**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](https://mail2.rtachicago.com/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=yDQzQIZLohsKPGdDpLgh00Dgy_HXzLfOBuR0cL-AIAZzlxekKX7SCGgAdAB0AHAAOgAvAC8AdwB3AHcALgByAHQAYQBjAGgAaQBjAGEAZwBvAC4AYwBvAG0ALwBhAHAAcABsAGkAYwBhAHQAaQBvAG4AcwA.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.rtachicago.com%2fapplications).  You may submit the form by email to [applications@rtachicago.com](https://mail2.rtachicago.com/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=jxsyHX5Ys8BjW-nZ5SXN6oYWNdCzUABYoUGvlwKxFxlzlxekKX7SCG0AYQBpAGwAdABvADoAYQBwAHAAbABpAGMAYQB0AGkAbwBuAHMAQAByAHQAYQBjAGgAaQBjAGEAZwBvAC4AYwBvAG0A&URL=mailto%3aapplications%40rtachicago.com).

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

**1. Name of Applicant:   
Village of Richmond, comprehensive plan**

**2. Main Contact for Application:**

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| --- |
| Name: Scott Drabant |
| Title: Trustee |
| Phone number: 815-701-1030 |
| Email: scott\_drabant\_rph@yahoo.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):

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\_\_\_\_ Nongovernmental organization\*                  Name of local government partner(s):

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\*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.

\_\_\_\_ 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.)

\_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.

**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 Village of Richmond has decided to update its comprehensive plan, which will define the vision of the Village’s future and the steps needed to achieve that vision.

The only known comprehensive plan, dated November 1997 was only partially completed and is the only known comprehensive plan since the Village was settled in 1837. The 1997 comprehensive plan completed only two sections: defining the existing community character, as defined at that period in time, and addressing the natural resources of the area. Unfortunately, it did not proceed any further. It was the goal of the 1997 plan to be update and completed within two years. This never occurred.

The new version of the plan will outline the community’s desired development vision for its future as well as contain actions needed to accomplish that vision.

Why does the village of Richmond need an updated comprehensive plan?

Technically, it will be the first complete comprehensive plan. The 1997 plan projected a period of rapid economic and population growth. Though the Village has grown since 1997, its growth slowed during the economic downturn of 2008. Over the years, Richmond has experienced several unique challenges that have influenced its development character, economy and social fabric.

The community’s physical, economic and social character will be determined by the decisions made today. Having an updated plan that clearly articulates the desired character of the Village will help the decision making process. This updated plan will be a guide for elected officials, municipal staff, community residents, business owners and potential investors, allowing them to make informed community development decisions affecting land use, transportation, infrastructure and capital improvements. Through development of an updated comprehensive plan these decisions can help structure the long-term goals and vision of the Village of Richmond.

The Village has taken several steps to position itself for the future, but these are individual silos rather than a comprehensive strategy. For example, prior to the 2008 economic downturn the Village replaced its aging waste management facility to accommodate projected growth. This state of the art facility is currently only being utilized at approximately 40% of capacity.

The Village of Richmond (lead agency) is the driving force in ‘The Richmond Bypass Project’ in conjunction with Illinois DOT and McHenry DOT. The Village is working with US EPA, US ACOE, US FWS, IL DNR, IL DOA, IL and SHPA to evaluate numerous possible corridors for traffic flow. The purpose and need evaluation identified the following: roadway system (improve linkage and continuity); traffic (reduction of congestion and delays); community (improve emergency response and access, community cohesion and pedestrian safety); economic development (improved economic development opportunities).  Richmond is one of the few northern gateways to Illinois from Wisconsin.

The Village developed an Ad hoc committee comprised of both elected officials and community residents to explore long term development.   One of the first tasks the committee undertook was the development and implementation of a community wide survey. This survey inquired of both the residents and business owners their views of the Village, quality and cost of housing, schools, shopping, business environment, local government and transportation.

Finally, the Village contracted with an economic development consultant to attract new business development. From this contractual consultant the Village has assembled a ‘Development Information Packet’ for prospective development opportunities. The economic development consultant work with the Village Community Development Committee to promote various potential business opportunities.

The Village of Richmond needs a comprehensive plan that outlines methods to grow while retaining the rural character; to capitalize on existing amenities; to coordinate various projects, and to create a viable economic and development strategy.