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

McHenry County Council of Governments

2. Main Contact for Application

Name: Chalen Daigle
Title: Executive Director
Phone number: 815-477-2090
Email: cdaigle@mchenrycountycog.org

3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply)

_____ Local government

____ Multijurisdictional group* Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):
McHenry County and local governments in McHenry County

_____ 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.

The location of the project includes the municipalities in McHenry County – namely the communities in the southeast portion of the County as well as the City of McHenry and the City of Woodstock. It may also include townships.

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.

For the past year, the McHenry County Council of Governments has partnered with McHenry County and several communities to explore shared services. A draft white paper was written outlining numerous shared services our municipalities are currently undertaking with neighboring communities, townships and the County. However, a more comprehensive plan is needed.

The draft white paper – along with lists of what each community is doing – started meaningful discussion with village/city managers, public works directors and police chiefs. Ideas were shared and a common goal of efficient government and shared services was determined. We would like to keep the momentum going by producing a document or study of how we can better work together and explore
programs and practices that could produce more efficiencies while still providing or expanding better service to residents.

This study would implement GO TO 2040’s intent of efficient government, as well as foster regional cooperation. A main focus of the study would be to further explore ways to integrate better transportation opportunities. For example, McHenry County has considered a remote road salt storage location for several years. This would allow salt trucks to fill up at locations near their routes without having to return to Woodstock when empty. Coordinating this effort with a municipality would be extremely beneficial. In addition, the Shared Services group also discussed sharing village/city inspectors. Streamlining this process so that neighboring communities could draw from closer inspectors would also be beneficial. Pooling transportation resources was also discussed by possibly joint bidding a pavement-striping machine with the County. This would enable more efficient and regional pavement striping. For years, communities have worked together to bid out road resurfacing projects through Intergovernmental Agreements. Expanding on pavement striping and resurfacing projects would be very beneficial to the transportation network in McHenry County. Lastly, the Shared Services group began to talk about police and fire collaborations. Sharing resources that could mean quicker response time and better service to residents. We hope to further explore more transportation efficiencies as the program evolves.

Overall, the municipalities in McHenry County share a common goal of working together and creating better practices for our staff and residents. A shared services study will help further this goal and provide practices for our communities to begin to implement.

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.

We have brought together city/village managers, village staff, Public Works Directors and Police Chiefs to talk about ways to collaborate. For years, municipalities have been sharing services. Making an inventory of them was the easy part. Expanding on these or producing a document outlining ways to better collaborate or share services has been more difficult.

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.

Algonquin, Crystal Lake, Huntley, Woodstock, Cary, Lake in the Hills, McHenry and McHenry County. We have reached out to them all about this initiative.

We have consulted with the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) on this application and our service sharing goals, and MPC is committed to supporting the work if it moves forward through the LTA program. Depending on how the project proceeds, MPC can support this work with research, facilitation or outreach support.

(Please include any additional information that is relevant, preferably by providing links to online documents.)
STARFIRE (Streamlining/Transparency/Accountability/Reliability/Fiscality/Integrity/Respect/Ethical) Initiative Resolution was approved by the McHenry County Board on June 20. A signed copy is included with the application.
RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE MCHENRY COUNTY STARFIRE INITIATIVE
(STREAMLINING/TRANSPARENCY/ACCOUNTABILITY/RELIABILITY/
FISCALITY/INTEGRITY/ RESPECT/ETHICAL)

WHEREAS, McHenry County agencies have the desire to work collectively across political boundaries in order to optimize the delivery of vital services in high-quality, cost effective ways; and

WHEREAS, McHenry County agencies have the desire to improve efficiency, reduce duplication of services and encourage resource planning; and

WHEREAS, McHenry County agencies have the desire to pursue reforms to improve service delivery and solve problems with innovative and locally-appropriate solutions; and

WHEREAS, McHenry County agencies have the desire to increase the accountability, transparency and efficiency of government services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of McHenry County, Illinois, that staff are hereby directed to:

- Identify ways to be more efficient with the resources at hand, including sharing of staff and pooling resources with neighboring jurisdictions to create more effective operations.

- Analyze and review areas where joint purchasing, shared services and consolidation make sense.

- Explore ways in which working together as opposed to working independently can eliminate inefficient or duplicative services.

- Analyze how to organize services in the most logical way, rather than have them constrained by jurisdictional or area limits.

- Explore ways to make use of existing qualified personnel and facilities to achieve economies of scale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is hereby authorized to distribute a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Board Chairman, the County Administrator, and all municipalities and townships in McHenry County.

DATED at Woodstock, Illinois, this 20th day of June, A.D., 2017.

Jack D. Franks, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

Mary E. McCollan, County Clerk