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 Calumet City
   204 Pulaski Road
   Calumet City, IL 60409

2. Main Contact for Application:

   Name: Bryan Swanson
   Title: Coordinator, Economic Development
   Phone number: 708-891-8139
   Email: bswanson@calumetcity.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, 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.
- [X] My project has direct relevance to public transit and supports the use of the existing transit system.
- [X] 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.

City of Calumet City Map (included with application)
The city is seeking technical assistance for the establishment of a Comprehensive Lighting Plan (public infrastructure) that will impact the entire area of the city.

The link to the City’s website below provides information about Calumet City’s 2014 Comprehensive Plan and its FEMA-Approved Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Although Calumet City is included in Cook County’s Hazardous Mitigation Plan, this Plan is separate – its Calumet City’s own FEMA-Approved Hazardous Mitigation Plan encompassing all of the City’s corporate boundaries.

www.calumetcity.org

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 Calumet City (located within the County of Cook and Township of Thornton) is seeking assistance from the Community Planning and Local Technical Assistance Programs identified by this application process. Specifically, the City is seeking assistance with the preparation of a Comprehensive Plan regarding lighting and lighting initiatives to enhance its public infrastructure. The Plan proposed will include the City’s entire corporate boundaries. The City understands that comprehensive planning guides the physical development of the community and is a process that determines goals and aspirations in terms of community development. In this particular realm, lighting programs proposed within the Plan will encompass energy efficiency and sustainability. Lighting is the easiest way to save energy and improve public safety.

Improved street lighting is widely thought to be an effective means of preventing crime, second in importance only to increased police presence. Indeed, residents and businesses within the community often demand that the lighting be improved, and recent research generally bears out their expectations that improved lighting does reduce crime. There are exceptional benefits to improved street lighting within Calumet City:

- it can be used to promote security as noted, and increase the quality of life by artificially extending the hours in which it is light so that activity can take place; and
- street lighting also improves safety for drivers, riders, and pedestrians.

Driving outside of daylight hours is more dangerous – only a quarter of all travel by car drivers is between the hours of 7pm and 8am, yet research proves this period accounts for 40% of fatal and serious injuries to the same group. Pedestrians and vulnerable road users suffer from decreased visibility in the dark. For these reasons, ways of reducing the risk to all road users during the hours of darkness must be identified. A recent study conducted by the US Department of Transportation found that road safety was perceived as a key benefit for street lighting improvement. In the study, “73% of respondents agreed that 'better street lighting would improve the safety of children', and 63.8% agreed that 'improved street lighting would lead to fewer accidents on the roads’”.

**City Demographics/Need:**
Calumet City (commonly referred to as "Cal City") was founded in 1892 (incorporated in 1896) when the villages of Schrumville and Sobieski Park merged under the name of West Hammond, since it lies on the west side of the Illinois-Indiana border. In 1924, West Hammond officially changed its name to the City of Calumet City. Today (2013 US Census), Calumet City has 37,240 residents and encompasses 7.31 square miles. And, according to the 2010 US Census: per capita income is $19,967 (nearly $10,000 less the state of Illinois average); median income is $40,305 (nearly $17,000 less the state of Illinois average); below poverty level is almost 22% (nearly twice as much as the state of Illinois average); unemployment is nearly 21% (almost twice the state of Illinois average); vacant housing is 13%; and there has been a detrimental decline in business ownership and business development.

According to the 2010 Crime Statistics, in one year, Calumet City had 4 murders, 31 rapes, 52 robberies, 160 assaults, 688 Burglaries, 1,688 thefts, and 4 arsons within a community of
approximately 37,000 residents. The City of Calumet City has shown great need for this requested assistance.

The proposed construction efforts (within the Plan) will include recommendations for full-service lighting solutions for public infrastructure focusing on energy efficient and sustainable lighting concepts. Wherever possible, the planning designs will incorporate the latest in energy management, maintenance, and lighting control equipment and software. The Plan’s recommendations and outcomes will service residential as well as the commercial and industrial markets – honing in on a wide range of lighting related solutions including: proposed lighting design, specialized consulting services needed, project management considerations, a proposed customizable lighting management program, timelines and future technologies, and all the bells and whistles required of a Comprehensive Lighting Plan.

In addition, the City of Calumet City has an appreciation for appropriate and efficient illumination for public way-finding and safety. The majority of lighting throughout the City may not comply with these values as of yet. However, with the variety of fixtures, bulbs, poles and placement patterns that now exist, and the limited resources available to maintain, repair, replace, and inventory these components, there is a desire to standardize illumination on public rights-of-way for both residential and commercial applications and to more clearly define roles and responsibilities. As more efficient and cost-effective technologies arise, the City wishes to be in a position to capitalize on these efficiencies as well – as the Plan will make those recommendations.

The Plan will also incorporate specifics, at today’s and future standards, the most cost effective and energy efficient solutions feasible and make recommendations as to long-term, mutually beneficial relationships. As previously noted, but in more specific terms, the Plan will include an energy efficiency/sustainable road map to achieve maximum energy savings and an integrated framework of goals and strategies for saving energy and holding energy efficiency to its role as one of the highest priority resources in meeting the City’s needs. To summarize, the proposed Plan will:

- help to implement past plans (city’s website provided);
- link land use, transportation, parks and recreation, economic development, shopping sites, and housing with better safety measures as well as encourage non-motorized transportation options;
- have direct relevance to public transit and supports the use of the existing transit systems;
- Enhance sustainability - both health and public infrastructure
- will enhance bicycle, pedestrian, and other active transportation plans within suburban Cook County; and
- implement GO TO 2040 in many other ways as well.

The City of Calumet City is looking forward to consideration in receiving technical assistance for a Comprehensive Lighting Plan.