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

   Ninth Ward Greater Roseland Community Coalition

2. Main Contact for Application

   Name: Mr. Carmen L. C. Palmer
   Title: President
   Phone number: 773-785-8332
   Email: cpphd.g4@gmail.com

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

   _____ Local government
   _____ Multijurisdictional group*
   _____ Nongovernmental organization*

Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):

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.
- [x] My project links land use, transportation, and housing.
- [x] My project has direct relevance to public transit and supports the use of the existing transit system.
- [ ] 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.

Curricular Plan/Pedestrian Improvement Plan from Cottage Grove to Michigan on 107th Street.

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.

A description is attached.

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.

To reimage the intersection at 107th and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., description attached.

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.

Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement - University of Illinois at Chicago; Environmental Equity Matters, DCP
7. Project Description
The Ninth Ward Greater Roseland Community Coalition (9th Ward GRCC) would like to improve access to the Metro along the 107th corridor from Cottage Grove to Michigan. There are two (2) goals that the 9th Ward GRCC would like to meet to improve access to the Metro at 107th & Cottage Grove.
1) To reimage the 107th and Dr. Martin Luther King Drive intersection by enhancing walking and pedestrian amenities;
2) To improve access to the Metro at 107th and Cottage Grove via a pedestrian improvement plan that includes enhancing pedestrian safety, beautifying the corridor with garden parks to replace vacant lots, and improving the business strip by replacing shuttered business store fronts with a viable business strip along the corridor.

8. Previous Plan Implementation Efforts
Beginning May 5, 2014, the Ninth Ward Greater Roseland Community Coalition worked with Dr. Janet Smith and Environmental Equity Matters; Development Community Projects (DCP); and other community leaders and community based organizations to have the intersection of the 107th and Dr. King Drive reimagined. Please find attached an 18 page Internal Review & Comment entitled "Reimagining 107th and Dr. Martin Luther King Drive: A Blighted Intersection in Chicago's Greater Roseland Community". The report was prepared by Erika Strauss and Molly Huber; Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement; University of Illinois at Chicago, with support of the Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program at Kansas State University. February 2014

The goal then was to begin reimagining with the "low hanging fruit" on that intersection, the vacant lot owned by the City. The intent was to begin reimagining that corner by converting that lot into a community garden park that would serve as an enabling park for all ages for beautification and environmental protection purposes.

On 6/24/15, to the Community's disbelief, the Community was made aware of the threat of a cell phone tower being erected on that vacant lot. Based upon documented research linking health risks and deaths, as well as, the lowering of property value to cell phone tower proximity, the Community strongly objected. Organizing around the OBJECTION TO A CELL PHONE TOWER on that intersection at 400 East 107th Street has been the Coalition's major focus. The threat still prevails.

I spoke with Dr. Janet Smith on 12/5/16 at the Greater Roseland Townhall Meeting to discuss the Medical District, Redline, Pullman Project, & New RCH. I was then able to share where the Ninth Ward Greater Roseland Community Coalition was as it pertained to the Reimaging of 107th and Dr. King Dr. It was at that time that Dr. Smith advised that I look into CMAP. She asked that I keep her updated.

On 8/29/17, with approval from the Coalition, I communicated with Jane Grover at CMAP. She encouraged me to attend the 5/16/17 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SYMPOSIUM. Myself and another Community Organizer did attend. I was extremely encouraged, thus, this application.