



**Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program:
Recommendations for FY20 Project Group (2019.006)
February 15, 2019**

In conjunction with the RTA’s Community Planning program, CMAP held a call for new LTA program project applications in fall 2018. Applications were due on October 26, 2018, and CMAP and the RTA received a combined 74 applications from 66 different applicants. Local Planning staff evaluated the applications and solicited input from Policy and Programing staff, as well as the working committees, and external partners including RTA and the transit service boards, CDOT, Chicago DPD, County Development Directors, Planning Liaisons, and partner technical assistance providers. Staff considered several factors when evaluating each application: alignment with ON TO 2050, community need, geographic distribution, topic diversity, alignment with the LTA program, implementation potential, and available resources.

Breakdown of applications by project type, county, and cohort

74 total applications were received from 66 different applicants. Below is a breakdown of project applications received and recommended by project type.

Project Type	Applications	Recommended LTA Projects	Recommended for Alternative Support
Comprehensive Plan	11	4	1
Economic Development and Transportation	4	0	2
Freight and Land Use	1	1	0
Housing	4	1	2
Multimodal	7	1	3
Parking	1	1	0
Parks and Open Space	2	0	0
Planning Priorities Report	1	1	0
Subarea or Corridor	15	5	1
Sustainability, Agriculture, or Water	3	0	1
TOD	6	0	0
Transit	4	0	0
Zoning	12	3	1
Other	3	0	1

The table below shows the number of project applications received and recommended by county, based on the County in which the largest portion of the study area falls.

County	Applications	Recommended LTA Projects	Recommended for Alternative Support
Cook	35	8	7
DuPage	5	1	1
Kane	6	1	1
Kendall	1	1	0
Lake	8	1	1
McHenry	9	1	1
Will	7	4	0
Regional	3	0	1

The chart below shows the number of project applications received and recommended by community cohort.

Community Cohort	Applications	Recommended LTA Projects	Recommended for Alternative Support
Cohort 1, Low and very low need	33	6	4
Cohort 2, Moderate need	15	4	3
Cohort 3 and 4, High and very high need	26	7	5

The table below lists the applications evaluated first by the RTA.

Sponsor	Project
Aurora	TOD Plan
Beach Park	Metra Station Feasibility Checklist Study
Cary	TOD Plan
Chicago Department of Transportation	31 st Street Little Village Corridor Study
Chicago Transit Authority	Red Line Extension TOD Planning
Crystal Lake	TOD Plan
Itasca	Downtown Strategic Action Plan Update
Metra	Station Optimization Analysis
Pace	I-294 Tri-State Transit Market and Facilities Assessment
Park Forest (Richton Park, Matteson)	Transportation Alternatives Study
Riverside	TOD Zoning Code Update
Woodstock	Metra Railyard Relocation

List of Recommended LTA Projects

In total, staff recommends 17 new projects for the LTA program:

Sponsor	Project	Assistance Type
Arlington Heights*	Livable Communities Plan	Staff Led
Bartlett and Streamwood	Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	Staff Led
Berkeley	Prairie Path and Taft Avenue Corridor Plan	Staff Led
Burlington	Comprehensive Plan Update	Staff Led
Central Council of Mayors*	Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure Plan	Staff Led / Consultant Support
Austin Coming Together	Central Avenue Corridor Study	Staff Led
Elevated Chicago	TOD Planning and Capacity Building	Staff Led / Consultant Support
DuPage County*	Lake Street Corridor Overlay Zoning	Consultant Led
Ford Heights	Comprehensive Plan	Staff Led
Fox Lake*	Corridor Zoning Update	Consultant Led
Lemont	TOD Parking and Civic Space Study	Staff Led
McHenry County	Fox River Corridor Plan	Staff Led
Minooka*	Comprehensive Plan Update	Consultant Led
Monee*	Comprehensive Plan Update	Consultant Led
Oswego	Unified Development Code	Staff Led
Peotone	Planning Priorities Report	Staff Led
Will County	Comprehensive Freight Transportation and Land Use Plan	Staff Led / Consultant Support

*Contingent on funding availability

List of Applicants Recommended To Receive Alternative Support

In an effort to expand the technical assistance CMAP offers to the region, this year staff is recommending that several Sponsors receive support and technical assistance from CMAP staff as a non-traditional LTA project.

There were several applications for assistance that did not fit into a traditional LTA project, but for which CMAP believes we can still be of significant assistance. The table below lists applicants that are recommended for abbreviated assistance from CMAP in: convening relevant partners; conducting priority setting workshops; providing subject matter expert participation in their efforts; providing capacity building training; research partnership or services; grant partnership; or other staff assistance. These projects will not receive a full allocation of LTA staff time, but could be eligible for future CMAP assistance.

Sponsor	Project	Assistance Type
Blacks in Green	Comprehensive neighborhood plan	convening relevant partners and conducting priority setting workshops

Sponsor	Project	Assistance Type
Bartlett	Exterior lighting and parking regulations	research partnership or services
Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD)	Planning and public engagement exercise	providing subject matter expert participation in their efforts
DuPage County Department of Transportation	Trail feasibility study	convening relevant partners and providing subject matter expert participation in their efforts
Evanston	Inclusive growth framework plan	providing subject matter expert participation in their efforts
Forest Preserves of Cook County	Multimodal transportation access plan	convening relevant partners and providing subject matter expert participation in their efforts
Geneva	Developer Panel – State Street	convening relevant partners
John Jones Academic Association	Aviation hug – community cultural center	convening relevant partners
Lake County HUD 5-Year Consolidated Plan Update	Deliverable review	grant partnership
McHenry County	Comprehensive agricultural resource guide	providing subject matter expert participation in their efforts
Posen	Comprehensive/mobility plan	conducting priority setting workshops
Richton Park	Economic development incentives	research partnership or services

Applications Not Recommended For Assistance

The table below lists the applicants that are not recommended to receive technical assistance at this time. There were many great applications received during this call, and unfortunately funding restricts the number awards for assistance CMAP can accommodate in a given cycle. These sponsors eligible for future CMAP assistance and are encouraged to apply in subsequent calls for projects.

Sponsor	Project
Algonquin	Parks and recreation comprehensive master plan
Bartlett	Comprehensive plan update
Calumet City	Interstate interchange feasibility study
Chicago Heights	Sustainable water planning study
Chicago Ridge	Interstate interchange economic impact study
Friends of the Parks	Lakefront parks system planning
Kids First Chicago	Transportation access plan - CPS
North Branch Works	Infrastructure accessibility study
Countryside	Comprehensive plan
East Dundee	Fox River corridor subarea plan
Geneva	Zoning Code Update

Sponsor	Project
Joliet	Site plan and RFP development
La Grange	Community character analysis
Lake in the Hills	Unified Development Ordinance and Zoning Development
Lake Zurich	Zoning and Land Development Code Update
Lakemoor	Town center plan
Lakewood	Corridor plan – Route 147
Libertyville	Developer panel – Milwaukee and Peterson
Libertyville	Developer panel – Brownfield site
Mokena	Comprehensive plan update
Palos Park	Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance
Posen	Real-time emergency displays
Prairie Grove - WITHDRAWN	Comprehensive Plan
Roselle	Zoning ordinance update
Schiller Park	Comprehensive plan
Villa Park	Comprehensive plan update
Waukegan	Unified Development Ordinance
Western Springs	Subarea study – Gilbert and Ogden
Western Springs	Subarea study – 55 th and Wolf Road

Recommended LTA Projects - Project Summaries

Project summaries below are organized by geography.

City of Chicago

Austin Coming Together

Assistance developing a **corridor plan** along Central Avenue from Roosevelt Road to Grand Avenue in the Austin Community Area to address arts and culture, access to parks and open space, economic development, beautification, transportation infrastructure improvements, housing, arts and culture, and public safety.

Elevated Chicago

Elevated Chicago requests the development of an **implementation strategy** for the Elevated Chicago Workplan, focusing on CTA station access, traffic and circulation, community safety, equity, placemaking, and beautification. This assistance would include creating an action plan for one station including general principles and concrete, feasible interventions for improvements at eHubs. Assistance would also include a public outreach strategy to generate public interest and engage partners to identify implementable recommendations.

North / Northwest Cook

Arlington Heights

Guidance developing a **livable communities plan** to address the livability needs of the village's growing senior population, as well as the entire community. This plan would

assess housing, transportation, open space, social participation, social inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information, and community and health services to create an action plan of goals, objectives, and implementable activities to increase the livability of the community for all residents. This assistance would consolidate the information, findings, and recommendations of existing plans, including Maturing of America, Homes for a Changing Region, Senior Housing Needs Assessment, and the Northwest Community Healthcare Health Needs Assessment.

Bartlett/Streamwood

Guidance developing a multijurisdictional **bike plan** to assist both villages with an inventory of existing bike and pedestrian facilities, identifying key gaps, prioritizing new bike paths and connections, maintaining existing bike infrastructure, and promote biking throughout both villages.

West Cook

Berkeley

Assistance developing a **corridor and parks plan** in partnership with the Village of Hillside and the Berkeley Park District that leverages the Prairie Path bike trail and surrounding land uses along the Taft Avenue corridor. This plan would reimagine the existing parks surrounding the bike path, explore green infrastructure connections, promote economic development, inclusive growth, corridor reinvestment, and improve access to the bike path.

Central Council of Mayors

Assistance identifying local and regional stormwater problem and/or risk areas within the Central Council boundaries. This work would merge with the Council's comprehensive transportation plan to prioritize and maximize the efficiency and efficacy of capital improvement projects for the Council. This project would utilize the Flood Susceptibility Index to identify priority areas for further investigation through stormwater master planning, areas where new infrastructure could provide impact, open/vacant space for flood mitigation, problem areas where flooding affects transportation, and provide recommendations on new flood mitigation resolutions/ordinances.

South Cook

Ford Heights

Assistance developing a comprehensive plan that advances Envision Ford Heights, a planning effort aimed at revitalizing the community and addressing challenges related to land use and development, transportation and mobility, economic development, housing, and natural resources. The comprehensive plan would be a guiding document that establishes targeted and implementable recommendations. In order for the plan to be implementable, the village is also interested in building organizational capacity and obtaining professional development support through CMAP and other sources.

Lemont (also in DuPage and Will Counties)

Assistance developing a **parking utilization and civic space study** for downtown Lemont. The study will focus on assessing local parking needs, analyzing trends, exploring new technologies, and identifying improvements in policy and infrastructure

to support the goals outlined in Lemont’s Strategic Plan, Active Transportation Plan, and Wayfinding Master Plan. This project will engage the public and enhance economic and transit-oriented development initiatives in downtown Lemont.

DuPage County

DuPage County

Assistance implementing recommendations in the 2014 Lake Street Corridor Land Use Plan, in partnership with the Villages of Hanover Park, Roselle, and Bloomingdale. The proposed project includes the creation of a **unified overlay zoning district** for the Lake Street corridor to coordinate land objectives and zoning regulations of the County and partner municipalities.

Kane County

Burlington

Assistance updating the **comprehensive plan** to align the village’s goals with current characteristics and needs, including increased land area. This update would recommend ways the village could strengthen and grow the local economy, protect and manage its natural resources, including open space and drinking water, build local capacity, collaborate with surrounding communities for mutual economic and environmental benefits, and plan for growth. Additionally, this update would take an inventory of natural resources, community facilities, transportation facilities, and planned improvements.

Kendall County

Oswego

Assistance creating a **unified development code** to regulate the future development of the community. The Village of Oswego will use the unified development code to help update the 2015 Comprehensive Plan to include best management practices for development, incorporate sustainability initiatives, update zoning codes and ordinances, and implementing safe and efficient infrastructure.

Minooka (also in Will County)

Assistance developing a **comprehensive plan** that updates the village’s plan that was developed six years ago. The Village of Minooka is seeking to create a new vision for the area due to the increased population and industrial and commercial sectors and is wanting to create a land use map and guidelines for the multi-jurisdictional community to refer to when addressing potential uses and proposed zoning actions in the village. This update will focus on topics such as land use and development, transportation and mobility, economic development, housing, multijurisdictional collaboration, natural resources, and implementation.

Lake County

Fox Lake

Assistance developing a **Form Based Code** for an approximate 2-mile commercial corridor on Route 12 that connects to the downtown area. The current Zoning Ordinance does not provide the necessary requirements or design standards that build upon the recommendations of CMAP's 2015 Planning Priorities Report and the village's Comprehensive Plan. A Form Based Code that improves the character as well as the pedestrian, bicyclist, and driver experience of Route 12 will guide the future development of the corridor.

McHenry County

McHenry County Planning and Development

Assistance developing a **comprehensive plan** that aims to utilize the Fox River as a hub for recreation, commerce, and residence. The planning area in this proposal consists of the Fox River (and directly adjacent lands) as it runs through McHenry County. The overall goal of this project is to build upon the previous Fox River planning efforts from Carpentersville to the Burtons Bridge area through two previous LTA projects. The McHenry County Planning and Development department plans to work with the City of McHenry, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the McHenry County Conservation District, and Fox Waterway Agency, to review existing plans and identify common goals and opportunities to update into a new vision for the river.

Will County

Monee

Assistance developing a **comprehensive plan** that updates the village's most recent comprehensive and supplemental plans based on recent growth trends. The Village of Monee looks to involve residents, community organizations, businesses, local developers and land owners, elected officials, and other governmental agencies and land planning institutions to incorporate strategies for historic preservation, transportation, and residential and economic development. This update will address a wide range of planning topics, included (but not limited to) freight, transportation and mobility, natural resources, land preservation and land use, water supply and demand, and economic development.

Peotone

Assistance developing a **planning priorities report** for the village during a transition period of selecting a new Village Administrator. The Village of Peotone will utilize assistance in assessing the community's positions relative to zoning and land use, municipal services, capital improvement program development, transportation/freight/transit, natural/agricultural resources, and economic development strategies.

Will County

Assistance developing a **comprehensive transportation and land use plan** for the Elwood/Joliet Supercluster that addresses a variety of topics such as transportation

infrastructure, freight/mobility, urban/commercial/industrial/logistics land use change and development, natural and agricultural resources (including water supply), environmental quality (including noise, dust, vibration, air quality, light pollution), cultural resources, and economic development.

Recommended To Receive Alternative Support - Project Summaries

Project summaries below are organized by geography.

City of Chicago

Blacks in Green

Assistance developing a **comprehensive neighborhood plan** for the Woodlawn neighborhood to track economic development effectiveness, reverse the health/wealth gap, garner local/national government support, and continue to implement and scale BIG's Sustainable Square Mile model to encourage local economic development. This project would include data collection, existing conditions analysis, best practices, public input, and a review of the Sustainable Square Mile plan to identify opportunities for implementation.

Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD)

Guidance to undertake a **planning and public engagement exercise** to identify feasible, creative, and community-supported ideas as part of a larger city effort to reactivate the Boulevard system throughout the city. This would include a public participation process that invites community groups and teams to propose temporary examples of their best ideas for encouraging active Boulevard use to showcase at a city-sponsored festival, and a focus on connecting the Boulevard system to the existing transit network, rivers, bikeways, and pedestrian networks. Consideration for the historic and passive nature of the existing Boulevards will also be incorporated into the planning exercise.

John Jones Academic Association

Guidance developing a plan to create an **aviation hub** in the 18th Ward of Chicago, capitalizing on this area's aviation history. The applicant would like to establish the 18th Ward as a historical aviation site, and garner local support for the construction of a Community Cultural Center and Museum of Aviation that provides workshops, trainings, and a curriculum connected to schools located in the Ward.

North / Northwest Cook

Bartlett (also in DuPage and Kane Counties)

Assistance creating and adopting **exterior lighting regulations** in the village's zoning code to set limits of light pollution and conserve energy while minimizing glare, light trespass, and skyglow. These standards would be updated for both residential and non-residential zoning districts throughout the village to outline types of fixtures, fixture shielding, correlated color temperature, site lumen limits, light trespass, and restrictions for specialty purposed lighting.

Assistance updating the **parking regulations** in the village's zoning ordinance to more closely match the current market and parking demands throughout village. Updating the

parking regulations throughout the village would support the development of a compact, walkable community outlined in the village's TOD plan.

Evanston

Assistance creating an **inclusive growth framework plan**, which would address the City's ongoing initiatives to create an affordable housing plan, an equity and empowerment plan, and devote resources to workforce development for unemployed or underemployed adults. The framework plan would help to bring these ideas together and guide inclusive growth for the entire community. The City anticipates extensive and innovative outreach to engage community members.

South Cook

Posen

Guidance on ways to fund and develop the **Posen Crisis Connection** that the village has been in the process of formulating. The Village of Posen is creating this project as a way to implement real-time electronic signage that can help highway travelers with warning of traffic congestions, accidents, incidents, roadwork zones, and speed limits, as well as assisting with parking guidance and information systems to direct drivers to available parking spaces in the area.

Assistance developing a **comprehensive/mobility plan** for the area that includes bicycle and pedestrian master plans, wayfinding, and bikeway planning and design elements. Another area of interest would be connecting six parks with a master health and wellness plan included with the other plans.

Richton Park

Assistance with a **municipal economic development incentive application, assessment, & implementation plan** to serve as a resource guide to encourage consistent consideration of requests for economic development incentives, specifically in regards to transit-oriented development, commercial/industrial land uses, and corporate/institutional needs.

DuPage County

DuPage County Department of Transportation

Assistance conducting a **feasibility study** for the central portion of the East Branch DuPage River Greenway Trail, which is bordered by the Great Western Trail to the North, and Illinois 56 (Butterfield Road) to the South. The trail's conceptual alignment passes through three forest preserves, 2.5 miles of Commonwealth Edison right of way, intersects two regional trails, crosses three state highways, and is partly located in a floodplain.

Assistance is needed with identifying an alignment of the East Branch DuPage River Greenway Trail that is technically feasible, environmentally sensitive, and is the consensus trail alignment by key stakeholders.

Kane County

Geneva

Assistance convening a **developer discussion panel** to identify barriers to redevelopment of certain sites within the East State Street TIF district, which expires in 2022. The goal is to solidify the East State Street corridor as an asset for the residents and bring long lasting

economic benefit to the community. The City is also interested in obtaining a suite of accompanying recommendations, and input from stakeholders in the study area.

Lake County

Lake County

Assistance developing a **HUD 5-Year Consolidated Plan Update** that pairs transportation access to affordable housing projects and employment, in order to create a targeted funding strategy. Expertise is needed with examining transportation needs of Lake County through the lens of housing and employment for low- and moderate-income individuals, and with developing metrics that can measure the impact of the improvement spending strategy.

McHenry County

McHenry County

Guidance on ways to create and maintain a **comprehensive agricultural resource guide** that would benefit municipalities, agencies, residents, and farmers. Resources available to the public would include community gardens, CSAs, farmers markets, training programs, policy guides, food hub opportunities, as well as composting and waste disposal for various produces for all user groups targeted.

Regional

Forest Preserves of Cook County

Assistance developing a **multimodal transportation access plan** that identifies ways to access the Forest Preserves through the use of public transportation, bicycling and pedestrian routes. The desired outcomes of the plan include: (1) ensuring access to the Forest Preserves is included in all local and regional transportation planning and initiatives (2) identifying key forest preserve sites to focus multimodal transportation planning efforts (3) identifying and engaging key stakeholders responsible for improving multimodal transportation access to the preserves (4) providing recommendations for implementing a strategic plan.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval

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