From April through August 2017, CMAP and our partners are hosting monthly ON TO 2050 Alternative Futures Forums to engender debate about the challenges and opportunities our region will face by 2050. Topics include Changed Climate, Walkable Communities, Innovative Transportation, Transformed Economy, and Constrained Resources. Participants will influence the policy emphases of the ON TO 2050 comprehensive regional plan as it proceeds toward adoption in October 2018.

Learn more about the region’s Alternative Futures and register for the forums at www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050/futures.

Follow #2050BigIdeas on Twitter @ONTO2050 to add your big ideas for the region’s future.

Thank you to co-sponsors: Cook County, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, Southwest Conference of Mayors, and Will County Governmental League.
THE FUTURE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

July 19, 2017
Homewood Auditorium

3:30 p.m. Registration

4:00 p.m. Program

Welcome
The Honorable Vernard Alsberry Jr.
President, Village of Hazel Crest
President, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

Panel Discussion
Moderator
Alden Loury
Director of Research and Evaluation
Metropolitan Planning Council

Panelists
Dr. Lazaro Lopez
Chairman
Illinois Community College Board

Marie Trzupek Lynch
President and CEO
Skills for Chicagoland’s Future

Bhash Mazumder
Senior Economist, Research Advisor
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

Responses to written audience questions

5:00 p.m. Conclusion

5:30 p.m. Closing Remarks
Kevin Daly
Economic Development Director
and Legislative Affairs Coordinator
Village of Monee

Alden Loury joined Metropolitan Planning Council in May 2016 as the director of research and evaluation. He works with staff and consultants to identify and execute the organization’s research agenda and to attract media for its findings. Previously, Alden worked for the Better Government Association serving as an investigative reporter and as a policy analyst. He also spent 12 years at The Chicago Reporter serving as a reporter, an editor, and publisher. His research has appeared in The New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, Crain’s Chicago Business, Los Angeles Times, Forbes, Chicago Magazine, and The Chicago Defender.

Lazaro Lopez serves as chairman of the Illinois Community College Board and secretary of the board of the Partnership for College Completion. He has been featured in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Profiles of Change series and was recognized as the 2013 Illinois Principal of the Year for his tenure as principal of Wheeling High School. As chairman of the Illinois Community College Board, Lazaro has focused on the seamless transition of students through career pathways. He currently serves as the associate superintendent for teaching and learning at High School District 214 in Arlington Heights, serving 12,000 students at six comprehensive high schools.

Marie Trzupek Lynch, a passionate leader for advancing economic mobility for Chicagoland residents, is the founding president and CEO of Skills for Chicagoland’s Future. Skills is a signature initiative of Mayor Rahm Emanuel that creates demand-driven solutions for employers to get unemployed and underemployed Chicagoland residents back to work. Previously, Marie launched and served as founding president of Chicago Career Tech, a career retraining initiative for unemployed emerging- and middle-income Chicagoans. She also spent eight years working for the YMCA in executive roles and served on the U.S. Commerce Department’s National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Bhash Mazumder is a senior economist and research advisor in the economic research department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. He also serves as the executive director of the Chicago Federal Statistical Research Data Center. Bhash’s research has been focused in four areas: intergenerational economic mobility, the long-term effects of poor health early in life, black-white gaps in human capital development, and issues related to household financial wellbeing. His research has been published in academic journals such as the Journal of Political Economy, American Economic Review, and Review of Economics and Statistics.