

## Engaging the Region

Metropolitan Chicago's prosperity depends on many forces — including decisions by local governments and the private sector regarding land use, transportation investments, water, and environmental issues. CMAP is engaging its partners and the general public in a new planning process that focuses on measurable results. The agency will provide alternative ways for decision makers to look at the impacts of their choices on neighboring communities and on the region as a whole, supporting these efforts with a sustained program to measure and report on progress toward our goals.

See the CMAP Board's strategic report at <http://www.chicagoareaplanning.org>.

## CMAP Board

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**Steve Schlickman** (Executive Director, Regional Transportation Authority)

### Executive Director

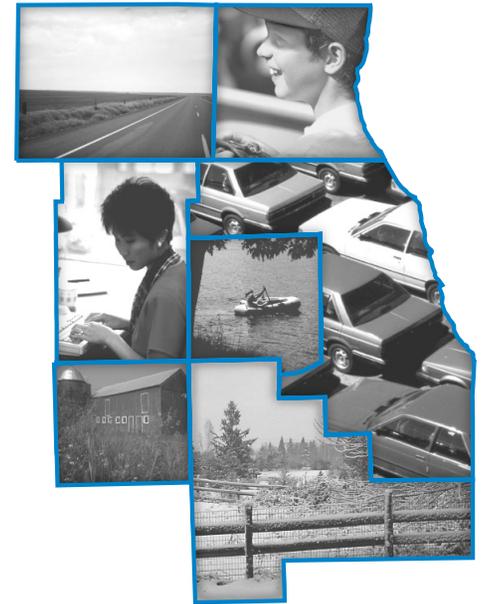
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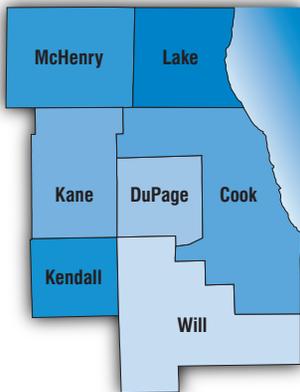
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## About CMAP

The region is at a crossroads, with 2 million additional residents and 1.2 million more jobs projected by 2030. Residents annually spend 253 million hours and 151 million gallons of fuel sitting in traffic jams, at a cost to the region of \$4 billion. Natural resources are abundant but under increasing pressure in the region. If decentralized, low-density development trends continue, by 2030 an additional 337,000 acres will be developed — an area the size of Kane County.

Working together as a region, we can shape these trends instead of passively letting them shape our communities. To integrate planning for transportation and land use, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) has been created by merging the staffs of the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC). CMAP serves the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will.



## CMAP's Vision

The new agency will provide the framework to help our region connect its land use to the transportation system, preserve its environment, and sustain its economic prosperity. The agency must be responsive to the region's residents, working cooperatively with municipalities and counties that maintain authority for local land-use decisions.

CMAP seeks to fundamentally change the way planning is conducted in Illinois, with an integrated, collaborative approach to:

- Develop a comprehensive framework for the region's future through long-range regional plans and strategies.
- Provide high-quality information and analysis through coordinated technical assistance to facilitate regional decision making.
- Build consensus and advocate regional priorities.

## Focus Areas and Expertise

CMAP is integrating specialized expertise in a number of focus areas to preserve and enhance quality of life for current and future generations. These areas include:

- Research and Analysis
- Land Use
- Transportation
- Economic and Community Development
- Environment and Natural Resources
- Housing
- Human Services

