Get involved

Over the next year, CMAP will publish reports and updates in the following areas as part of the ongoing development of ON TO 2050. There will also be topical forums and workshops to attend throughout the year. Please mark the topics about which you would like to receive more details, and don’t forget to include your contact information.

- Demographic trends
- Climate resilience
- Green infrastructure
- Stormwater management/water resources
- Housing supply and affordability
- Inclusive growth
- Economic clusters and resilience
- Lands in transition
- Infill and transit oriented development
- Tax policies and land use impacts
- Reinvestment and infill
- Shared services/consolidation
- Community capacity
- Socioeconomic forecast
- Transportation system funding
- Transportation asset conditions
- New transportation technology
- Transit modernization
- Highway operations
- Freight system, planning, and policy

Name and Title
Email
Organization

☐ I would like to co-host an ON TO 2050 workshop.
Transit modernization charts the path to a world-class system.

From visionary infrastructure projects like elevating trolley cars to form the Loop to technology that can track buses on a phone, innovation has always been part of transit in the Chicago region. Transit infrastructure and operations must continue to adapt as riders demand a qualitatively better travel experience in terms of comfort, speed, safety, reliability, and usability. At the same time, the transit system has a large backlog of unfunded capital needs. Because of the high demand for limited resources, the region must be strategic about where and how to implement enhancements of the transit system, such as by replacing outdated equipment as part of larger maintenance and repair projects.

Technological innovations like travel planner apps for phones help people use transit more easily and comfortably. These and other investments in transit modernization increase the usability of the Chicago region’s public transportation system.

ON TO 2050 will consider transit improvements that are both practical and aspirational. With the second largest transit system in the nation, our region can serve as the launching ground for transit innovation. To help accomplish this, ON TO 2050 will build on the work of CMAP’s partner transit agencies. Several significant modernization efforts are currently in advanced planning stages, including Bus/Arterial Rapid Transit (BRT/ART), Positive Train Control (PTC), and the CTA Red-Purple Line Modernization (RPM). As these projects approach implementation, now it is the time to start planning for the next generation of initiatives to modernize transit service. During development of the next plan, our research will consider various questions, such as: “Could many small intersection improvements add up to a large impact on bus service?” and “What are some emerging transit technologies and how will we integrate them into our network?”

Despite financially challenging times, the region has a wealth of transit infrastructure to build upon. ON TO 2050 is anticipated to contain ambitious targets for transit ridership. Transit modernization will be key to leveraging past investment to achieve today’s goals.

Find out more at www.cmap.illinois.gov/ONTO2050.

This is your plan
Help us develop ON TO 2050 by providing your input below.

1. What aspects of transit systems in other cities would you like to see here?

2. Rank your top three areas for improvement on the transit system:
   - Speed
   - Comfort
   - Reliability
   - Connectivity
   - Cost
   - Frequency
   - Safety
   - Accessibility
   - Other

3. Please provide any additional comments.