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### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Planning Coordinating Committee

Date: July 2, 2008

From: Andrew Williams-Clark

Re: The Regional Indicators Project

Since March 2008, CMAP staff and working committees have been involved in identifying key regional indicators for use in the *GO TO 2040* planning process. This memo briefly reviews the purpose of indicators, how they relate to CMAP's planning process, outlines agency progress thus far and identifies next steps. At the July 9 meeting, staff will provide a presentation that describes the progress of indicators development to date and the work plan to continue this process for the upcoming months.

#### Indicators within the GO TO 2040 Plan

The centerpiece of the *GO TO 2040* planning process is a scenario evaluation process. This consists of the selection of a preferred course of action that will most effectively move the region toward the desired future vision. Therefore, a key comprehensive indicator system was needed to measure the effectiveness of different policies or investments at meeting the regional vision. In this vein, CMAP staff have been working with the Chicago Community Trust and facilitating discussions at the working committee level to identify specific indicators that are tied to statements or concepts in the regional vision.

It was not expected that every statement in the vision would have a corresponding indicator However each of the broad vision themes has multiple associated indicators, with equity, sustainability and innovation woven throughout.

## **Indicator Selection Progress**

Between March and June, working committees proposed various indicators within relevant vision themes. Likewise, committee members were encouraged to consider equity, sustainability and innovation indicators pertaining to their respective vision themes.

When considering the usefulness of specific indicators, working committees were asked to take the following criteria into account: importance, policy relevance, responsiveness, validity, understandability, clarity, outcome orientation, asset orientation, anticipation and responsiveness.

With the support of the Trust, CMAP contracted with two independent firms for comprehensive investigation and evaluation of existing datasets to determine which will be most useful for measuring indicators. As of June 30, CMAP has received final deliverables from both firms. Staff are currently reviewing the deliverables to determine what gaps exist between proposed indicators and available data.

Based on discussions with the working committees and the Trust, CMAP staff presented the working committees with a shorter, reorganized taxonomy of indicators, which follows below.

- 1. *Arts and culture* indicators will track attendance, participation and assets.
- 2. Housing indicators will track cost, demand, supply investment and financing.
- 3. *Environment, natural resources* and *water supply* indicators will track quality, pollution and stewardship efforts, as they pertain to air, water, open and natural spaces.
- 4. *Health* indicators will track vital statistics, health creating factors, morbidity and healthcare opportunities.
- 5. *Safety* and *security* indicators will track death/injury, crime, emergency preparedness and emergency response.
- 6. *Education* indicators will track quality of opportunities, educational outcomes, enrollment, attendance, cost and funding.
- 7. *Economic competitiveness* indicators will measure income, workforce strength and business environment inputs and outputs.
- 8. *Reinvestment* indicators will track development potential, construction, investment and infrastructure capacity.
- 9. *Transportation* indicators will track transportation system performance, process, accessibility, and investment, and will include aviation and freight.
- 10. Coordinated planning and government indicators will track public participation, integration, implementation, currentness and comprehensiveness of plans. They will also track collaboration between governments, efficiency, use of technical assistance, data sharing and conflict management.
- 11. *Civic involvement* indicators will track civic participation, community participation, social capital and capacity building.

### **Next Steps**

Over the months of July and August, CMAP staff will facilitate a series of 10 workshops across the region to solicit input on the proposed indicators from mayors, municipal managers, planners, public works directors and subject area specialists. An invitation to these workshops is attached to this memo. The involvement of the working committees in indicators development will continue during this time.

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Meanwhile, CMAP staff and committees will be working in collaboration with the working committees, the Trust, and other institutional partners to develop a much shorter list of indicators for scenario development and comparison.

In September, staff will present a recommended list of approximately 150 indicators for tracking progress for endorsement by the Planning Coordinating Committee. This set of indicators will represent staff's recommendation of the data sets that can most effectively measure the indicator categories listed above.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Discussion.

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# Get on board for the Regional Indicators Project

Take a trip with us to your community's future... Sit in the driver's seat, and imagine your dashboard has gauges to measure all the significant indicators of progress toward sustainable regional prosperity.

The Regional Indicators Project is part of CMAP's innovative *GO TO 2040* comprehensive planning campaign. To develop and evaluate strategies for implementing the *GO TO 2040* regional vision, we're working with partners to create indicators for predicting and measuring economic, environmental, social, and cultural variables that affect quality of life.

An upcoming series of workshops is your chance to weigh in. What gauges do you want on your dashboard? Employment rates? Foreclosure rates? Air quality? Traffic congestion? Water supply? Others?

Imagine being able to choose the gauges most valuable to you and your community. And imagine having access to up-to-date information about each with the click of a mouse. Then being able easily to tabulate, analyze, or map the data. CMAP is developing exactly that type of web interface to facilitate access for local officials, planners, and other decision makers.

# Let your voice be heard at a GO TO 2040 indicators workshop

### Who should attend:

- Mayors and managers
- Administrators and assistant administrators
- Planning directors
- Public works directors
- Health and human services specialists
- **■** Environmental specialists
- Transportation specialists
- Economic and community development specialists

# Agenda Overview

- Welcome & Introductions
- Overview of The Regional Indicators Project
- Prioritization of Indicators
- Questions & Answers
- Wrap-up

This summer, please plan to attend any of the 90-minute workshops that CMAP is hosting around the region to gather input from experts like you. Your feedback is critical to determining which indicators are most valuable to you and your community.

For more information on The Regional Indicators Project and what it can do, check out

### REGISTER TODAY!

Contact Jamie Krell at (312) 386-8658 or

DATES & TIMES	LOCATIONS
Tuesday, July 22	Village of Tinley Park

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Village Hall - Kallsen Center (northside entrance) 16250 South Oak Park Avenue

Tinley Park, IL 60477 Parking available at the village hall

**DuPage County Government Center Auditorium** Friday, July 25 421 N. County Farm Road 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Wheaton, IL 60187

Tuesday, July 29 Yorkville City Hall 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. **800 Game Farm Road** Yorkville, IL 60560

Thursday, July 31 Arlington Heights Village Hall

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Board Room & Community Meeting Room, 3rd Floor 33 S. Arlington Heights Road Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Parking is available in any stall on ramp between 2nd and

Tuesday, August 5 **Kane County Building Auditorium** 719 S. Batavia Avenue, Building A 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Geneva, IL 60134

Grayslake Village Hall Thursday, August 7 10 South Seymor Street 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Grayslake, IL 60030

Tuesday, August 12 **Joliet Historical Museum** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. 204 N. Ottawa Street Joliet, IL 60432

Free museum parking at NW corner of Webster and Ottawa. Tour of museum available for attendees following the workshop.

Thursday, August 14 Village of LaGrange, Village Hall Auditorium 53 S. LaGrange Road 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. LaGrange, IL 60525

Parking is available behind the village hall.

Tuesday, August 19 **Crystal Lake City Hall** 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. 100 W. Woodstock Street Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Thursday, August 21 **CMAP Offices** Sears Tower, Suite 800 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. 233 S. Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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