# Application form:
# RTA Community Planning Program and
# CMAP Local Technical Assistance Program

**DEADLINE:** **Noon on Thursday, June 29, 2017**

This application form is online at www.rtachicago.org/applications. You may submit the form by email to applications@rtachicago.org.
Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

## 1. Name of Applicant

Village of Justice

## 2. Main Contact for Application

Name: Brittany Abrams

Title: Economic Development Coordinator

Phone number: (708) 458-2130

Email: babrams@villageofjustice.org

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

_X_ Local government

_X_ Multijurisdictional group* → Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):
Village of Justice, Village of Willow Springs,
Village of Summit, Village of Bedford Park

_X_ Nongovernmental organization* → Name of local government partner(s):
Active Transportation Alliance
Friends of the Chicago River

*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.

_X_ My project involves preparation of a plan.
____ My project involves updating an already existing plan.
_X_ My project helps to implement a past plan.
_X_ My project links land use, transportation, and housing.
_X_ 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. Local Match Requirement (please initial to indicate you are aware of the local match requirements)

I am aware that a local match will be required for most projects, and understand that if my project is selected it is up to the project applicant to contribute a local match. (See the program guide for further details on local match requirements.)

_X_ Yes, I understand that applicants will be required to contribute a local match.

### 6. 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.

Answer attached to application on additional document- page 1

### 7. 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. For plan updates please tell us how you will be building upon (or replacing) the previous work. Program staff will follow-up with you if we need any additional information to fully understand your proposed project.

Answer attached to application on additional document- page 2

### 8. Previous Plan Implementation Efforts

Please describe actions you have taken to implement previous plans in your community – whether your efforts were successful or not – to achieve infrastructure improvements, development investment, policy changes, advocacy, volunteer involvement, or other actions. If you do not have experience implementing previous planning work, please describe what you will do to make sure that your plan is implemented. Illustrating a commitment to implement plan recommendations is very important to both agencies as we consider new planning projects.

Answer attached to application on additional document- page 2

### 9. Additional Strategic Partnerships

Please list any additional partners you may want to include in this planning project. Please specify if you have made contact with them in advance of submitting this application.

Answer attached to application on additional document- page 2

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

Links attached to application on additional document- Page 3

**Village of Justice**

**Additional Answers for Application Form (Answers to Questions 6-9)**
RTA Community Planning Program and
CMAP Local Technical Assistance Program
DEADLINE: Noon on Thursday, June 29, 2017

## 6. 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 location of this project includes the northwest border of Willow Springs, Justice, Bedford Park and Summit. This project would be a continuation and joint connection of an already existing bike trail that travels along the historic Illinois & Michigan (I&M) Canal. The Illinois & Michigan (I&M) Canal State Trail begins in the west where the canal meets the Illinois River and runs over 75 miles. The Illinois & Michigan (I&M) Canal State Trail intertwines with the Centennial Trail and connects into the John Husar Illinois & Michigan Canal Trail where it ends just southwest of downtown Chicago in Willow Springs. If this Illinois & Michigan (I&M) Canal State Trail could continue through Justice, Bedford Park and into Summit, it can create a possible future link to the City of Chicago. This project will help implement three past plans (links listed below) within the Village of Justice. The Village of Justice Transit Improvement Study in 2007, the Village of Justice Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and the Village of Justice 2030 Vision Plan have described the concept of continuing the bike trail for future alternative transportation accessibility. This project will also support CMAP's GO TO 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan that introduces their investments toward regional mobility, strategic enhancements and modernization of the transportation system.

Attachment:

- Final Preliminary Map Plan provided by Active Transportation Alliance

Web Links:

- Village of Justice Transit Improvement Study 2007
  http://cms3.revize.com/revize/justice/economic_development/docs/Transit%20Improvement%20Study%202007.pdf
- Village of Justice 2030 Vision Plan:
  http://www.villageofjustice.org/economic_development/docs/Justice%202030%20Vision%20Plan%20FINAL.pdf
- Village of Justice Strategic Plan 2016-2020
  http://cms3.revize.com/revize/justice/economic_development/docs/2016-2020%20Strategic%20Plan%20Finalized%20Draft%20VII%20Updated.pdf
- CMAP GO TO 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan
  http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/17842/long_plan_FINAL_100610_web.pdf/1e1ff482-7013-4f5f-90d5-90d395087a5

## 7. 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. For plan updates please tell us how you will be building upon (or replacing) the previous work. Program staff will follow-up with you if we need any additional information to fully understand your proposed project.**

- This Bike Path will be a regional project along the Illinois & Michigan Canal. The path will connect to the current Illinois & Michigan State Trail in Willow Springs and run through Justice, Bedford Park and into Summit. This path will then be part of a larger, regional trail system and can ensure continuity. It was stated that the Illinois & Michigan Canal has developed into a great spot for recreation over the years. Working together as a region is important in order to support regional mobility and make this plan become a reality.

  The Active Transportation Alliance provided the Village of Justice with a preliminary map that shows possible routes and access points that were determined by the surrounding communities. The village will need technical assistance with the planning process of feasible routes and access points for continuing the bike trail. One of the five alternative futures to shape the CMAP ON TO 2050 comprehensive regional plan is "Walkable Communities." If we could continue the transportation access throughout the region and allow bicyclists the opportunity to continue their ride from the southwest suburbs, it would be a beneficial transportation alternative for all.

## 8. Previous Plan Implementation Efforts

**Please describe actions you have taken to implement previous plans in your community – whether your efforts were successful or not – to achieve infrastructure improvements, development investment, policy changes, advocacy, volunteer involvement, or other actions. If you do not have experience implementing previous planning work, please describe what you will do to make sure that your plan is implemented. Illustrating a commitment to implement plan recommendations is very important to both agencies as we consider new planning projects.**

- The Village of Justice Transit Improvement Study in 2007, the Village of Justice Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and the Village of Justice 2030 Vision Plan were conducted in the past. Each plan suggested adding a bike trail for future access. To move forward with these plans, a discussion of the bike path trail was introduced again in 2016. The Village of Justice hosted a Regional Bike-Path Kick-off Meeting at the Lipinski Community Center on Saturday, July 30, 2016 to kick off the conversation about a regional project focused on expanding the Illinois & Michigan Canal State Trail. Representatives from the local communities of Justice, Willow Springs, Bedford Park, Summit, Hodgkins and Bridgeview were in attendance, and were enthusiastic to discuss ideas for route options that would link the communities together. Each community also mapped out accessible entrance points suitable for all. The Kick-Off Meeting was a success and we are eager to move forward with the planning of this project. Active Transportation Alliance has been working with the Villages of Justice, Bedford Park, Willow Springs and Summit for further assistance on planning.

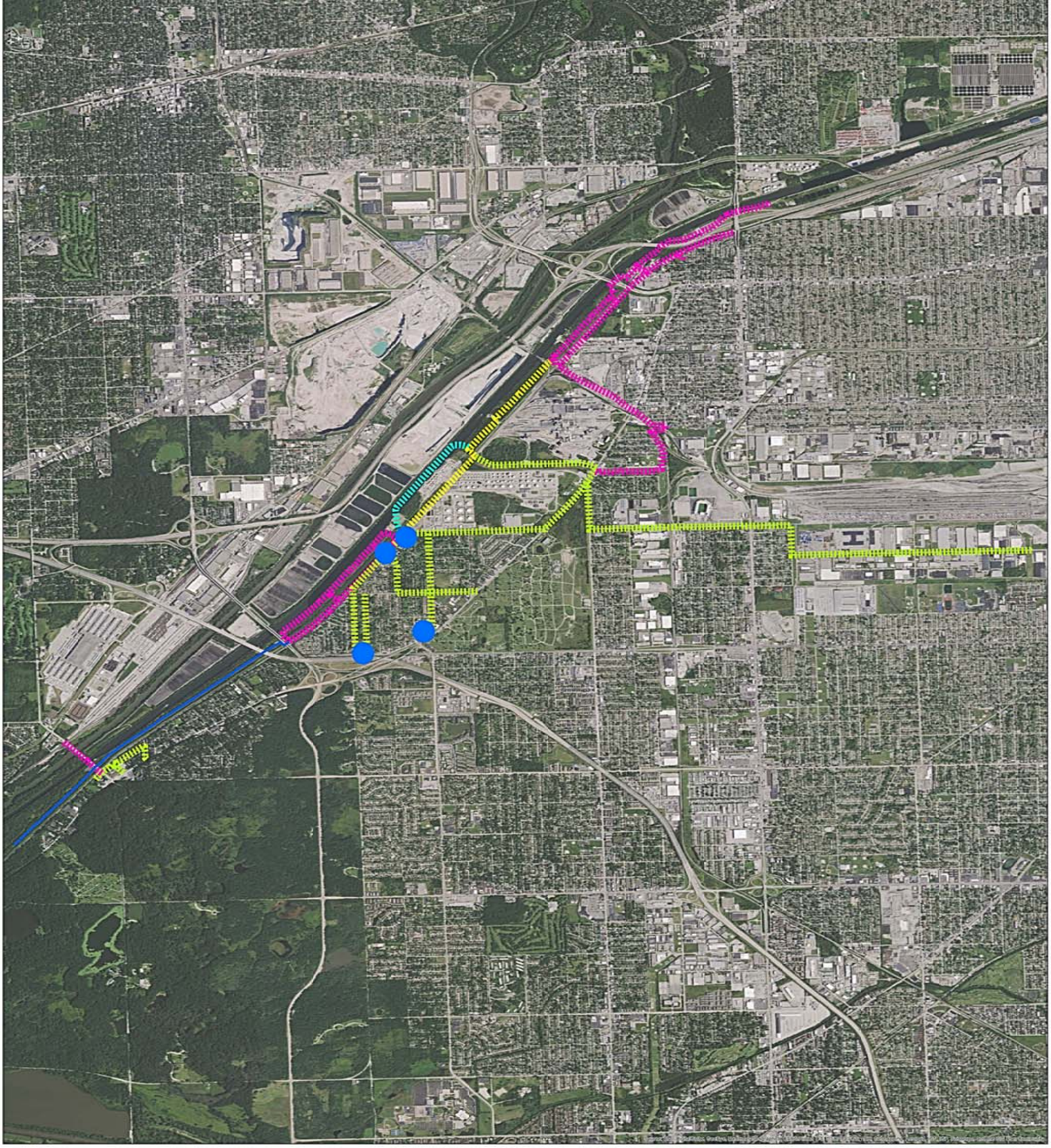
## 9. Additional Strategic Partnerships

Please list any additional partners you may want to include in this planning project. Please specify if you have made contact with them in advance of submitting this application.

1. Active Transportation Alliance- Letter of Support Enclosed with Application
2. Friends of the Chicago River- Letter of Support Enclosed with Application

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

1. CMAP GO TO 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan
   http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/17842/long_plan_FINAL_100610_web.pdf/1e1ff482-7013-4f5f-90d5-90d395087a53
2. Active Transportation Alliance -Trail extension to bring more connectivity to Chicagoland
   http://activetrans.org/blog/trail-extension-bring-more-connectivity-chicagoland
3. Village of Justice Transit Improvement Study 2007
   http://cms3.revize.com/revize/justice/economic_development/docs/Transit%20Improvement%20Study%202007.pdf
4. Village of Justice 2030 Vision Plan:
   http://www.villageofjustice.org/economic_development/docs/Justice%202030%20Vision%20Plan%20FINAL.pdf
5. Village of Justice Strategic Plan 2016-2020:
   http://cms3.revize.com/revize/justice/economic_development/docs/2016-2020%20Strategic%20Plan%20Finalized%20Draft%20VII%20Updated.pdf



Parking Lots

Long-Term Trail

Near-Term Trail

Floating Trail

On-Street Bikeway

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Village of JUSTICE

Phone 708-458-2520
FAX 708-458-4582

Krzysztof Wasowicz
Village President/Mayor

7800 South Archer Road, Justice, Illinois 60458

June 21, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the extension of the Illinois & Michigan Canal State Trail proposed regional project being submitted through the 2017 Community Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program Call for Projects. The Village of Justice has been working hand in hand with the Village of Willow Springs, Village of Bedford Park and the Village of Summit to create a feasible plan for this desired extension. The Active Transportation Alliance has also been of great assistance with the outreach and planning of the regional workshop to discuss possible routes and access points.

If granted this opportunity for planning assistance, it would provide our region with the possibility of connecting the existing 75 mile long trail, currently ending in Willow Springs, through Summit. The Village of Justice supports this proposed project in its entirety.

Sincerely,

Krzysztof Wasowicz
Village Mayor

David R. Brady
*President*

Yvette Solis
*Village Clerk*

# VILLAGE OF BEDFORD PARK

6701 South Archer Avenue
Bedford Park, Illinois 60501
Phone: (708) 458-2067 • Fax: (708) 458-2079
www.villageofbedfordpark.com

*Trustees:*
Katrina M. Errant
Anthony W. Kensik
Robert S. Regep
Gail P. Rubel
Edward J. Salecki
Terry J. Stocks

June 18, 2017

Brittany Abrams
Economic Development Coordinator
Village of Justice
8748 W 82nd PL.
Justice, IL. 60458

To Whom It May Concern:

The Village of Bedford Park had been working with the Village of Justice and three of our neighboring communities on a bike path project to expand on the existing Illinois and Michigan Canal State Trail. We commend Justice for their efforts on this project and strongly support their efforts.

Respectfully,

David R. Brady
Village President

**John M. Carpino**
Village President

**Adena Baskovich**
Village Clerk

**Brent Woods**
Village Administrator

VILLAGE OF Willow Springs
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ONE VILLAGE CIRCLE, WILLOW SPRINGS, ILLINOIS 60480-1665
(708) 467-3700 • FAX (708) 467-3710

Trustees:
**Thomas E. Birks**
**Mario Imbarrato**
**Michael C. Kennedy**
**Melissa N. Neddermeyer**
**Kathryn Stanphill**
**Jerry Strazzante**

June 20, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Illinois & Michigan Canal State Trail follows the historic route of the Illinois and Michigan Canal extending roughly 70 miles. In the late 1800s, the "towpath" which was used by mules and horses to pull barges through the canal was the original purpose of the trail. In 1894, President Reagan signed legislation creating the Illinois & Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor. This was the first heritage corridor in the nation. The concept of the corridor encouraged canal trails and nature preserves. Today, this multi-purpose canal trail provides a great destination for cyclists who enjoy a bit of history while biking along many beautiful landscapes.

The Village of Willow Springs would like to express their interest for the submittal of the 2017 Community Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program. The proposed regional project would extend the Illinois & Michigan Canal State Trail from Willow Springs through Justice, Bedford Park leading into Summit. This extension will create regional and local connections. In 2016, a number of meetings and a workshop was conducted to discuss the possible routes for this project. Working as a region on this project is essential and all efforts for this continuity of the bike path is fully supported.

Best Regards,

Brent Woods
Village Administrator

Sergio Rodriguez
Village President

Sergio A. García
Village Clerk

# Village of Summit

7321 W. 59th STREET
SUMMIT, ILLINOIS 60501
(708) 563-4800
FAX (708) 563-9340

TRUSTEES:
Marvel Parker
Karen Wasko
Aleco Julius
Setki Dardovski
Mayra Ortiz
Arthur Sullivan

June 23, 2017

Dear CMAP,

I'm writing this letter on behalf of the residents of the Village of Summit. We are in full support of the LTA Call for Projects application that the Village of Justice is submitting. We have been in collaboration with the surrounding communities in our efforts to create a recreational/ bike path that would improve mobility and promote a healthier lifestyle of the residents that live in the area.

By being able to obtain this assistance it will allow for us to looking at ways to enhance the traffic flow and alternative modes of transportation. Summit plays a critical role in the project since there is access to several modes of public transportation including a Metra stop and CTA/PACE bus stops.

With the heavy amount of traffic that goes through Summit it can be very unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists. This assistance would assist in looking at ways to make the commute for pedestrians and cyclists safer and reduce congestions. More importantly is will promote a healthy lifestyle.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Sergio Rodriguez
Village President of Summit
www.srodriguez@summit-il.org
708-563-4800

ACTIVE
TRANSPORTATION
ALLIANCE

9 West Hubbard Street
Suite 402
Chicago, IL 60610-6545

T 312.427.3325
F 312.427.4907
info@activetrans.com
*www.activetrans.org*

June 20, 2017

RE: CMAP LTA – Village of Justice

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this Letter of Support for the Village of Justice's application for 2017 CMAP LTA program funding. The application submitted by the Village of Justice to fund a Multi-Community Plan will extend The Illinois and Michigan Canal Trail (I&M). This trail will connect Willow Springs downtown I&M spur to the City of Chicago through the communities of Willow Springs, Justice, Bedford Park, and Summit. The I&M Trail extension will connect schools, regional trails, Metra stations, green space, and provide access to nature along the Canal.

This route meets the CMAPs ON TO 2050 "Walkable Communities" Alternative Futures, the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highway's stated objectives to Prioritize Transit and Other Transportation Alternatives and Promote Equal Access to Opportunities by investing in bicycle infrastructure in Cook County, as well as the Southwest Council of Mayors Bike Plan. A public meeting was held in July 2016 to gage support for this extension. Over 30 members of community groups, Villages, I&M Historical Society, IDNR, National Park Service, and residents enthusiastically participated in developing a draft alignment. Justice, Bedford Park, Willow Springs and Summit have been working together towards an alignment for over a year.

Funding for the project not only strengthens the partnership between the Village's, regions, Community Groups, and City of Chicago, but also provides regional and local connections.

For these reasons, I enthusiastically support the 2017 CMAP LTA program funding application.

Sincerely,

Ron Burke
Executive Director

**Friends of the Chicago River**

411 South Wells Street, Suite 800 • Chicago, Illinois 60607
tel 312.939.0490 • fax 312.939.0931 • www.chicagoriver.org

June 22, 2017

**Board of Directors**

Sally Fletcher
Fletcher Group, LLC
*President*

Cy H. Griffith
Burke, Warren, MacKay
& Serritella, P.C.
*Vice President*

James C. Mark, Jr.
Wight & Company
*Vice President*

Daniel Kilduff
EY
*Treasurer*

Jacqueline J. Loewe
Sheridan Park Consulting
*Secretary*

Mike Alber
MLA2 Advisory and
Consulting, LLC

Judith Bassoul

Kathleen Chappell
NorthShore University
HealthSystem Foundation

Craig Coit*

Grant Crowley*
Crowley's Yacht Yard, Inc.

Alex de Azcárate
Molson Coors

Paul Hagy
Aon Corporation

Stacee A. Hasenbalg*
Avant

Lydia R. Kelley
McDermott, Will & Emery

Lawrence M. Kaplan
Impossible Objects LLC

Jeffrey Knipmeyer
Nottage and Ward, LLP

David H. Loew
Leo Burnett USA

Richard Wilson
Adrian Smith & Gordon Gill Architecture

David M. Wong
Certare Ventures

John D. Ziesmer
Avison Young

**Executive Director**

Margaret Frisbie

**Past Presidents**

Craig Coit
Fred Axley**
Susan Hedman
Mary E. Lambert
Jerome E. Sterling
R. A. Pete Wentz

**Honorary Committee**

Kent Brown
David Solzman

** Past Officers*
***Deceased*

To whom it may concern:

Friends of the Chicago River (Friends) is pleased to endorse the Village of Justice's proposed plan to extend the Illinois & Michigan (I&M) Canal State Trail. The Village of Justice will be submitting this project through the 2017 Community Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program. This work is the result of four communities working together to discuss the continuity of the I&M Canal State Trail: the Village of Justice, Village of Willow Springs, Village of Bedford Park and the Village of Summit. Additionally, the Active Transportation Alliance has convened a public meeting and workshop to discuss concerns, routes and possible access points.

Since 1979, Friends has been working to improve the health of the Chicago River system for the benefit of people, plants and animals; and by doing so, has laid the foundation for the area's river system to be a beautiful, continuous, and easily accessible corridor of open space in the whole region.

Continuing the trail from Willow Springs through Justice, Bedford Park and into Summit will be a major step forward for this historic multi-use trail and will help align the existing trail to improve regional access. Furthermore, by extending the I&M Trail, this project will fill in gaps that exist in creating a continuous riverfront trail throughout the Chicago Area Waterways System, something that Friends has long advocated for and continues to work on.

Any assistance provided for this project will help future advancement of connections throughout this region, provide a great amenity for the communities it connects and the region as a whole, and create a path for more people to experience the I&M Canal and Chicago's waterway system. Friends strongly supports this project.

Sincerely,

Margaret Frisbie
Executive Director