regional planning board

northeastern illinois planning commission

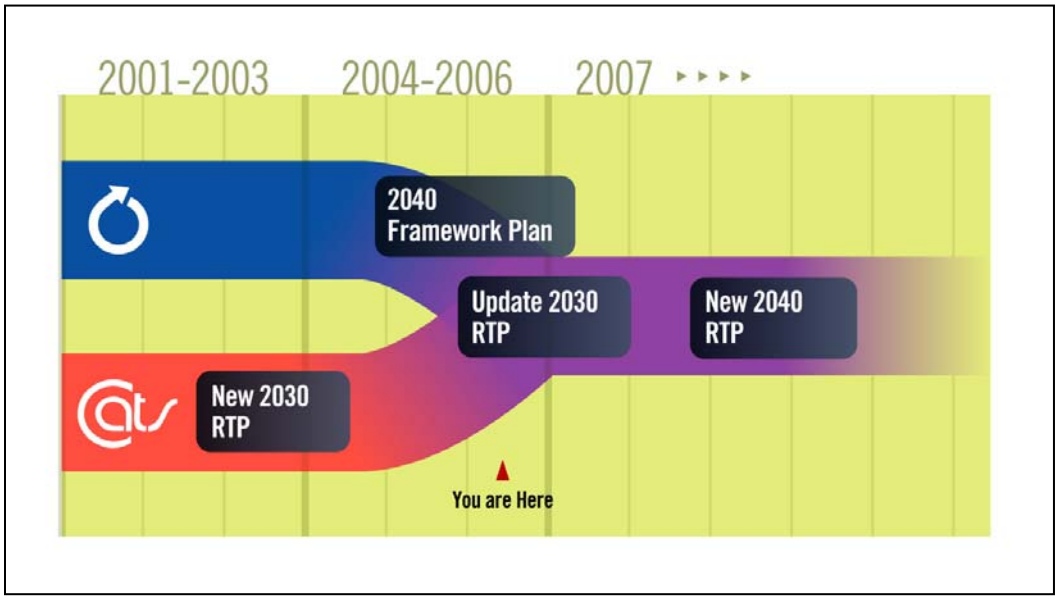
Chicago Area Transportation Study

2030 Regional Transportation Plan

Plan Update

Participant Handbook

May-June 2006



Letter from the Executive Director of the Regional Planning Board

This is an exciting time in our region. The new Regional Planning Board (RPB) is developing a unique model for planning – one that will foster a new harmony between land use and transportation planning while building on existing regional assets. The RPB also will have responsibility in the coming years for all public involvement activities related to regional land use and transportation planning.

Your participation at this crucial point in time will help us shape not only the region, but also future interaction between the RPB and the public. We are experimenting with new ways of listening to and recording the public's point of view on regional investment and growth.

It has been three years since the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (2030 RTP) was adopted. Conditions have changed and federal regulations require a plan update. This is a *fine tuning* of the plan that was adopted in 2003.

Next year, the region will begin a full scale process to develop a new plan, for the horizon year of 2040. Your participation this year helps us frame questions and inquiries that will eventually add value to the new plan, as well as to this one.

We hope you enjoy and benefit from the evening's activities. We know we will benefit from the insights you offer tonight and from your continued participation in future regional forums. Thank you for playing a part in building an historic partnership in our region.

Sincerely,

Randy Blankenhorn,
Executive Director
Regional Planning Board

The on-line survey will remain on CATS Shared Path website until June 30, 2006. Please feel free to encourage your friends and co-workers to go to www.sp2030.com and voice their opinions!

Meeting Agenda

Registration & Survey: 6:30 – 7:00

- Sign in, review your handbook, fill out your surveys, enjoy refreshments and socialize with other participants.

Welcome & Introductions: 7:00

PowerPoint Presentation: 7:05

- This PowerPoint presentation is an opportunity for us to give you a background on regional transportation, the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan, and Transopoly.

Transopoly℠ : 7:20

- Take about an hour to "play" the game Transopoly. Transopoly is a public involvement tool for building consensus on regional transportation planning decisions. The session will begin with a warm-up exercise and directions for game play. The rest of your time will be spent playing the game at your facilitated table.

Game Results: 8:25

- Your Transopoly maps will be displayed on the wall and each table will have the opportunity to describe important themes and priorities.

Wrap-up and Evaluations

Dates and Locations of Public Input Meetings

Near West
May 16, 2006
Berwyn Police Department

North
May 18, 2006
Waukegan Police Department

Far West
May 31, 2006
Kane County Govt. Center, Bldg A

Central
June 1, 2006
Ann Sather Restaurant (Chicago)

Southwest
June 6, 2006
Joliet Public Library

Northwest
June 8, 2006
Palatine Village Hall

South
June 15, 2006
Blue Island City Hall Annex

2030 Regional Transportation Plan Goals and Themes

The three primary goals of the 2030 RTP are:

- **To maintain the integrity of the existing system of transportation**
- **Improve the transportation system performance**
- **To use transportation to sustain the region's vision and values**

CATS established seven themes to help accomplish the goals listed above. The themes should shape future investment decisions. The themes propose:

- **More and better integrated public transit**
- **Better land use and transportation integration**
- **More bicycle and pedestrian options**
- **Better service for seniors and those with disabilities**
- **Improved freight management**
- **Safety, with reference to pedestrians**
- **Improved traffic congestion management**

As you participate in Transopoly, you will be asked how your table's proposed investments support these themes.

Potential Investments

The projects proposed in the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan are in various stages of readiness. In some cases, right-of-way has been purchased and funding is in hand or committed. In other cases, partial funding has been identified and the region is relatively sure of the project.

We will focus tonight on the projects with the *longest horizon and the least certainty*, because that is where your ideas can be most influential. The cost of projects in that category cannot be precisely determined at this time. In order to compare them to each other, we will use standard costs per mile to estimate total costs per project. *The actual cost 20 years from now will be based on a number of factors including inflation, land costs, labor costs and equipment costs.* The costs you see in the table to the right allow you to compare projects to each other, but are not intended to provide a precise cost for a specific project.

Projects Assumed to be Confirmed or Constructed (dotted lines on map)

Transit
Brown Line Rehab
Burlington Northern Santa Fe
Central Area BRT
Cermak Road BRT
Douglas Blue Line Rehab
Du Page "J" Line
Elburn Extension
Green Line Improvement
Metra Electric Improvements
North Central Improvements
Northwest Transit Corridor
Orange Line Extension
Outer Circumferential Service
Plano Extension
Red Line Extension
Richmond Extension UPNW
Rock Island Improvements
Southwest Service
Southwest Service Extension
Union Pacific Northwest Improvements
Union Pacific West Improvement
Yellow Line Upgrade / Extension

Highway
Dan Ryan Rehab
Elgin O'Hare Expressway Add Lanes
I 55 Add Lanes
I 57 Add Lanes
I 80/94 Add Lanes
I 80 Add Lanes
I 88 Widening
I 90 Add lanes
I 294 Widening
I 355 Extension
IL 394 Add lanes
Il 394 Add Lanes B

Infrastructure: Linear + Point	Map #	Project	Transopoly Cost in Millions	Total Distance (miles)	Cost per Mile in Millions
Highway-2 lane	1	**Central Lake County Corridor**	**$493**	33	15
	2	**I-57/ IL 394 Connector**	**$160**	11	15
	3	**Richmond-Waukegan Corridor**	**$272**	18	15
	4	**South Suburban Corridor**	**$303**	20	15
Expressway-6 lane	5	**Elgin - O'Hare**	**$320**	7	45
	6	**Illiana Corridor**	**$168**	4	45
	7	**O'Hare Bypass**	**$371**	8	45
	8	**Prairie Parkway**	**$1,626**	36	45
Requires Interchanges			**$25 each**		
Complex-6 lane (with 2 HOV lanes)	9	**I-290 HOV Facility**	**$420**	7	60
Requires Interchanges			**$25 each**		
Commuter rail	10	**BNSF Extension (Oswego to Plano)**	**$344**	17	20
	11	**Heritage Corridor Improvements**	**$740**	37	20
	12	**Inner Circumferential Rail**	**$481**	24	20
	13	**Metra Electric Extension**	**$253**	13	20
	14	**Milwaukee District North Improvements**	**$1,308**	65	20
	15	**Milwaukee District North Extension**	**$297**	15	20
	16	**Milwaukee District West Line Improvements**	**$788**	39	20
	17	**Milwaukee District West Line Extension**	**$555**	28	20
	18	**Rock Island District Extension**	**$366**	18	20
	19	**Southeast Service Commuter Rail**	**$671**	34	20
	20	**Southwest Service Extension**	**$120**	6	20
	21	**Suburban Transit Access Route (STAR Line)**	**$1,510**	75	20
Requires Stations			**$7.5 each**		
Elevated track	22	**Circle Line (half)**	**$1,250**	10	125
Requires Stations			**$20**		
Subway tunnel	22	**Circle Line (half)**	**$3,000**	10	300
	23	**Airport Express (one third)**	**$2,700**	9	300
	24	**West Loop Transportation Center**	**$1,124**	4	300
Requires Stations			**$48**		
Surface transit	23	**Airport Express (two thirds)**	**$400**	20	20
	25	**Blue Line Extension**	**$619**	31	20
	26	**Mid-City Transitway**	**$450**	22	20
	27	**Ogden Transitway**	**$200**	10	20
Requires Stations			**$7.5 each**		

NIPC 2040 Regional Framework Strategies:
Coherent Themes for Transportation Investment

The Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, the region's land use planning agency, adopted a "2040 Framework" for regional growth in 2005. Several Framework strategies are relevant to transportation investments. The Framework emphasizes "Centers, Corridors, and Green Areas." Centers are the places where people live and work, Corridors are the paths between Centers (existing and future) and Green Areas are preserved natural areas. Some of the Framework's growth strategies are very relevant to the 2030 RTP and are listed below as additional policy information for you to consider while proposing regional investments.

Strategies Supporting Centers

Encourage Redevelopment, Reuse and Infill

Achieve a Balance between Jobs and Housing

Livable Communities

Promote Economic Vitality

Promote Diversity and Inclusiveness

Promote Compact, Mixed-Use Developments

Strategies Supporting Corridors

Promote walking and bicycling

Ensure that corridors are context-sensitive with natural resources, historic resources and community values

Maximize the benefits of existing infrastructure

Strategies Supporting Green Areas

Ensure that transportation facilities are context-sensitive with natural resources, historic resources and community values

Coordinate lane use and transportation

Protect water resources

Plan for sustainable water supply from ground, surface and Lake Michigan sources

Protect and enhance biodiversity

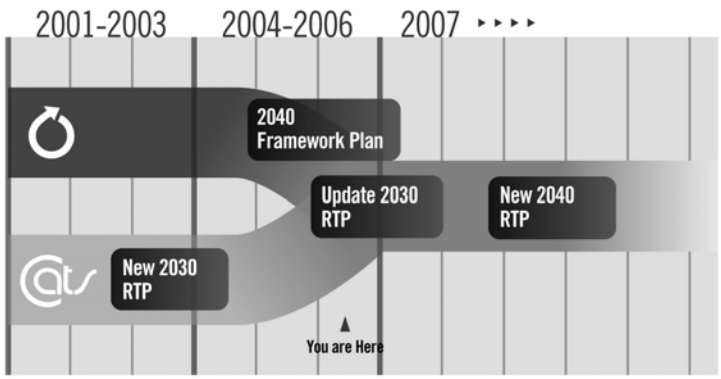
Enhance and connect green areas

Preserve farmland

For more information on the 2040 Regional Framework Plan, see: http://nipc.org/2040/

Northeastern Illinois' Regional Planning Agencies

The Regional Planning Board (RPB), a new agency created through combining the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC), will oversee the update of the *2030 Regional Transportation Plan* (2030 RTP). CATS had sole responsibility for regional transportation planning in the past. This graphic may help you understand how the region is transitioning to a new planning model.



The Regional Transportation Plan guides long term transportation decisions and investments for northeastern Illinois, specifically Cook, DuPage, McHenry, Kane, Kendall, Lake, Will, and a section of Grundy County. The original version of the 2030 RTP, which was adopted in 2003, is available on CATS' "Shared Path" website, www.sp2030.org.

NIPC's 2040 Framework Plan guides land use in the six counties of Cook, DuPage, McHenry, Kane, Lake and Will. The update of the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan is an opportunity to move the two planning processes closer together. Transportation plans must be crafted or updated every four years.* The 2030 Update brings to light emerging issues that will be considered when a completely new plan, the 2040 RTP is developed in the future.

For More Information:

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These meetings were designed and facilitated by:
Center for Neighborhood Technology 773 278-4800 www.cnt.org
In collaboration with T.Y. Lin International

Participating Organizations and Hosts

American Association of Retired Persons
American Planning Association
American Society of Civil Engineers
Ann Sather Restaurant
Asian Human Services
Berwyn Development Corporation
Campaign for Sensible Growth
Chicago Commons
Chicago Conscious Choice
Chicago Metropolis
Chicago Transit Authority
Chicago Urban League
Chicagoland Bicycle Federation
Chinese American Service League
Citizen Action
Citizens Against Sprawlway in Kendall and Kane Counties
Citizens for Appropriate Transportation
Citizens to Protect the Quality of Life through Better Transportation
City of Berwyn
City of Blue Island
City of Joliet
City of Waukegan
Community Media Workshop
Council for Disability Rights
DuPage Center for Independent Living
DuPage Mayors and Managers Council
Environmental Law and Policy Center
Equality Illinois
Exxon Mobil
Heartland Alliance
Hoffman Estates Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Hyde Park Kenwood Community Conference
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
Illinois Trails Conservancy
Joliet Public Library
Kane County
Korean American Community Services
Lake View Citizens Council
Lake Zurich Area Chamber of Commerce
League of Illinois Bicyclists
League of Women Voters
Little Village Environmental Justice Organization
McHenry County Defenders
Metro Seniors in Action
Metropolitan Planning Council
Northeast Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Old Irving Park Association
Openlands/Corlands
Pace
Pan African Association
Alderman Virginia Rugai (19th Ward)
The Chicago Cubs
The Conservation Foundation
The Greater North Michigan Avenue Association
The Greens of Oak Park
The Resurrection Project
Alderman Thomas Tunney (44th Ward)
United Transportation Union
Village of Palatine