

**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](http://www.rtachicago.com/applications). You may submit the form by email to [applications@rtachicago.com](mailto:applications@rtachicago.com).

Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

**1. Name of Applicant:**

South Shore Planning and Preservation Coalition {"The Planning Coalition"}

**2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email):**

Val Free  
773.963.4293  
vfree@theplanningcoalition.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):  
South Shore Chamber of Commerce, Black United Fund of Illinois, Reclaiming South Shore for All, Jackson Park Highlands Association, Hassan Park Neighbors, Young Leaders Alliance, Southside East Block Club Alliance, 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Leslie Hairston, and 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Natashia Holmes

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):

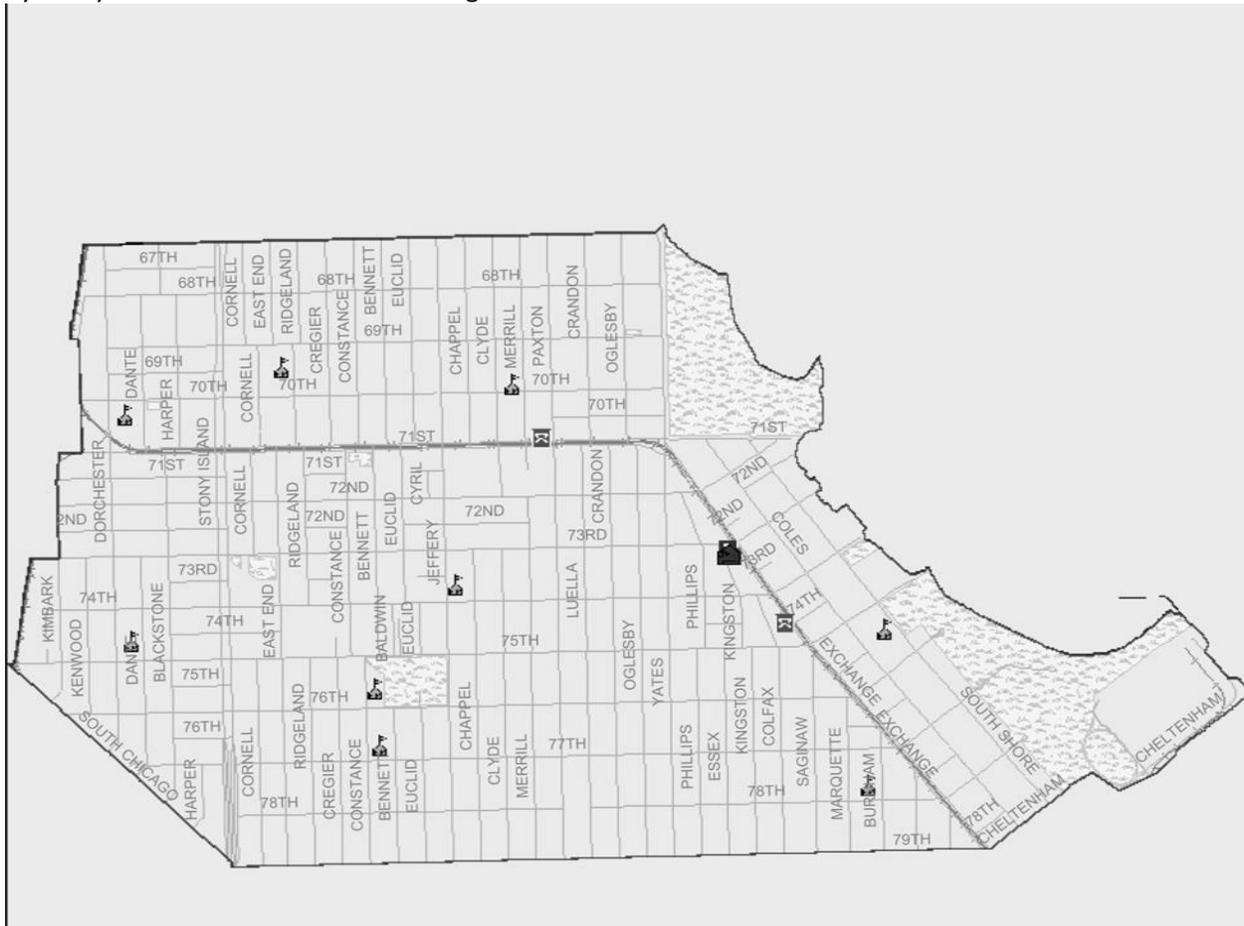
Please check all statements below that describe characteristics of your project. (This will help us determine whether your project is best handled by CMAP or RTA.)

- 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:

##### South Shore

South Shore is Community Area 43, 9 miles (14 km) southeast of the Loop. A 1939 description of South Shore stating that it was "predominantly middle class—upper middle class, to be sure, but not social register," offers an apt though antiquated characterization of this South Side community. Though the class gap among its residents has at times run quite wide, for most of its history South Shore has been a solidly middle-class enclave. The area, boundaries are 67th and 79th streets to the north and south and by Stony Island Avenue and Lake Michigan to the east and west.



## 6. Project Description:

### **Please tell us what you would like to do in your community, and what assistance is needed**

South Shore Planning and Preservation Coalition {"The Planning Coalition"} collaboration of diverse organizations, businesses, residents, and concerned stakeholders, united to serve as a catalyst to improve the quality of life within the South Shore community. Its mission is to *"facilitate the building of community partnerships toward a shared vision that connects family, community, and economic development."*

The overarching concept for the proposal is to develop a comprehensive citizen-driven visioning plan for the South Shore Community.

### **Brief Background**

South Shore has a rich history dating back to 1881, with the construction of the South Kenwood Station by the Illinois Central Railroad. The 1893 World's Fair was also catalytic in the neighborhood's development that also led to the creation of the upscale Jackson Park Highlands. In addition, the completion of Lake Shore Drive in the 1920s further solidified South Shore's positioning within the City of Chicago.

South Shore's initial residents were of European descent. Fast-forward to the 1950s, African Americans began to move into the community. Starting in the late 1960s South Shore started a slow downward spiral indicated by increases in crime and poverty. A small reprieve occurred in the 1970s with the Renewal Effort Service Corporations investment to rehabilitate the neighborhoods housing stock, coupled with the purchase of South Shore Bank (now defunct) reinvestment in the community.

Today, South Shore is teetering on the brink. As of this writing, Urban Partnership Bank, Dominick's, Ace Hardware, along with other businesses have abandoned the community. At the same time major developments are emerging to the southeast such as Lakeside, and revitalization efforts to the north in Washington Park and Bronzeville. South Shore is strategically positioned capitalized on and leverage the economic growth mounting in these areas. But more importantly, it needs to have an inclusive vision on what the community needs to maximize its growth opportunities, leverage its assets, and further its position the area as an economic driver, which all lead to improve quality of life for our residents.

### **Concept Rationale**

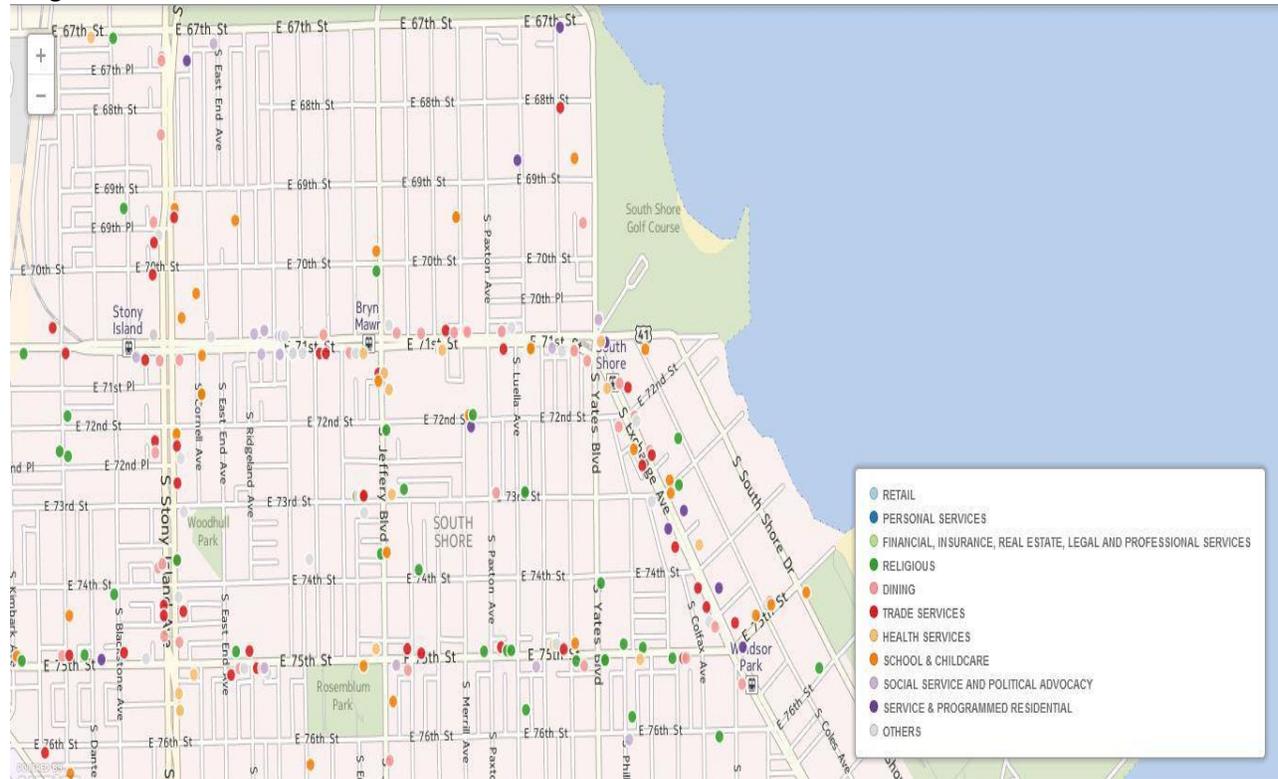
South Shore is home to an estimated 48,000 residents, of which 90% are African American. Based on the 2010 LISC Study, the community is the third highest concentration of middle and upper income households on Chicago's South Side. In addition, an estimated 27% of the households earn more than \$50,000 annually and the South Shore Trade Area has nearly three times as many middle and upper income households per square mile as compared to Cook County. Also, the community is ripe with assets based on the mapping of University of Chicago's South Shore Health and Vitalities Studies data (refer to diagram on following page).

Local-based community organizations and government are working from different angles to address the myriad of issues confronted by South Shore – economic development, economic leakage, housing, education, healthcare, unemployment and job creation, and improving quality of life. However, there is no one central beacon (vision) that serves to anchor these efforts for the South Shore community. Without a focal vision, there can be no blueprint that identifies and isolates the priority issues and opportunities that need to be addressed to achieve that vision. Without a focal purpose, there can be no anchored short- and long-term goals and strategies to implement in support of a collective South Shore vision.

The assessment and analysis worked underway by CMAP for China Town is in line with the type of visioning process that The Planning Coalition, The South Shore Chamber of Commerce, Black United Fund of Illinois, Reclaiming South Shore for All, Jackson Park Highlands Association, Hassan Park Neighbors, Young Leaders Alliance, Southside East Block Club Alliance, and the support of alderman Hairston, and Holmes believe is

fundamental in setting the stage towards a comprehensive South Shore community development framework.

### Diagram





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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60649  
TELEPHONE: (773) 324-5555  
FAX: (773) 324-1585

**CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY OF CHICAGO**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER**

THIRD FLOOR - CITY HALL  
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
TELEPHONE: 312-744-6832

**LESLIE A. HAIRSTON**  
ALDERMAN, FIFTH WARD

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

ECONOMIC, CAPITAL AND  
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT  
(VICE-CHAIRMAN)  
BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
COMMITTEES, RULES AND ETHICS  
FINANCE  
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
SPECIAL EVENTS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
AND RECREATION

June 25, 2014

Mr. Daniel Olson  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
Senior Planner  
Local Technical Assistance Program  
233 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Olson,

As Alderman of the Fifth Ward for 15 years some of my major goals have been to revitalize commercial development, stabilize the housing market and provide safety and security for my constituents, all in an effort to strengthen the community. On occasion there have been community organizations that assist me in achieving these goals. One such organization is The Planning Coalition (TPC).

Therefore, I support and endorse TPC's application to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning for the 2015 Community Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program.

I thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions please call my Chief of Staff, Kimberly Webb at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Leslie A. Hairston  
Alderman, Fifth Ward



**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF CHICAGO**

CITY HALL—ROOM 200  
121 NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
TELEPHONE: 312-744-6825  
FAX: 312-744-4643

June 24, 2014

Mr. Daniel Olson, Senior Planner  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
Local Technical Assistance Program  
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Olson:

I am writing this letter of support for The Planning Coalition's (TPC) application to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's 2015 Community Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program. I believe the work that TPC is undertaking will be a model to other urban neighborhoods throughout the Chicagoland area and thus deserving of resources to support their planning efforts.

The work of TPC is vital to the growth and development of South Shore and adjoining neighborhoods. My staff and I have worked collaboratively with TPC to address many of the issues and concerns of residents, which include lack of viable retail options, neighborhood redevelopment plans, and workforce education and training. These are basic components which drive a community vision and reinvestment in the neighborhood. I am confident that TPC will work tirelessly to make these visions and goals a reality for South Shore.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the TPC's application. If you require any additional information, please feel free to contact me at 773.731.7777.

Sincerely,

Alderman Natasha L. Holmes, 7<sup>th</sup> Ward

**NATASHIA L. HOLMES**

**ALDERMAN, 7TH WARD**  
7TH WARD PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICE  
2459 E. 75TH STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60649  
TELEPHONE: (773) 731-7777  
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**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

COMMITTEE: BILLS AND ETHICS  
ECONOMIC, CAPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT  
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
HUMAN RELATIONS  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS