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To: UWP Committee

Date: November 20, 2007

From: Bob Dean, Principal Regional Planner

Re: UWP Funds for Regional Comprehensive Plan

The development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan is one of CMAP's largest projects, and is funded primarily through UWP funds. This plan will serve as the official Regional Transportation Plan for northeastern Illinois, fulfilling federal requirements, but also will address land use, economic development, environment, housing, human services, and other issues.

CMAP would like to investigate whether other agencies in the region would like to take on responsibilities related to the Regional Comprehensive Plan that could be funded through the competitive portion of UWP funds. In other words, other agencies might consider substituting in a specific project related to this plan when building their overall UWP proposal portfolios. These UWP funds would be for FY 09, so activities will need to be appropriate for the needs of the Regional Comprehensive Plan between July 2008 and June 2009.

Potential activities that may be appropriate for funding include the following:

- Strategy implementation recommendations. CMAP is currently researching a number of strategies to determine what their effects would be if implemented. This research is not focusing on the details of implementation, including identifying who is responsible, what an appropriate timeframe would be, and other basic questions. Outside agencies, particularly those who may be responsible for implementing strategies, could play a major part in filling this gap.
- Public involvement. A major public involvement effort is planned during summer and fall 2009 to gather input on the scenario evaluation results and determine a preferred scenario. The planning and organization of this is expected to require considerable effort, and will begin early in 2009 or before. Agencies with extensive local networks could be able to play a large role in assisting with this public involvement effort.
- Capital project evaluation measures. CMAP intends to identify measures by which capital projects can be evaluated to determine whether they should be recommended for inclusion in the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The bulk of this process will occur in FY 09. Outside agencies could be involved in assisting to develop these evaluation

measures. While this process will also be addressed through CMAP's working committees, including the Transportation Committee, there is an opportunity for agencies to become more involved in the process of researching potential evaluation measures and developing a recommendation.

There may be many other additional activities related to the Regional Comprehensive Plan that agencies besides CMAP could participate in. CMAP encourages its partner agencies to identify potential roles that they could play in the planning process and to work with CMAP to determine how UWP funds could support these roles.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion.