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 Winthrop Harbor
   830 Sheridan Road
   Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096

2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email):
   Pat DiPersio
   Community Development Director
   847-872-3846 extension 255
   pdipersio@winthropharbor.com

3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply):
   ___ Local government
   ___ Multijurisdictional group* Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):
   
   ___ Nongovernmental organization* Name of local government partner(s):
   
   ___ 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.
___X___ 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.

The location is encompassed by the municipal boundaries of the Village of Winthrop Harbor.

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.)

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**

We request assistance in updating our Comprehensive Plan, which was last updated in 1995. The village acknowledges the importance of long term planning and sees the need to ensure that this key tool reflects current and projected trends for land use in our community.

Winthrop Harbor is a small village in land size and population. Landlocked by the Wisconsin border to the north, Lake Michigan to the east and our neighbor Zion surrounding us to the south and west we consist of approximately 4 square miles with few options for growth. With a finite amount of developable land it is imperative that we consider closely its future use to ensure our community can meet the needs of our residents.

As was acknowledged in the 1995 plan, as well as our RTA Transit Oriented Development Study of 2005 and our economic development strategy document entitled The Necessity for Change of 2010, the village understands the importance of working together with the public and other key stakeholders in developing a long-term vision. Now is a very good time in our history to develop this shared vision and hope that this program will provide us with the necessary technical support to achieve this goal. The included letters of support for this application, we believe, show that key stakeholders agree and are prepared to participate in the process should we be selected.
The village was successful in securing a grant under the RTA TAP program in 2012. We are working with a land planning consultant to update land control documents for the property located within our TOD area. This project is expected to take until the end of the current year and we hope the result will not only have a positive impact on our ability to fully implement the 2005 plan, but will also provide us with a good template for updating our Comprehensive Plan.

Copies of our 1995 Comprehensive Plan, 2005 RTA TOD and 2010 The Necessity for Change will soon be available under the Community Development section of the village’s website; www.winthropharbor.com. For now we are submitting each under separate emails.

Thank you in advance for considering our request for assistance.

Pat DiPersio
Community Development Director
Village of Winthrop Harbor
June 20, 2013

Pat DiPersio  
Community Development Director  
Village of Winthrop Harbor  
830 Sheridan Road  
Winthrop Harbor, IL  60096

RE: CMAP Local Technical Assistance Program

Dear Pat,

The purpose of this letter is to express my total support for your application for assistance to update the Village’s Comprehensive Plan. As General Manager of the largest marina on the Great Lakes I wholeheartedly support this application process.

The Village of Winthrop Harbor is the gate-way to North Point Marina. In 2012, 801,871 visitors passed through the Village to get to North Point Marina. The marina is a dynamic water-front-center with a multitude of activities taking place. Recreational activities are available on land and water for a constituency with diverse interests. Water sports include sailing, cruising, skiing, swimming, and fishing. The marina has a ten lane public boat launch available for trailer boaters along with parking.

On landside a fishing pier and fish cleaning station that complies with ADA Standards is available. Sand volleyball courts, basketball, picnic areas with grills, ADA compliant children’s playgrounds, bicycle and hiking trails are also available. More than forty charter fishing vessels are available for individuals, families, and group outings. The second largest boat dealership in the nation, Skipper Bud’s, is located at our marina service center.

Most importantly, to access this water-front-center, they must come through the Village of Winthrop Harbor. Before arriving at the marina, they stop in town at the gas stations, grocery stores, ship store facilities, bait and fishing stores, and restaurants. With over five hundred sites owned by the Department of Natural Resources (Parks, Trails, Recreational Areas, Nature Preserves) North Point Marina ranks thirteenth in over-all attendance. Therefore, it makes perfect sense to update your comprehensive plan.

I look forward to providing whatever assistance I can. If there is more I can do to assist in your application process, please contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

David L. Suthard, CMM  
General Manager
June 24, 2013

Mr. Pat DiPersio
Community Development Director
Village of Winthrop Harbor
830 Sheridan Road
Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096

Dear Mr. DiPersio,

As President of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, I am writing in support of the Village of Winthrop Harbor’s application for the CMAP Local Technical Assistance Program. As I understand it, your application is to provide support for revised of the village’s Comprehensive Plan.

The Lake County Forest Preserve District, as owner of Spring Bluff Nature Preserve, located just east of the village and adjacent to the north unit of Illinois Beach State Park, supports the village’s efforts to update your Comprehensive Plan to incorporate recommendations such as those made in the CMAP Go To 2040 Plan.

Best wishes for success with your grant application.

Sincerely,

Ann B. Maine
President

cc: Brent Paxton, Forest Preserve Commissioner – District 4
Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271
217/785-8686

Pat DiPersio, Community Development Director
Village of Winthrop Harbor
830 Sheridan Road
Winthrop Harbor, IL 60098

June 23, 2013

Re: Village of Winthrop Harbor CMAP Local Assistance Program

The Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC) enthusiastically supports the Village of Winthrop Harbor’s CMAP Local Assistance Program application to update its Comprehensive Plan. The INPC is charged by State Statute (525 ILCS 30 – Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act) to provide “…for an enduring resource of natural areas for the citizens of Illinois…”. INPC staff support this goal by working with landowners and local units of government to protect high-quality natural areas such as those that survive at Illinois Beach State Park (IBSP). In fact, the very first natural area dedicated as an Illinois Nature Preserve was a portion of Illinois Beach State Park (INSP) in 1964. IBSP is one of the largest, unique, and most biological diverse nature preserves in the entire State of Illinois. Despite its large size, this nature preserve remains vulnerable to land use changes within its watershed that introduce more silt and contaminants into the wetlands at this site. These changes have and are continuing to cause changes in the natural plant communities that support a high number of State-listed endangered and threatened plant and animal species.

The INPC staff has partnered with the CMAP Local Assistance Program at other locations and believes the program will enable the Village of Winthrop Harbor to update its Comprehensive Plan. Of paramount importance, this update will enable Village planners to plan for land uses that compliment rather than intrude upon or negatively impact Illinois Beach State Park.

The INPC is genuinely pleased that the Village of Winthrop Harbor is applying for a CMAP Local Assistance Program to update its Comprehensive Plan and looks forward to participating in the project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Steven Byers
Illinois Nature Preserves Commission
7210, Keystone Road, Richmond, IL
815.678.4865 (Steven.Byers@Illinois.gov)

cc: Randy Heidorn - INPC; Brad Semel, Maggie Cole, and Saki Villalobos - IDNR