Application form:
RTA Community Planning Program and
CMAP Local Technical Assistance Program

DEADLINE: Noon on Thursday, June 29, 2017

This application form is online at www.rtachicago.org/applications. You may submit the form by email to applications@rtachicago.org.
Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

1. Name of Applicant

City of Chicago Office of Budget and Management (OBM)

2. Main Contact for Application

Name: Alessandra Budnik
Title: Entitlement Grants Manager
Phone number: 312-744-3421
Email: alessandra.budnik@cityofchicago.org

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 or the RTA 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.

_X___ My project involves preparation of a plan.
____ My project involves updating an already existing 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.
__X__ 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.

OBM is requesting assistance in developing the City of Chicago’s (City) next Consolidated Plan, a five-year strategic planning document required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to receive HUD formula funds. The Consolidated Plan targets low- and moderate-income census tracts within the city of Chicago. The Consolidated Plan will cover program years 2020-2025.

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. For plan updates please tell us how you will be building upon (or replacing) the previous work. Program staff will follow-up with you if we need any additional information to fully understand your proposed project.

As a HUD grantee, the City is required to analyze community needs in order to identify priorities and develop strategies to meet those needs. The City is requesting CMAP’s technical assistance in conducting a data-driven citywide needs assessment and market analysis in the areas of affordable housing, community development, and homelessness and providing an analysis of the results. The results of the needs assessment will inform which community areas and census tracts show the greatest level of need by priority area (affordable house, community development, homelessness) and assist the City to better target resources where they are needed the most.
In addition, the City is requesting community area maps that highlight the results of the needs assessments and identify the census tracts that are found to have the highest need. The City would use these maps to communicate information to constituents at public hearings and community meetings.

Lastly, the City is requesting CMAP’s assistance in increasing public engagement in the development of the Consolidated Plan. The City traditionally holds two annual public hearings and several community meetings. For the Consolidated Planning process, the City seeks to better engage the stakeholders targeted by this initiative through social media and other outlets to get a better understanding about public concerns.

The City’s project proposal aligns with several recommendations of GO TO 2040. Promoting livable communities is a shared goal. The City’s current Consolidated Plan identifies affordable and accessible housing as a high priority item for Chicago residents and funds numerous activities that invest in new affordable housing production as well as preserve the existing housing stock to keep people housed in their communities.

Investing in quality workforce development is another shared goal. The City’s Department of Family and Support Services works closely with the business community to understand their employment needs in order to develop industry-specific workforce training programs. Programs such as these are funded with Consolidated Planning funds and help train individuals to develop the necessary skills to be successful in Chicago’s workforce.

Consolidated Plan funds target low- and moderate-income populations that face barriers to economic opportunities. A primary goal of both GO TO 2040 and the Consolidated Plan is to invest in low-income communities to increase economic opportunities for populations most in need and to promote inclusive growth so that the benefits realized by the city of Chicago benefit all Chicago residents.

8. Previous Plan Implementation Efforts
Please describe actions you have taken to implement previous plans in your community – whether your efforts were successful or not – to achieve infrastructure improvements, development investment, policy changes, advocacy, volunteer involvement, or other actions. If you do not have experience implementing previous planning work, please describe what you will do to make sure that your plan is implemented. Illustrating a commitment to implement plan recommendations is very important to both agencies as we consider new planning projects.

The City has the capacity to implement comprehensive plans, and through its infrastructure departments, such as the Department of Transportation, and human infrastructure departments, such as Public Health and Family and Support Services, has successfully implemented planning efforts in partnership with other local government entities, not-for-profit entities, and business communities. The City has the strategic partnerships and can leverage resources to implement both large-scale infrastructure plans as well as smaller human service plans.

9. Additional Strategic Partnerships
Please list any additional partners you may want to include in this planning project. Please specify if you have made contact with them in advance of submitting this application.

N/A