



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Policy & Programming Associate Policy Analyst - Transportation and Land Use (APA92017) August 29, 2017

**Job Category:** Associate  
**Experience Required:** Minimum 2 years  
**Salary Range:** \$54,000 to \$66,933

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is seeking to hire an Associate Policy Analyst to conduct research and analysis related to land use, housing, and transportation, and other topics to support development and implementation of the agency's regional plan. CMAP is our region's comprehensive planning organization. The agency and its partners are developing ON TO 2050, a new long-range comprehensive regional plan to help the seven counties and 284 communities of northeastern Illinois implement strategies that address transportation, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues. See [www.cmap.illinois.gov](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov) for more information, and details regarding benefits are at [www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers#benefits](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers#benefits).

### Position Description

The ideal candidate for this position will demonstrate knowledge about the interactions between infrastructure, land use, economic development, and regional public policy. The ideal candidate will also show aptitude for translating general policy recommendations into specific project and policy recommendations. The Associate Policy Analyst will assist or be responsible for quantitative and qualitative analysis across a range of topics to help finalize and implement ON TO 2050. Potential projects may include: analysis of emerging state and federal regulations, tracking regional trends and transportation performance measures, researching strategies to promote reinvestment in disinvested areas, assessing the land use impacts of transportation investment, participating in development of a new vision for the expressway system, and/or further exploring the connections between land use and tax policy.

Across these projects and tasks, the policy analyst will be expected to emphasize the recommendations of GO TO 2040 and the refinements identified for ON TO 2050. Preference will be given to those who possess strong technical skills with strengths in managing research and collecting and analyzing data, and communicating these findings to a broad range of audiences. All candidates should demonstrate an interest in the complex challenges addressed by long range planning.

### Responsibilities

- Manage or support agency projects that analyze transportation, land use, housing, freight, infrastructure, economic, and other relevant public policy issues facing northeastern Illinois and develop regional scale as well as applied planning and policy solutions to meet these challenges.

- Collect and analyze data on transportation, demographic, land use, economic, and other regional trends.
- Develop methods of quantitative assessment of transportation projects and policies, particularly focused on land use and economic impacts.
- Write reports, [policy updates](#), and issue briefs that explain data trends, synthesize qualitative analysis, and relate their potential impact on changes in federal, state, or local public policy.
- Engage stakeholders through project-specific interviews, presentations to relevant CMAP committees, and participation in regional groups, where appropriate.

### **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Demonstrated understanding and/or interest in the complex connections between transportation, development, the metropolitan economy, and regional governance and policy.
- Ability to apply empirical evidence toward practical purposes, superior research and quantitative skills, and take creative approaches to problem solving.
- Excellent writing skills and the ability to communicate effectively on issues of public policy and planning.
- Ability to manipulate and analyze large data sources in spreadsheets, databases, and GIS, generate findings from these data, and communicate results to a non-technical audience.
- Demonstrated ability to lead complex research projects and produce reports and issue briefs that are factual, original, compelling, and persuasive.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills and an ability to complement existing projects via independent or team-based work.
- Familiarity with the governance structure in northeastern Illinois is desired.

### **Education and Experience**

An undergraduate degree in Public Policy, Economics, Public Administration, or a related field is required; Master's strongly preferred. A minimum of two years of relevant prior work experience in a research-driven policy, planning, or analytical role is required. Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite, with adaptability to other software. Demonstrated skills with databases, spreadsheets, and Arc/GIS geographic information systems.

### **How to Apply**

Please submit cover letter and résumé via the web at [www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers). Please refer to **Job Code (APA92017)**.

### **Posting End Date**

This posting will close on September 29, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. CST. All applications must be completed and submitted within that timeframe.

*The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*