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: Village of Mokena

2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email):
John Downs, Village Administrator, Village of Mokena, 11004 Carpenter Street, Mokena, IL 60448. Email addresses: jdowns@mokena.org and administration@mokena.org.
Phone: 708-479-3900.
Fax: 708-479-4844

3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply):  

__X__ 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.

Included with this application is a map encompassing the entire corporate boundaries of the Village of Mokena. The Village is seeking funding assistance to prepare a Comprehensive Non-Motorized Traffic and Transportation Plan/Transit Oriented Development (TOD) that will also support CMAP’s GO TO 2040 Plan. The Village’s proposed plan will have a positive impact and connection to regional transportation programs as well as non-motorized transportation options (biking, walking, etc.). The current non-motorized traffic plan is outdated – as the Village is in need of updated comprehensive planning regarding this discipline. The updated plan will provide positive benefit to neighboring communities as well as benefit to the entire region.

Mokena is a village located in Will County, Illinois; and according to the 2010 US census report, the village has a total area of 8.89 square miles - all land. However, the 2013 census reports a steadily rising population nearing 20,000 individuals living within those 8.89 square miles. This does not include the business community’s working population, customer/clients, and visitors. Transportation planning is imperative.

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.)

Village official website: www.mokena.org

The Village of Mokena’s proposed project is a Comprehensive Non-Motorized Traffic and Transportation Plan/Transit Oriented Development (TOD).
The Village of Mokena is seeking assistance for transport planning involving evaluation, assessment, design, and siting of non-motorized transport facilities including streets, highways, bike lanes, sidewalks, and the impact to regional and local public transportation. The planning process will ensure sustainability and efficiency. Transportation sustainability is proposed to be measured by transportation system effectiveness and efficiency as well as the environmental impacts of the system. The Plan will also include mixed-use residential and commercial areas designed to maximize access to public transport (emphasizes on non-motorized travel); and will ultimately incorporate features to encourage transit ridership.

Transportation planning efforts will entail a rational planning model of defining goals and objectives, identifying problems, generating alternatives, evaluating alternatives, and developing plans. The plan will address other models for planning including rational actor, transit oriented development, incremental planning, organizational process, and political bargaining. And, the plan will look at increasingly expectations to adopt a multi-disciplinary approach that will encourage non-motorized transportation options.

The Mokena administration understands that transportation planning (in general) plays a fundamental role in the state, region, and its community’s vision for the future. The plan will include a comprehensive consideration of possible strategies; an evaluation process that encompasses diverse viewpoints; the collaborative participation of relevant transportation-related agencies and organizations; and open, timely, and meaningful public involvement.

The Village will approach non-motorized transportation planning as a cooperative process designed to foster involvement by all users of the system, such as the business community, community groups, environmental organizations, the traveling public, freight operators, and the general public - through a proactive public participation process.

The following planning steps will be included: monitoring existing conditions with emphasis on non-motorized travel; forecasting future population and employment growth - including assessing projected land uses in the region and identifying major growth corridors; identifying current and projected future transportation problems and needs and analyzing (through detailed planning studies) various non-motorized transportation improvement strategies to address those needs; developing long-range plans and short-range programs of alternative capital improvement and operational strategies for moving people and goods; estimating the impact of recommended future improvements to the transportation system on environmental features, including air quality; and developing a financial plan for securing sufficient revenues to cover the costs of implementing strategies.

The specifics regarding these planning objectives relative to the Village of Mokena’s corporate boundaries, adjacent communities, and the region will be identified during the actual planning process. In addition, the Village will follow all protocols required with any Municipal Comprehensive Planning implementation effort and looks forward to the support and technical assistance provided by this funding program.