



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

## Agenda Item No. 6.0

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Unified Work Program Committee

**From:** CMAP Staff

**Date:** October 3, 2019

**Re:** Update of competitive program priorities and program development timeline

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Last year's adoption of ON TO 2050 presented the committee with the need to revisit planning priorities in light of the new plan. The committee similarly **updated its planning priorities** following adoption of GO TO 2040. While a number of GO TO 2040 priorities continue to make sense, two underutilized priorities—Financial Planning and Decision-Making Models—were replaced by two new priorities-- Inclusive Growth and Harnessing Technology—were introduced from ON TO 2050.

### **Planning areas identified for potential UWP funding**

The following planning areas from previous rounds of UWP funding have been updated with language and emphases from ON TO 2050:

- **Planning Work toward Implementation of ON TO 2050 Regionally Significant Projects, Including Supportive Land Use.** The continuation of work to further ON TO 2050's list of fiscally constrained regionally significant projects is another planning area. Potential work includes planning for the inclusion of transit or bike/ped components as part of major highway projects, advancing projects through discretionary funding programs, and planning for supportive land use around transportation, among other efforts.
- **Local Technical Assistance and the Formation of Collaborative Planning Efforts.** A major emphasis area of ON TO 2050 is providing targeted technical assistance to local governments, particularly to interpret and implement the regional plan's recommendations at the local level. This may include planning for compact, walkable communities, including transportation investments to support infill development, as well as providing for alternative modes of transportation. Planning for joint efforts to provide local transportation services is also included here.

- **Modernization of the Public Transit System.** ON TO 2050's transit recommendations focus on making the transit system more competitive. Actions include developing policies for emerging technology to support and complement the transit system, studies to support improving the speed, frequency, and reliability of the transit system, revising highway design guidance to facilitate transit access, studies to support further fare and service coordination, and improving the effectiveness and accessibility of demand response services, particularly for persons with disabilities.

In addition, ON TO 2050 identified new areas of planning importance that can now be considered for UWP Funding:

- **Harnessing Technology to Improve Travel and Anticipating Future Impacts.** Existing technologies can improve the performance of the transportation network, while in the long term, emerging technologies like connected and autonomous vehicles and private mobility services may have both positive and negative impacts on the region, such as increasing competition for curb space or causing excess vehicle miles traveled. Planning projects under this priority would address studying and implementing further coordination of traffic operations using technology, establishing pricing and regulatory frameworks for connected and autonomous vehicles and developing pilot projects, and adapting the public way to emerging technology and new mobility, among other efforts.
- **Leveraging the Transportation System to Promote Inclusive Growth.** ON TO 2050 is broadly concerned with ensuring economic opportunity is available to all residents of the region. The transportation system plays a role in this, as for example, research shows that minority residents have significantly longer commutes than others and transportation fees can weigh most on lower-income persons. Proposals should address any of the numerous facets of equity and transportation identified in ON TO 2050, such as developing culturally-relevant outreach methods, establishing performance measures that track progress towards reflecting community demographics, and demonstrating the impact of public engagement on project outcomes. They may also include planning to support transportation system access for those with disabilities, studying strategies to reduce burden of transportation fees, fares, and taxes on lower-income populations, and exploring new ways to provide targeted, flexible and/or on-demand transportation options in low-income or low-density areas, or for people with disabilities.

## Prioritization

At its meeting last November, the Committee agreed that the UWP program be refocused to address the recommendations and priorities of ON TO 2050, and that having five priorities to guide funding applications, as has been done since FY2012 shortly after GO TO 2040 was adopted, provides greater focus for the UWP funding.

## Proposed timeline and process

CMAP staff recommends that the FY 2021 UWP process follow the same format from previous years, which is:

- The Call for Projects will be made in January and will include both the Core and the Competitive proposals.
- The Core and the Competitive proposals will be presented to the Committee. The Committee will score the Competitive proposals as in years past, based upon their alignment with regional priorities.
- CMAP staff will conduct an in-depth proposal review and develop a proposed program for the UWP Committee's consideration. The proposed program will incorporate the Committee's rankings of the Competitive proposals.

The schedule for the development and approval of the FY 2021 UWP process is as follows:

### Development of Program Priorities and Selection Process

<b>UWP Meeting</b>	October 10, 2019
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### Call for Proposals

<b>Call for Proposals</b>	January 2, 2020
All Proposals Due (Core and Competitive)	January 30, 2020

### Proposal presentations

<b>UWP Meeting</b> - Presentation of Proposals	February 12, 2020
UWP Committee members rank proposals	Due to CMAP February 28, 2020
CMAP prepares committee ranked proposals with funding allocation	March 4, 2020
<b>UWP Meeting</b> - Adopt FY 2020 Program	March 11, 2020

### Committee Approval

<b>Transportation Committee</b> considers approval of FY 2021 UWP to MPO Policy Committee	April 2020
<b>Programming Committee</b> considers approval of FY 2021 UWP to CMAP Board	May 2020
<b>CMAP Board</b> considers approval of proposed FY 2021 UWP	June 2020
<b>MPO Policy Committee</b> considers approval of proposed FY 2021 UWP	June 2020
UWP Document Released	June 2020

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ACTION REQUESTED: Approval

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