



**Application form:
Community Planning Program and
Local Technical Assistance Program**

DEADLINE: Noon on Thursday, June 26, 2014

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:
Village of Oakwood Hills

2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email):
Melanie Funk, Village President; 815-575-2210 mfunk@oakwoodhills.org

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

Local government

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

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.

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.)

In 2012 The Village of Oakwood Hills submitted an application as part of the Silver & Sleepy Hollow Creeks Watershed Coalition to begin implementation of the December 2011 Watershed Action Plan for Silver Creek and Sleepy Hollow Creek Watersheds plan recommendations. The plan was produced by CMAP through funding from the IEPA. CMAP completed our first LTA project where we requested technical assistance for review and recommendations of our policies, regulations, Codes and Ordinances and current practices for consistency with achieving the recommendations of the 2011 Watershed Action Plan. The plan is available at: <http://foxriverecosystem.org/silver-sleepy.htm> This watershed planning process and its implementation of the recommendations contained in the plan for developing effective watershed protections is consistent with advancing the implementation of GO TO 2040. This is especially important because the development and passage of protective development standards through local ordinances and standards shape how development occurs in our communities and has a direct impact on watershed health and ultimately the quality of life in our community.

CMAP completed our first step of this implementation project by completing the review of our Codes and Ordinances, and submitted to us their completed review titled the *"Village of Oakwood Hills Comprehensive Plan & Ordinance Recommendations: An Implementation Step of the Silver Creek and Sleepy Hollow Creek Watershed Action Plan"* in November 2013. We are now requesting Technical Assistance to complete the second step of that project which would consist of technical assistance for crafting and reframing our ordinances, codes and regulations based on the recommendations of the CMAP report. The Village of Oakwood Hills does not have planning staff and has only a volunteer board. We have significant natural resources to protect in our Village including the Oakwood Hills Fen, an

Illinois State Nature Preserve, and Silver Lake, both of which have significant ground water and surface water inputs.

Many of our ordinances are outdated and do not conform to best practices. Our previous application showed that the results of the Center for Watershed Protections **Code and Ordinance Protection** assessment showing that the Village of Oakwood Hills only scored 44 out of a possible 100. Oakwood Hills scored the lowest of all the communities in the watershed on the **Green Practices for Local Governments Survey** provided by CMAP. We are thrilled by the code and ordinance review completed by CMAP in 2013, and the Village of Oakwood Hills is ready to implement many of the recommendations, however we need assistance crafting those codes, policies and ordinances for adoption by our board. We are also looking for consistency with the new McHenry County Stormwater Management Ordinance that is scheduled to be adopted this fall.

The November 2013 CMAP Recommendations Report also completed a review of our Comprehensive Plan last updated in 2009. The report identifies recommendations to improve our Comprehensive Plan to better align with the adopted watershed action plan goals. The report specifically recommends the the goals of our plan need to be updated to clearly articulate our community goals and objectives, and that it needs to provide a vision and a policy framework to guide our decision making. As mentioned in the CMAP November 2013 report, a priority for the Village would be to completely re-structure the plan to provide a policy framework to guide our work programs, budgets, development approvals, capital investments, economic incentives and private development decisions.

Continuing to synchronize our efforts with the other communities in the watershed while maintaining our unique character is important, and many other communities have planning departments to implement the CMAP review recommendations from our first step of the project completed last year. The Village of Oakwood Hills is motivated work together with CMAP to re-structure our Comprehensive Plan and to adopt the appropriate code and ordinance recommendations, and seeks assistance with completion of this important project. We see these as fitting together as one project as they are so interdependent on each other, however if requested, we will be happy to submit these as two projects.