



**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](http://www.rtachicago.com/applications). You may submit the form by email to [applications@rtachicago.com](mailto:applications@rtachicago.com).

Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

**1. Name of Applicant: Northwest Municipal Conference**

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

**Mike Walczak, 847.296.9200, [mwalczak@nwmc-cog.org](mailto:mwalczak@nwmc-cog.org)**

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

Local government

Multijurisdictional group\*  $\longrightarrow$  Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):  
See attached membership list  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nongovernmental organization\*  $\longrightarrow$  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.

**The planning project will focus on the NWMC membership area in the north and northwest suburbs of Chicago (see attached map).**

#### 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 Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) is seeking assistance to conduct a bike sharing feasibility study. The study would assess various models for providing bike share systems, such as the extension of Divvy from Chicago or standalone operations. The study would evaluate the land use and transportation characteristics necessary for a successful system and determine potential implementation locations within the NWMC membership area. Additionally, the study would outline the capital and operational costs associate with bike share service for the suburbs.**

**GO TO 2040 establishes the important goal of achieving a modern, efficient and sustainable transportation system. With the success of Divvy in the City of Chicago, it is clear that bike sharing is part of a modern transportation system. Bike share is leading to a culture shift as more and more people are seeing bicycling as a legitimate alternative to driving and a reliable form of transportation.**

**With constrained resources, bike sharing can serve as a cost-effective extension of the transit network while addressing the “last-mile” issue prevalent in the NWMC membership area. Bike share can extend the reach of transit, connect population and employment centers and assist with reverse commuting.**

**Outside of some areas immediately adjacent to the City of Chicago, the north and northwest suburbs lack contiguous areas of population and employment density served by the current Divvy system.**

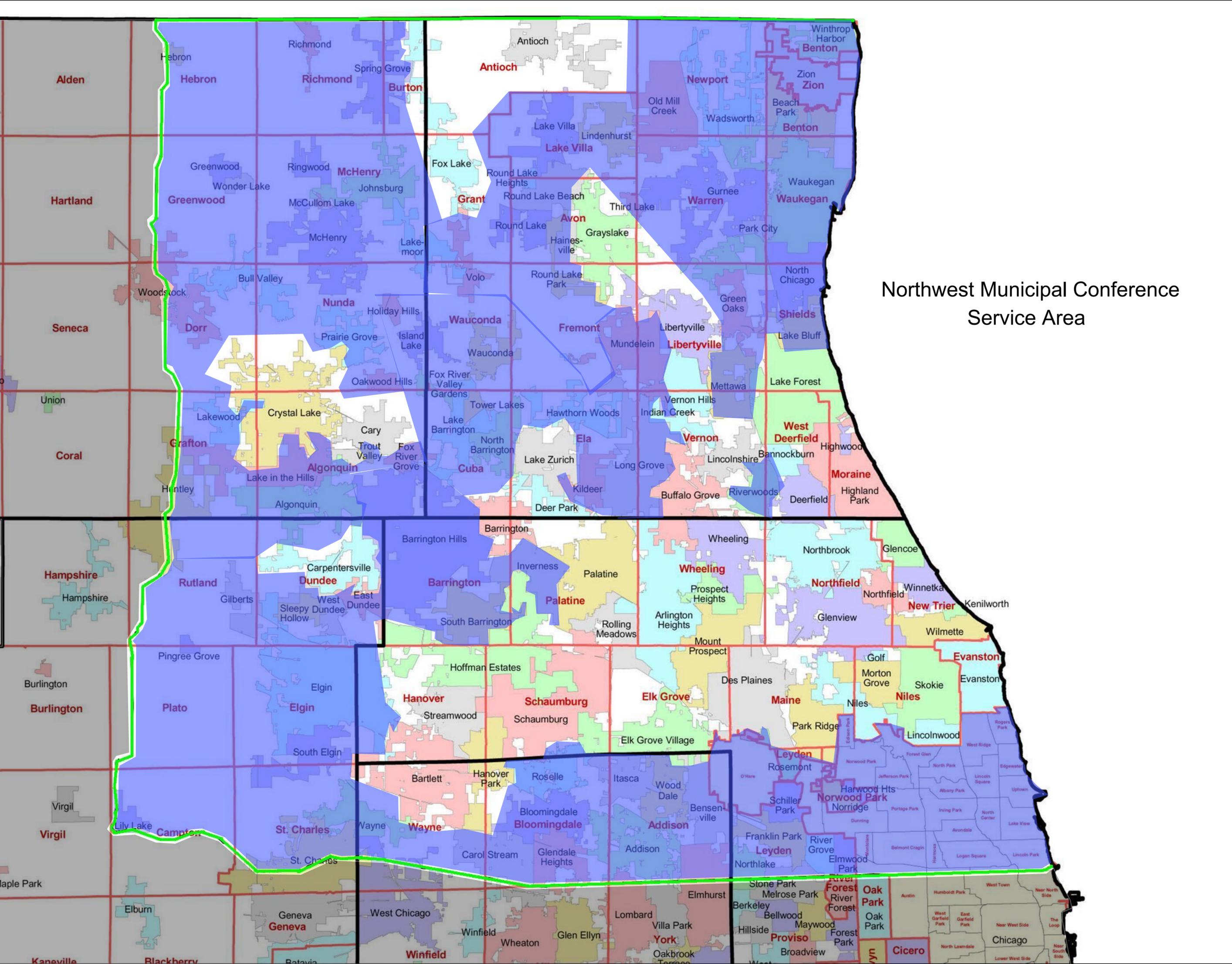
However, walkable downtown centers served by Metra and Pace service as well as large employment concentrations and regional commercial centers present opportunities for a bike sharing system. The [2010 NWMC Bike Plan](#) proposed a system of regional bicycle routes to link these destinations. NWMC and its members are working collectively to [implement the routes](#). These regional routes, supplemented by municipal bicycle routes form an ever-growing bicycle friendly network.

In Washington, D.C., Capital Bikeshare has already expanded into the suburban environment and may serve as a potential model for the NWMC area ([Washington Post article](#)). Additionally, medium-sized cities like Boulder ([Boulder B-cycle](#)) and Madison ([Madison B-cycle](#)) have successful bike sharing programs that may serve as models for standalone operations in NWMC communities.

## Northwest Municipal Conference

### Membership List

Antioch	Lake Forest
Arlington Heights	Lake Zurich
Bannockburn	Libertyville
Barrington	Lincolnshire
Bartlett	Lincolnwood
Buffalo Grove	Morton Grove
Carpentersville	Mount Prospect
Cary	Niles
Crystal Lake	Northbrook
Deer Park	Northfield
Deerfield	Northfield Twp.
Des Plaines	Palatine
Elk Grove Village	Park Ridge
Evanston	Prospect Heights
Fox Lake	Rolling Meadows
Glencoe	Schaumburg
Glenview	Skokie
Grayslake	Streamwood
Hanover Park	Vernon Hills
Highland Park	Wheeling
Hoffman Estates	Wilmette
Kenilworth	Winnetka



Northwest Municipal Conference  
Service Area