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: McHenry County Department of Planning and Development

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

Dennis Sandquist 815-334-4560 dasandquist@co.mchenry.il.us

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.
X  ____ 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 project does not have a physical location but the Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide will be a benefit to the residents, farmers, and agencies of McHenry County.

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.)

The McHenry County Department of Planning and Development would like CMAP’s assistance in the creation and maintenance of a Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide to be a clearinghouse of all agricultural related information in the county.

The Comprehensive Resource Guide would include information that would benefit municipalities, agencies, residents, and farmers. For municipalities and agencies there could be resources for community gardens, model ordinances, and farm-to-school programs. For residents the resource could include information regarding community gardens, CSAs, farmers markets, benefits of local food, and how to get involved in the local food movement. For farmers the resources could include information regarding training programs, assess to farmers markets, policy guides, buyers meetings, and proposed food hub opportunities.

The Resource Guide would help implement several recommendation of the County Land, County Food: McHenry County Local Food Assessment adopted by the McHenry County Board October 15, 2013 especially, those related to outreach and education. The Resource Guide would also help implement all of the recommended actions outlined in the GO TO 2040 plan regarding local food. It especially corresponds with the recommended action to Raise Awareness by Providing Data, Research, Training, and Information to Support Local Food Systems.
We are proposing that the Resource Guide be in the form of a website to have the information available to be accessed and used most conveniently. Also with the ever changing information a website would be able to be updated and maintained to keep up with the information rather than having to reprint a large document each time something became out of date.
June 24, 2014

Local Technical Assistance Program
CMAP (Attn: Daniel Olson)
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

RE: GO TO 2040 Local Technical Assistance Program – County of McHenry Application

Dear Grant Review Committee,

The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County are happy to support the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development’s application for Local Technical Assistance for the development of a Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide. We are proud to be part of this multi-sector approach to establish and strengthen the use of local foods in our county.

The Defenders understand that the health of our communities is best addressed through multiple strategic measures, including collaboration with various community partners. In order to support this countywide initiative, we look forward to working with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development to the fullest extent possible on this project.

Already, we have worked together to promote local fresh food and how to make it more accessible to communities in the area. As a member of the taskforce created by the Agriculture Conservation Easement and Farmland Protections (ACE) Commission and led by Openlands, we conducted a local food and farmland assessment of McHenry County. This assessment includes recommendations for policy and environmental changes, as well as encouraging residents to become more active in their food-system. Many of these initiatives will pair well with the initiatives of the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development.

We look forward to our continued partnership with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 815-356-1710 or at mcdef@owc.net.

Respectfully,

Nancy Schuetzelt
June 20, 2014

Local Technical Assistance Program  
CMAP (Attn: Daniel Olson)  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, IL 60606

RE: GO TO 2040 Local Technical Assistance Program – County of McHenry Application

Dear Grant Review Committee,

McHenry County Farm Bureau is pleased to support McHenry County Department of Planning and Development’s application for Local Technical Assistance for the development of a Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide. In support of this countywide initiative, we will work with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development to the fullest extent possible.

McHenry County Farm Bureau is a non-for-profit membership organization that represents over 850 farm families on local, state and national issues. McHenry County Farm Bureau provides members with legislative representation on trade, transportation, education, renewable fuels, land use, taxes and governmental regulation. Farm Bureau also provides members with the opportunity to participate in educational events, conferences, seminars and tours.

We have teamed up with Planning and Development on efforts to promote and build local food opportunities for farmers and consumers. We have also worked with their department to promote the conservation of farmland within our county.

We believe that McHenry County’s Department of Planning and Development department is qualified and capable of developing a Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide. We support their effort and look forward to our continued partnership with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dan Volkers,  
MCFB Manager
June 20, 2014

Local Technical Assistance Program
CMAP (Attn: Daniel Olson)
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

RE: GO TO 2040 Local Technical Assistance Program – County of McHenry Application

Dear Grant Review Committee,

Openlands is pleased to support the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development’s application for Local Technical Assistance for the development of a Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide.

Openlands’ work supporting the recommendations in GO TO 2040 regarding Promoting Sustainable local food ranges from on the ground work in Chicago to county planning and policy analysis to region wide studies on land access and supply. The local food system is complex and requires innovative strategies moved forward by multiple entities and partnerships at various scales. Openlands looks forward to supporting healthy communities by collaborating with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development to support this project.

Our successful collaboration is already evidenced through our previous work together to promote local fresh food and make it more accessible. The McHenry County Agriculture Conservation Easement and Farmland Protections (ACE) Commission appointed a task force, led by Openlands, to conduct a local food and farmland assessment of McHenry County. This assessment includes recommendations for policy and environmental changes, as well as encouraging residents to become more active in their food-system. Many of the initiatives in the report will be supported and implemented through the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development project.

We look forward to our continued partnership with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development in the development of a Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide. Please feel free to contact me with any questions 312 863 6264.

Sincerely,

Lenore Beyer-Clow
Director of Policy and Planning
June 17, 2014

Local Technical Assistance Program
CMAP (Attn: Daniel Olson)
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

RE: GO TO 2040 Local Technical Assistance Program – County of McHenry Application

Dear Grant Review Committee;

University of Illinois Extension is pleased to support the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development’s application for Local Technical Assistance for the development of a Comprehensive Agricultural Resource Guide. As University of Illinois Extension we feel it is important to support initiatives that increase the knowledge about our locally grown produce in order to strengthen our Local Food System.

University of Illinois Extension understands the importance of educating our citizens and the community in general about agriculture, food, healthy nutrition and the environment. Thus, we also recognize the value of this countywide initiative to work with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development to the fullest extent possible.

Already, we have worked together to promote local fresh produce and how to make it more accessible to communities in the area. As a member of the taskforce created by the Agriculture Conservation Easement and Farmland Protections (ACE) Commission and lead by Openlands, we conduct a local food and farmland assessment of McHenry County. This assessment includes recommendations for policy and environmental changes, as well as encouraging residents to become more active in their food-system. Many of these initiatives will pair well with the initiatives of the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development.

We look forward to our continued partnership with the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Connie Echaiz
Local Food Systems and Small Farms Educator