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## **Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) approves \$475 million for 70 transportation projects across metropolitan Chicago**

*Transportation investments advance ON TO 2050 and will enhance the region's roads, bridges, transit, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities*

CHICAGO, October 10, 2019 -- Residents of metropolitan Chicago will benefit from improved transit, roads, bridges, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities through \$475 million in federal funds to support 70 transportation improvement projects ranging from the rebuilding of train stations to the purchase of electric buses to the construction of bike and pedestrian trails, under and overpasses.

Allocated by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), these funds are made available through the federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) – Shared Fund, the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program, and the locally programmed Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP-L). The STP – Shared Fund supports large-scale regional priorities that address the goals of [ON TO 2050](#), the region's comprehensive plan passed in October 2018. The CMAQ program seeks to improve air quality in areas -- including northeastern Illinois -- that do not attain federal air-quality standards. The TAP-L program supports non-motorized transportation across the region.

Following a process of competitive proposals publicly reviewed by transportation experts and stakeholders from across the region, today CMAP's Board and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Committee approved the 17 new STP-Shared Fund projects, 46 new CMAQ and seven TAP-L projects in the Federal Fiscal Year 2020-24 STP - Shared Fund, CMAQ, and TAP-L programs.

The full lists of projects are available on [CMAP's website](#). Highlights include:

- \$59.4 million to improve the State/Lake Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) station
- \$48.6 million to implement a grade separation where the Canadian National Railway tracks currently cross U.S. Route 14 in Barrington
- \$39.2 million to replace the LaSalle Street Bridge and Viaduct over the Chicago River
- \$39 million for CTA's Electric Bus Program

- \$28.8 million to Metra for retrofitting locomotives with more fuel efficient engines that reduce emissions
- \$20.2 million to improve accessibility at the Austin CTA Green Line station
- \$14.4 million to improve and provide multimodal access to the Village of Glen Ellyn Metra station
- \$17 million to the CTA's Bus Slow Zones Elimination Program
- \$17.1 million to extend and improve 143<sup>rd</sup> Street in Plainfield
- \$11.7 million to improve Deerfield Road between Milwaukee Avenue and Saunders Road in Lake County, including improvements to three intersections and construction of a multi-use path along the corridor
- \$10.2 million for the Pace Pulse Dempster Line
- \$9.2 million to improve the Homewood Metra station
- \$5.3 million for improvements to the intersection at Rand, Central, and Mount Prospect Roads in Mount Prospect
- \$5.3 million for expansion of Veterans Memorial multiuse trail from Spring Creek to 159<sup>th</sup> Street in Will County
- \$3.5 million for construction of a bicycle and pedestrian underpass on Millennium Trail in Lake County
- \$2.3 million for expansion of the Rand Road multiuse side path in Des Plaines

The 17 projects and \$198 million approved via the STP-Shared Fund will improve facilities and infrastructure that serves more than 11.8 million jobs and households across the region. The 46 selected projects and over \$264 million invested as part of the CMAQ program are estimated collectively to eliminate 78 kilograms daily of volatile organic compound emissions, which are among the primary precursors to ground-level ozone that is harmful to breathe. The seven projects and \$13.5 million allocated as part of the TAP-L program will help complete the [Regional Greenways and Trails Plan](#), which envisions a network of continuous green way and trail corridors across northeastern Illinois.

“The investments represented in this year’s slate of projects will not just improve air quality for every resident of the region, they will improve commute times, safety, provide bikers and walkers access to new trails and spaces, improve bus service, and reduce emergency vehicle response times,” said CMAP executive director Erin Aleman. “Working with our partners, we are excited to see this funding begin to improve people’s options for getting around and overall quality of life across the region.”

From January 15 to March 15 of this year, CMAP held a joint call for projects, which resulted in 129 CMAQ and TAP-L applications and 71 STP – Shared Fund applications. Funding recommendations were considered by the CMAQ Project Selection Committee and the STP Project Selection Committee and released for a 30-day public comment period. The recommendations were approved by the CMAP Transportation Committee in September prior to final approval today by the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee.

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**About CMAP**

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning is the region's comprehensive planning organization. The agency and its partners developed and are now implementing ON TO 2050, a new comprehensive regional plan to help the seven counties and 284 communities of northeastern Illinois to 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.