



**Application form:
Community Planning Program and
Local Technical Assistance Program**

DEADLINE: Noon on Thursday, June 26, 2014

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:

The Village of Calumet Park II

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

Robin Streets

708 389-0861 ext 148

rstreets@calumetparkvillage.org

Alternative: Mary Ryan

708 388-8072

mryan@calumetparkvillage.org

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):

*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.)

- My project involves preparation of a plan.
 My project helps to implement a past plan.
 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.

This project will be located entirely within the city limits of Calumet Park Illinois



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.)

As a municipality whose current comprehensive plan was adopted back in 1989, the Village of Calumet Park is seeking assistance updating our comprehensive plan through your Local Technical Assistance Program. Although our village lies adjacent to the southwestern border of the city of Chicago and has a population of 7800, we have a relatively small tax base. Still recovering from the housing market crash of 2008, our median household income is almost ten thousand dollars less than the Illinois state average.

Our current comprehensive plan is severely antiquated and does not account for current economic conditions, housing and demographic changes or regional projects underway. For instance, our comprehensive plan from 1989 did not anticipate the current construction of our 911 Regional Communications Center (which is being built on a former brownfield site and is slated to be the anchor of our Ashland avenue corridor as well as create at least 25 new jobs), the Raceway Park Shopping

complex on Ashland Ave, the major shopping center on 119th Marshfield or the proposed development of a regional rowing center at Fays Point through a partnership between Calumet Park, Blue Island and several other cities and private stake holders. An up to date comprehensive plan would provide a number of benefits for the Village of Calumet Park and the region as a whole. For instance it will let potential developers know exactly what we plan to develop in our city and what our time line is. This plan will also serve as the foundation for decision making within the entire village and would be the launching pad for further action such as changes in codes or ordinances. Funding efforts for community projects would be strengthened as a result of having a current comprehensive plan as well as the establishment of consensus within the community.

Even under our current constraints we have been able to implement some of the recommendations set forth by the regional comprehensive plan such as preparing to enhance our only public park – Veterans Park, rehabilitating the community recreation center, installing green infrastructure in the community as an energy efficient and sustainable waste water management practice and maintaining our current housing stock while increasing walk-ability.

It is imperative that we create and implement a plan that will allow us to deal with issues the village currently faces while allowing us the flexibility to address future situations we may encounter. The proposed Chicago Transit Authority Red Line South expansion project to 130th street and the new Lakeside neighborhood that is currently being developed on southeast side of Chicago along the lakefront has forced us to acknowledge that we simply cannot ignore changes within the region and the various effects they will have on our community. The Lakeside development alone is anticipating at least 50,000 new residents over a 25-45 year time period. Both projects are expected to strengthen economic development, enhance educational opportunities, retain current residents while attracting new ones and upgrade connectivity within the region. The Calumet River connects us to these locations as well as Park No. 564 – Marsh Park which is expected to begin construction in 2015 and will draw visitors from different states throughout the midwest and possibly the country. We need to address the environmental impact, new transportation needs, housing & development as well as our economic strategy. An up-to-date comprehensive plan will provide us with an identity and the frame work necessary to operate an efficient government that utilizes sustainable practices.



SOUTH SUBURBAN MAYORS & MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

June 2, 2014

Beecher
Blue Island
Burnham
Calumet City
Calumet Park
Chicago Heights
Country Club Hills
Crete
Dixmoor
Dolton
East Hazel Crest
Flossmoor
Ford Heights
Glenwood
Harvey
Hazel Crest
Homewood
Lansing
Lynwood
Markham
Matteson
Midlothian
Mokena
Monee
Oak Forest
Olympia Fields
Orland Hills
Orland Park
Palos Heights
Park Forest
Phoenix
Posen
Richton Park
Riverdale
Robbins
Sauk Village
South Chicago Heights
South Holland
Steger
Summit
Thornton
Tinley Park
University Park

Ms. Robin Streets
Village of Calumet Park
12409 S. Throop Street
Calumet Park, IL 60827

Dear Ms. Street:

On behalf of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA), please accept this letter as an expression of our strong support for your application(s) to the RTA and CMAP for Local Technical Assistance and Community Planning.

We believe your efforts to develop a new comprehensive plan to update the current plan adopted in 1989 are essential parts of moving your community forward to address current conditions.

In addition, your proposal to create a Transit Oriented Development Plan, as well as Zone Code Assistance in conjunction with that plan, will also assist the Village of Calumet Park to have the necessary plans in place to encourage economic and community development.

If SSMMA can assist you in any way in supporting your important efforts, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Edward W. Paesel
Executive Director

EWP/rak

cc: Mayor Ronald Denson
Tom Vander Woude, SSMMA
Janice Morrissy, SSMMA
Reggie Greenwood, SSMMA

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

Capitol Office:
605 Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-9573
FAX: 217/557-3930
ejones@senatedem.ilga.gov



Chairman – Senate Black Caucus
Committees:
Local Government – Chairperson
Licensed Activities
& Pensions – Vice Chairperson
Revenue
Transportation

District Office:
507 West 111th St.
Chicago, Illinois 60628
773/995-7748
FAX: 773/995-9061
ejones3@senatedem.ilga.gov

EMIL JONES, III
STATE SENATOR • 14TH DISTRICT

June 19, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly encourage the Regional Transportation Authority and Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning to consider the Village of Calumet's application for technical assistance in creating their Comprehensive Plan and Transit Oriented Development strategy.

A current comprehensive plan is critical for this community because it will provide a blueprint for growth and development as well as a roadmap to achieve these goals. It also forms a foundation for regulation within the village, addresses economic/environmental sustainability and future land use. The formation of a transit oriented development strategy is just as important because it encourages the use of public transportation regionally, allows the village to handle population fluctuation without exhausting scarce resources such as land and finally, it encourages infill development in underutilized or vacant parcels of land where infrastructure is already in tact.

It is important for the Regional Transportation Authority and CMAP to continue providing dependable transit and planning services to communities like ours. The Community Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program have been used to successfully to assist similar communities actualize their full potential with the use of data and assets they already possess. Your support is a testament to Calumet Park's importance in the revitalization of the south Chicago land region.

If I can answer and questions or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emil Jones, III".

Emil Jones, III
State Senator-14th District