



MEMORANDUM

To: CMAP Board

From: CMAP Staff

Date: May 4, 2011

Re: Local Technical Assistance Program Update

At the March meeting of the CMAP Board, the Board was presented with the list of recommended projects to be undertaken through the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program. At that time, 64 projects, located throughout the region, were identified as priorities to be pursued. In addition, standards for reporting and providing updates on project activities were discussed, and it was determined that key project milestones would be provided to the Board at its regular monthly meetings. The Local Coordinating Committee will have the primary responsibility for discussing individual projects and providing the most direct oversight of the LTA program, but Board discussion of larger issues concerning the program will be expected at subsequent Board meetings.

To date, 18 local projects have begun. Most of these are in early stages of initiation. LTA staff has conducted approximately 14 project initiation meetings with municipalities since March, and has begun assembling project data. Scopes of work, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), and draft resolutions have been disseminated to municipalities for review and approval, and in most cases formal municipal approval of LTA activity is expected by the end of this month.

Further detail on LTA project status can be found on the attached project status table. Board discussion is requested on any individual projects of interest or on the level of information provided in this table.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion.

###

Projects Currently Underway

Project	CMAP project lead	Expected completion	Status and notes
Berwyn comprehensive plan	Sam Shenbaga	May 2012	Introductory meeting held April 18. MOU and resolution in process and expected to be approved late May.
Blue Island comprehensive plan	Sam Shenbaga	March 2012	Introductory meeting held March 29. MOU and resolution in process and expected early May.
Bronzeville Alliance retail corridor study	Sef Okoth	December 2011	Project led by Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), with CMAP in supporting role. First phase, in 2011, will involve developing strategy for three retail corridors on Bronzeville; second phase in 2012 will lead to specific land use plan. Initial public meeting scheduled for May 21.
Campton Hills comprehensive plan	Jason Navota	May 2012	Introductory meeting held late January (prior work done by current LTA staff). MOU and resolution approved April 21. Initial public meeting was held on May 2 and attracted over 100 residents.
Carpentersville "Old Town" Area Action Plan	Rosa Ortiz	July 2012	Introductory meeting held April 25. Scope, MOU and resolution drafts will be delivered to Village over the next month, with project startup expected in August.
Chicago "Green and Healthy Neighborhood" plan (for Englewood, Woodlawn, and Washington Park)	Jason Navota	June 2012	Introductory meeting held March 9. MOU and resolution complete; staff now working from city offices. Contract with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) for community engagement in process.
Elmwood Park comprehensive plan	Rosa Ortiz	May 2012	Introductory meeting held April 25. MOU and resolution in process and expected late May.
Hanover Park workforce development planning	Dan Ungerleider	August 2011	Project details will depend on inclusion of relevant activities in budgets of partner organizations (namely community colleges), which are currently under development. LTA staff in discussions with Village staff regarding scope and timeline. MOU and resolution drafts expected to be delivered to Village in June.
Joliet "Old Prison" redevelopment	Pete Saunders	August 2011	Introductory meeting held March 24. MOU and resolution in process and expected late May. Involvement of Urban Land Institute (ULI) expected. Expansion of the scope of work is being considered to include the adjacent U.S. Steel site (currently vacant).

Project	CMAP project lead	Expected completion	Status and notes
Lake Zurich water conservation plan	Tim Loftus	November 2011	MOU completed (coordinated with project partner MPC). Project initiation and introductory meeting in late January. Task Force was recently created; will have first meeting in May.
Liberty Prairie Conservancy local food system plan	Jessica Simoncelli	March 2012	Introductory meeting scheduled for May 9.
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus "Homes for a Changing Region" project in south Cook	Drew Williams-Clark	December 2011	Project led by Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) and Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC), with CMAP in supporting role. Project was initiated in March. Housing data for subject municipalities has been compiled and is being reviewed.
Norridge comprehensive plan	Trevor Dick	March 2012	Introductory meeting held April 18. MOU and resolution in process and expected late May.
Park Forest sustainability plan	Kristin Ihnchak	January 2012	Introductory meeting held April 12. Development of overall template for sustainability plan, which will guide work on this project, underway. MOU and resolution in process and expected late May.
South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) housing investment prioritization	Nicole Woods	April 2012	Continual coordination with SSMMA underway on this and other future projects. Initial work will include developing method to prioritize housing investment opportunities (such as NSP) across jurisdictions within a COG. MOU and resolution for this project in process and expected in June.
Waukegan neighborhood improvement program	Rosa Ortiz	February 2012	LTA staff currently in discussions with City staff to develop scope, timeline. MOU and resolution drafts expected to be delivered to City in June.
West Cook Housing Collaborative "Homes for a Changing Region" project in west Cook	Drew Williams-Clark	February 2012	Introductory meeting held April 11. MOU and resolution in process and expected in July (to be coordinated with project partner IFF). Approval expected in July.
Will County subarea plan for Fairmont	Trevor Dick	December 2011	Introductory meeting held March 24. MOU and resolution in process and expected late May. Presentation to Will County Land Use and Development Committee scheduled for May 10. Public engagement will build from FLIP program in area, which is concluding with a public meeting on May 7. Public meeting scheduled for May 19.

Other Projects

For most other projects on the “higher priority” project list, scoping is underway and will continue through the remainder of 2011. Approximately three projects per month are expected to be initiated each month through the fall. In addition, several projects have been identified as good fits for upcoming grant sources, and will be encouraged to submit applications to these sources and assisted in this process if appropriate.

Two projects have been removed from the higher priority project list since its review by the Board in March. The Village of Woodridge withdrew its request for a transit study; the Village decided to deemphasize the project as a priority activity for this year. Also, after further scoping of projects submitted by the Village of Palos Park, it was determined that these projects were not a good fit for CMAP’s technical assistance program, and they were removed.