MEMORANDUM

To: CMAP Board

From: Dolores Dowdle
Deputy Executive Director, Finance and Administration

Date: June 5, 2013

Re: Authorizing Local Match for U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration Grant

Since the adoption of GO TO 2040, CMAP has initiated the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program and the Community Planning program to provide staff assistance, grants, and consulting assistance to local governments to advance the implementation of GO TO 2040. Projects include comprehensive plans, corridor or subarea plans, studies of special topics such as housing or water resources, and similar planning activities.

The U.S. Department of Commerce has conducted a competitive grant process for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to leverage existing regional assets to support implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities. CMAP submitted a grant proposal to the EDA to fund the Economic Development Local Technical Assistance (ED-LTA) program; this expansion of our LTA program will focus on initiatives that support growth of the region’s freight and manufacturing clusters specifically in communities in the Chicago metropolitan region that have experienced an unemployment rate at least one percent point greater than the national average for both 2010 and 2011.

CMAP has been notified by EDA that its ED-LTA program proposal has received preliminary selection for a grant pending EDA receiving an allocation of funding in its Economic Adjustment program. EDA is considering $400,000 for the ED-LTA program, with $200,000 in EDA funding and a local match of $200,000. Before further consideration can be made to the proposal, EDA requires that there be a Board resolution authorizing $200,000 in local match committed to the project. CMAP staff has identified $200,000 in non-federal funds that would be committed to the LTA program if the EDA grant is received.

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing $200,000 in local match for the U.S. Economic Development Administration grant, if received. The funds are from the FY 2013 IDOT planning fund grant.
WHEREAS, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning ("CMAP"), pursuant to the Regional Planning Act, 70 ILCS 1707/1 et seq., is granted all powers necessary to carry out its legislative purposes in order to plan for the most effective public and private investments in the northeastern Illinois region and to better integrate plans for land use and transportation; and

WHEREAS, CMAP adopted GO TO 2040, the region’s comprehensive plan, with a priority in providing technical assistance and building local capacity and to support economic innovation; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) tentatively approved a grant proposal from CMAP for Economic Development Local Technical Assistance program; and

WHEREAS, EDA requires authorization from the CMAP Board for the required local match prior to awarding the grant; and

WHEREAS, CMAP has identified funds from FY 2013 state planning funds for the required local match;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Board as follows:

The Executive Director is authorized to allocate the required local matching funds for the EDA grant, if received.

Approved: _______________________________ Date ________________

Chair