Regional Transportation Authority

Community Planning Program

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Local Technical Assistance Program

Application form:
Community Planning program and
Local Technical Assistance program

DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesday, June 26, 2013

This application form is online at www.rtachicago.com/applications. You may submit the form by email to applications@rtachicago.com.
Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

1. Name of Applicant:

Village of Crete
524 W. Exchange Street
Crete, IL 60417

2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email):

Thomas J. Durkin, AICP
Village Administrator
708-672-5479
tdurkin@villageofcrete.org

3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply):

__X_ Local government

____ Multijurisdictional group* ⟶ Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):

_____
_____
_____

____ Nongovernmental organization* ⟶ Name of local government partner(s):

_____
_____
_____

*Applications submitted by multijurisdictional groups and nongovernmental organizations must include a letter indicating support from each relevant local government. See the FAQs for more information.

Nongovernmental applicants are strongly encouraged to contact CMAP or the RTA prior to submitting their application to discuss their project and the demonstration of local support.

4. Project Type (please check any that apply):

Please check all statements below that describe characteristics of your project. (This will help us determine whether your project is best handled by CMAP or RTA.)

__X_ My project involves preparation of a plan.
_____ My project helps to implement a past plan.
__X_ My project links land use, transportation, and housing.
_____ My project has direct relevance to public transit and supports the use of the existing transit system.
_____ My project is not directly related to transportation or land use, but implements GO TO 2040 in other ways.

5. Project Location:

Please provide a brief description of the location of your project. You may include a map if that helps to describe location, but this is not required. If your project helps to implement a past plan, please include a link to that plan.

Corporate Limits and Planning Jurisdiction of the Village of Crete.

6. Project Description:

Please tell us what you would like to do in your community, and what assistance is needed. If you have more than one idea, please submit a separate application for each project. Please be specific, but also brief (less than two pages per project idea)—we simply want to have a basic understanding of what you want to do. CMAP and RTA staff will follow-up with you if we need any additional information to fully understand your proposed project.

(Please include any additional information that is relevant, preferably by providing links to online documents.)

See attached narrative.

http://www.villageofcrete.org/DocumentCenter/View/240 - link to Crete Station Area Plan.

http://www.villageofcrete.org/DocumentCenter/View/237 - link to 1997 Comprehensive Planning Workbook.

http://www.villageofcrete.org/DocumentCenter/View/236 - link to Comprehensive Plan Map – South Sector Update.

CMAP – Community Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program
Project Outline – Village of Crete Comprehensive Plan Update

The Village of Crete is requesting planning assistance through CMAP's Local Technical Assistance Program to update the Village's Comprehensive Plan. The Village of Crete, located approximately 35 miles south of downtown Chicago, is a small community of approximately 9,000 persons that is and will be facing tremendous growth pressures now and into the near future. It is imperative that the Village proactively plan for these inevitabilities that will have a profound effect on not only the future of the immediate area but the Chicago region as a whole.

In 1997, the Village completed the development of a comprehensive plan workbook through a grant provided by the Illinois Department of Transportation. Grant provisions dictated that the Village develop a comprehensive plan that included two future land use scenarios due to the proposed Third Regional Chicago Airport. This workbook has assisted in guiding the land use decisions made by the Village for the past 16 years and is in desperate need of a comprehensive update. In January 2008, the Village took a small step in updating this plan by approving a comprehensive plan map amendment for the southern portions of the Village including the 1½ mile planning jurisdiction. This was precipitated by increased airport development discussions, the approval of the CenterPoint Crete Intermodal Facility and the potential construction of regional road improvements.

Although yet to be constructed, the CenterPoint Crete Intermodal Terminal Facility is a 1,100 acre project, annexed to and approved by the Village of Crete which will ultimately provide for the development of an intermodal terminal yard, approximately 5 million square feet of industrial/manufacturing/warehousing space and the creation of thousands of jobs. This in turn will undoubtedly result in additional development, including the need for more housing in the area. When constructed, this facility will further solidify Will County as the nation's largest inland port.

Also in January of 2008, the Village of Crete approved the first major regional commercial development in Eastern Will County. The Crete MarketPlace development consists of 100 acres of commercially zoned property that can accommodate in excess of 500,000 square feet of retail and commercial development. Crete, because of its location in Will County, along with abundant available land and sufficient infrastructure, will face growth pressures that will serve the local and regional economy.

In September 2008, the Village of Crete took another step toward updating its planning efforts. Through a grant provided by the Regional Transportation Authority's (RTA) Regional Technical Assistance Program (RTAP), the Village completed and adopted a Station Area Plan as an active planning participant in Metra's proposed Southeast Service Commuter Rail Line. The Village conducted this independent station area planning study to determine community options for station locations and transit

supportive land uses for two Crete stations along this new commuter rail line. Upon its adoption, this plan became a component of the Village's comprehensive plan.

It is abundantly clear that the Village is faced with tremendous pressures for growth and change. Recently, the State of Illinois passed legislation that provides for state ownership and operation of the airport, potentially paving the way for construction of the airport. Proper planning by the Village is imperative now to help shape the future of the area and ensure that opportunities related to economic prosperity are realized and any potential negative impacts of growth and development are adequately addressed. ***Our comprehensive plan must and will thoroughly address the transportation issues with which we are faced along with proper land use planning, housing policies, economic development planning, energy and conservation, open space and recreation, including local and regional bikeways, and the natural environment. The plan must achieve balance between the built and natural environments, strive for sustainability, maximize economic development potential and be based on sound planning principles.***

The tasks as outlined above cannot be accomplished to the level they need be with the limited resources currently available to the Village of Crete. Ideally, the Village needs a team of qualified consultants to adequately address all aspects in a comprehensive manner. As you can see, if it were not for significant grants received in the past, we would have not been able to accomplish what we have to date. Assistance provided through the Local Technical Assistance Program will greatly enhance the ability of the Village to develop a detailed comprehensive plan that will address the issues and needs facing the community and the region.