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:
   Village of Melrose Park, Illinois

2. Main Contact for Application:

   Name: Edwin L.Stoelinga
   Title: Village Consulting Engineer
   Phone number: 708-865-0300
   Email: elstoelinga@ehancock.com

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, 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.)

__ 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 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.)

__ 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 planning area is Village-wide, also taking into consideration bicycle transportation
links with communities and destinations outside of Melrose Park.

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 project involves the development of a Village-wide Bicycle Plan. Melrose Park puts a high
value on bicycling as a means of transportation. Melrose Park has recently constructed a bicycle
path along North Avenue from Riverwoods Drive to Thatcher Avenue, and another along Cornell
Avenue from North Avenue to Armitage Street. A project is scheduled for 2016, for the
construction of a commuter bike path along North Avenue from Cornell Avenue to Riverwoods
Drive, and on-street shared bike lanes on Armitage Street from Cornell Avenue to Mannheim
Road, linking the existing routes to form a complete cross-town commuter bike route.

The Bicycle Plan will build on the positive impacts of this new cross-town commuter route, by
identifying pathways that could branch from this route and connect more residents with their
destinations, such as local business, restaurants and institutions, including Triton College on River
Road, just north of North Avenue.

Melrose Park’s vision includes improving the health of individuals through exercise. Melrose Park
has a vibrant park system, numerous youth and adult sports programs, and top facilities including
a football/soccer field and baseball field. The Bicycle Plan will complement Melrose Park’s efforts to promote a healthy lifestyle for its residents and work force.

Melrose Park has also been identifying opportunities to promote and encourage alternative means of transportation to reduce congestion, improve air quality, and help local businesses thrive. Melrose Park has completed two corridor studies, for Lake Street and for Broadway Avenue, emphasizing both connectivity for commuting and planning for economic sustainability. A Bicycle Plan will reinforce these goals, along these corridors and Village-wide. The Bicycle Plan will result in increased bicycling as a means of commuting by planning useful routes and removing mental and physical obstacles to bicycling. The Plan will also present better ways to provide access to local businesses, improving the local economy.

Melrose Park has been identified by the Cook County Dept. of Public Health as a “Healthy Hot Spot” that would greatly benefit from the development and implementation of a Village-wide plan. Melrose Park is seeking full assistance through a partnership with the Active Transportation Alliance. Melrose Park will provide Village staff, community representation, and meeting spaces, and will work closely with the Active Transportation Alliance in the development of a Melrose Park Bicycle Plan.