Application form:
Community Planning Program and
Local Technical Assistance Program

DEADLINE: Noon on Thursday, June 25, 2015

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:
City of Batavia/Batavia Park District

2. Main Contact for Application:

Name: Scott Buening
Title: Community Development Director
Phone number: 630-454-2710
Email: sbuening@cityofbatavia.net

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

__X__ Local government

__X__ Multijurisdictional group*
Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):
___Batavia Park District_______________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

____ 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, RTA, or CCDPH 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, RTA, or CCDPH.)

__X__ My project involves preparation of a plan.
__X__ My project helps to implement a past plan.
__X__ 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 a bicycle, pedestrian, or active transportation plan in suburban Cook County.
____ My project is not directly related to transportation or land use, but implements GO TO 2040 in other ways.

5. Local Match Requirement (please initial to indicate you are aware of the local match requirements):

I am aware that a local match will be required for most projects, and understand that if my project is selected it is up to the project applicant to contribute a local match. (See the program guide for further details on local match requirements.)

__X__ Yes, I understand that applicants will be required to contribute a local match.

6. 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 would encompass part of the Fox River and adjacent properties in and near the downtown area of Batavia. A map is attached for further clarity. This proposed study would be a further implementation of the City’s Comprehensive Plan and the Batavia Park District Strategic Master Plan. The Comprehensive Plan can be found at the following link: [http://www.cityofbatavia.net/Content/templates/?a=584](http://www.cityofbatavia.net/Content/templates/?a=584), and the Park District Plan at this link: [http://www.bataviaparks.org/upload/heller_batavia14b.pdf](http://www.bataviaparks.org/upload/heller_batavia14b.pdf).

7. 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. Program 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 City of Batavia and Batavia Park District are seeking to create a River Corridor Redevelopment Plan that addresses several strategic goals outlined by Batavia’s City Council and the Park District Board.
In 2002 Batavia adopted a Downtown Master Plan which identified the Fox River as a key resource and established a goal of improving visibility and access to the river. In 2007 the Downtown Master Plan was expanded into an overall Comprehensive Plan for the entire city. One of the key goals identified was to “Strengthen the Fox River corridor as the prominent open space amenity in the Batavia planning area”. In 2011 the City adopted a Downtown Streetscape Framework Plan which focused on pedestrian friendly infrastructure improvements and identified the need for greater connection with the river. The Park District contributed to the development of that plan. Finally, in early 2012 the City Council adopted six strategic goals. Three of the goals (Environmental Identity, Downtown Development and Community Connectivity) stressed the importance of the river.

The River Corridor Redevelopment Plan will focus on the riverbanks and pedestrian/bike connections from the North Batavia Dam southward to Clark Island Park. The riverbanks are in generally poor condition resulting from over a century of urban neglect. Invasive plants, soil erosion, decaying rip-rap and steep, denuded banks characterize this half-mile stretch of the river. This portion of the river also serves as a key pedestrian/bike route via the regional Fox River Trail which runs along both the east and west riverbanks. Batavia, working through its Bike Commission, has been awarded the League of American Bicyclists’ “Bicycle Friendly Community” bronze award. Batavia’s proximity to the river trails was a key factor in granting this award. The banks and Fox River Trail in the project limits are owned separately by both the City and Park District. We have worked cooperatively for many years on such projects as the east side Bike Trail extension beneath the Donovan (Wilson St) Bridge, the Peace Bridge (ped and bike) in the downtown, dredging of the Depot Pond and the Batavia Riverwalk.

The Plan will serve as a framework for revitalization projects that will be a model for urban river stewardship. The Plan will emphasize the river’s importance to economic development and recreation, identify new opportunities for pedestrian/bike connections, address areas of discontinuity in the regional bike trail and quantify the scope of future projects necessary to restore bank erosion and promote sustainable native riparian vegetation to improve water quality. The Plan will provide public education and promote stewardship programs which will utilize best practices to strike a balance between urbanized development and natural habitats.

The City of Batavia and Batavia Park District recognize that collaboration between government agencies, environmental advocacy groups and the Citizens of Batavia is vital to creating a successful plan. It is envisioned that the process will include all groups working together towards a common goal of revitalizing the river. The River Corridor Redevelopment Plan will highlight how urban redevelopment can complement and encourage river conservation and community recreation to create a healthier, more vibrant river, city and region.

We anticipate that a study such as this will be in the range of $100,000-$130,000. We are prepared to provide the 20% local match for this study in conjunction with the Batavia Park District.
Maps and data provided by the City of Batavia are not intended to have, nor do they have, the accuracy of surveys or legal descriptions of land areas. GIS data obtained from the City of Batavia is intended for representational use only. Reliance on such maps and data is at the risk of the recipient. This information, in either electronic or map form, is provided "as is". No warranty expressed or implied is made regarding the accuracy, timeliness, or completeness of the data, nor shall the act of distribution constitute any such warranty. This disclaimer applies both to individual use of the data and aggregate use with other data.

SOURCE: BATGIS, KANEGIS

DATE: 12/17/2012