)** - This project did not have a strong enough connection to improving the transit system and did not have strong support from the Service Boards.
- **Village of Olympia Fields Metra Station Area Plan (Community Planning)** - The project was a duplication of a Station Area Plan that was completed for the Village through the RTA's Community Planning program in 2000. The RTA will continue to offer the Village implementation assistance for the existing plan.
- **Village of LaGrange West End Pedestrian Mobility and Traffic Circulation Study (Community Planning)** - The proposed scope of work for this project does not require a full study to be completed. The RTA will work directly with the Village to address pedestrian mobility issues at the Metra station as part of our implementation support for their 2005 TOD plan, which was funded by the RTA's Community Planning program.

- **Village of Round Lake Transit-Oriented Development Plan (Community Planning)** - The project would create a TOD plan for the Village's Downtown area. However, the plan recommendations would be impacted by the new alignment of a new North-South bypass of Cedar Lake Road, which would cut through the Downtown station area. Preliminary engineering on this alignment is not expected to be complete until 2013. TOD and land use planning is premature with the exact alignment of Cedar Lake Road unknown at this time.