



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Human and Community Development Committee

**From:** CMAP Staff

**Date:** December 12, 2011

**Re:** Aging in Place Considerations for Local Technical Assistance Program Projects

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The Human and Community Development (HCD) Committee will regularly be asked for input about the direction of projects in the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program. In November, 2011, HCD discussed the preliminary recommendations for the Village of Norridge's comprehensive plan, which includes consideration of the needs of older adults and how to help the community implement Aging in Place strategies. Since then, CMAP staff has proceeded with research into the most pertinent issues to address for aging populations, conducting informational conversations with experts and service providers in the Chicago region. Thus far, conversations have been held with:

- [The Retirement Research Foundation](#) – Nancy Zweibel, Senior Program Officer, and Naomi Stanhaus, Program Consultant
- [AgeOptions](#) – Kim Blechschmidt, Director of Planning, Program Design and Grants Management
- [Seniors Assistance Center](#) – Carole Creason, Executive Director

These experts shared their thoughts on the proper questions to consider and the data to collect when planning for the improved livability of older adults. Additionally, these conversations and additional research have informed CMAP staff about the most important topics to focus on when assisting communities with growing populations of older adults. These key concerns include:

- Affordable senior housing
- Residential modifications for universal design
- Safe and accessible transportation options
- Access to healthcare
- Nutrition and access to healthy food
- Social opportunities
- Continuing and lifelong education

Working with the Village of Norridge and local service providers, CMAP staff will determine how to address these issues in the community's comprehensive plan recommendations. While each LTA community is different, other LTA projects around the region with Aging in Place needs will consider these topics in the future.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Discussion

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