



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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**To:** Working Committees  
**Date:** April 4, 2008  
**From:** Russell J. Pietrowiak, Associate Planner  
**Re:** Regional Snapshot Report: Aging

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As part of the development of [Go To 2040](#), a series of Regional Snapshot reports will be prepared on major issues that need to be addressed in the plan. The purpose of these reports is to establish linkages between CMAP's policy areas, gather background data, and initiate discussion on major regional issues early in the planning process.

CMAP is researching various aspects associated with the senior (65 years and older) population in our region. Through this research CMAP is attempting to create a "snapshot" of senior demographics and issues as they currently exist while also bringing to light various emerging issues regarding seniors that the region will have to take into consideration as it develops the regional comprehensive plan. Staff will provide a brief presentation on the initial findings of this research to various CMAP committees.

Our research seeks to understand the composition, characteristics, and variation associated with seniors throughout the region along with the myriad of often complicated and interrelated issues that affect the quality of life of seniors. An increasing senior population will occur throughout most of the time horizon that the [Go To 2040](#) plan will cover. Understanding the effects that this demographic shift will have on the region and planning to meet the challenges that will be created by this shift will be an essential in the development of [Go To 2040](#).

As a first step CMAP has chosen to examine today's seniors in an effort to understand the current situation so that we may be better prepared to meet future challenges associated with an increasingly numbers of seniors. Using a compilation of Census Data, local, regional, and national reports and studies, CMAP examined senior (65+) demographics and the interrelationships between seniors and a variety of issues such as; transportation, landuse, social and economic issues, and housing. The presentation is to be followed by a more detailed and exhaustive report on aging in the Chicago region that should be available in the near future.

**Action Requested:** Discussion and comments