

**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.

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

**1. Name of Applicant:** Village of Steger

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

Mike Tilton, Village Administrator

708-754-3395

mtilton@villageofsteger.org

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

\_X\_\_ Local government

\_\_\_\_ Multijurisdictional group\* Please list the members of the group (including

 government and nongovernmental organizations):

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\_\_\_\_ Nongovernmental organization\* Name of local government partner(s):

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\*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.)

 X My project involves preparation of a plan.

\_\_\_\_ My project helps to implement a past plan.

\_X\_\_ 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.

The Village of Steger requests assistance in the development of a village-wide comprehensive plan. Steger is located on the border of Cook and Will counties approximately 35 miles south of Chicago.

**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.

The Village of Steger requests assistance in the development of a comprehensive plan to establish a vision for the village and guide its future development. In particular, the plan should focus on the redevelopment of Steger’s downtown, which is centered on the intersection of Chicago Road and Steger Road. The Comprehensive Plan should provide recommendations for the development of a successful pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use downtown that serves the residents of Steger and the implementation of Transit Oriented Development around the planned South East Service (SES) Metra rail line. This area currently houses a K-Mart, several outdated strip malls, some small retail stores and a few historic buildings. It is geared to vehicular traffic and traffic counts in the downtown are significant enough to attract retailers. The village owns one large municipal parking lot near K-Mart and another just southeast. Both of these lots are adjacent to the SES line. The village intends to locate its municipal buildings downtown.

A second focus subarea of the plan should be the area of the village within the IL Route 394 Corridor, which is currently in agricultural use. Commercial, warehousing and logistics uses have been growing in this corridor in other municipalities and the highway is slated for improvements in the IDOT multi-year plan.

Additionally, transportation recommendations should focus on improved pedestrian access and safety in the downtown area and improved vehicular flow throughout the village. The plan will contain recommendations for improved design and aesthetics throughout the village, but especially downtown and where there are opportunities for historic façade improvements.

On a practical note, the plan will provide a background data and a rationale for potential land acquisition and a land use plan which can be used as the basis for an updated zoning code.

The Village works closely with its neighbors through the Southeast Commuter Rail Transit District and the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association. It has recently joined the South Suburban GIS Consortium.

(Please include any additional information that is relevant, preferably by providing links to online documents.)