



Regional Transportation Authority

175 West Jackson Blvd.
Suite 1650
Chicago, Illinois 60604
312-913-3200
rtachicago.org

Board Agenda

Planning & Administration Committee

Thursday, February 20, 2020

LOCATION CHANGE - CMAP Board Room,
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

9:00 a.m.

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of Minutes

2.a. From the meeting held on August 22, 2019

3. Information Items

3.a. Strategic Plan Update & Presentation of Quarterly Performance Report - Fourth Quarter 2019

Description:

RTA staff will make a presentation of regional performance metrics for 2019 compared to 2018. This report is presented at the same Board meeting at which the Board is being asked to review the quarterly operating budgets of the Service Boards for substantial accordance with budget. Complete performance results are not yet available and, therefore, are not included with this memo. During the same presentation, staff will also provide an annual report on progress made toward the vision and goals of the 2018-2023 Regional Transit Strategic Plan, *Invest in Transit*, over the last year.

3.b. Presentation of the 2020 Community Planning Program of Projects

Description:

After reviewing each application and receiving feedback from the Service Boards, CMAP and other partner agencies, staff selected nine projects to pursue as part of the 2020 Community Planning program. The projects represent a diverse selection of larger planning projects such as TOD plans in Harvey and Elburn and a transit enhancement study with the CTA, and smaller implementation projects such as a TOD zoning code update in Hanover Park. A full listing of the 2020 projects including brief project descriptions is attached.

ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

The **Planning & Administration Committee** of the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority met in public session on **Thursday, August 22, 2019**, at 8:35 a.m., in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois, pursuant to notice.

Committee Chairman Fuentes presided.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present (7): Andalcio, Carey, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Pang, Sager

Other Board members present: Coulson, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, Troiani, Chairman Dillard

Approval of minutes from the meeting held on March 21, 2019

Director Frega moved, and Director Higgins seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on March 21, 2019 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

6 Yeas: Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Ross, Sager

1 Absent: Pang

Ordinance approved the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program and Projects

Ms. Heather Mullens provided an overview of the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program, which is a federally funded program that provides assistance to public transportation projects that focus on enhancing mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Ms. Mullens requested approval of the ordinance authorizing implementation of 11 new projects selected as part of the FY2018-FY2019 Program of Projects. The proposed 11 projects include: Association for Individual Development – Ride in Kane; City of Naperville – Ride DuPage to Work; DuPage County – Transportation to Work; Kendall County – Kendall Area Transit; Little City Foundation – Transportation Program; McHenry County – McRide; Will County – Will Ride; Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities – Ensuring Access to the Community; Clearbrook – Community Connections for Adults with Disabilities; CTF Illinois – Transportation Services for People with Disabilities; and, Pace – Regional Call Center.

Director Lewis asked if the 14 applications we received was a typical number of applications. Ms. Mullens responded that 14 is the average number we received. Director Lewis then inquired if we think applications may increase in the future as the senior population increases. She responded that we are already working with established coordinated services in all the counties but Cook County. It is possible that Cook County could develop a new service and come in for funding. What is more likely to happen is that the amount of funding requested will increase as each of the coordinated services grow with new partners and increased ridership.

Director Coulson asked why funding for Kendall County was included in the program of projects. Ms. Mullens explained that Section 5310 funding covers the MPO and urbanized area, which includes Kendall County, and is not limited to the RTA service area.

Director Andalcio moved, and Director Frega seconded that the proposed ordinance be recommended for Board approval. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

7 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Pang, Sager

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting of the Planning & Administration Committee, Director Higgins moved, and Director Carey seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

7 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Pang, Sager

The meeting ended at 8:45 a.m.

AUDREY MACLENNAN
Secretary of the Authority



**Regional
Transportation
Authority**

To: Board of Directors

From: Leanne P. Redden, Executive Director

Date: February 7, 2020

**Re: Quarterly Performance Report – Fourth Quarter 2019
and Strategic Plan Annual Update**

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During the February Board meeting, RTA staff will make a presentation of regional performance metrics for 2019 compared to 2018. This report is presented at the same Board meeting at which the Board is being asked to review the quarterly operating budgets of the Service Boards for substantial accordance with budget. Complete performance results are not yet available and, therefore, are not included with this memo.

During the same presentation, staff will also provide an annual report on progress made toward the vision and goals of the 2018-2023 Regional Transit Strategic Plan, *Invest in Transit*, over the last year.

Background and Previous Action

[Section 2.01a](#) of the RTA Act requires the RTA Board to adopt a Strategic Plan no less than every five years. On January 18, 2018, the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Board adopted *Invest in Transit* after a two-year development process involving the RTA Board, agency leadership, stakeholders, and public comment. *Invest in Transit* is the region's case for pursuing stable and dedicated funding streams that will enable the Transit Agencies to provide vital public transit into the future.

The original plan and related documents are available on the RTA website at <http://www.rtachicago.com/plans-programs/regional-transit-strategic-plan.html>.

Board Presentation and Format

The purpose of the February presentation is to provide the regular quarterly performance reports with an integrated annual update to the RTA Board on the progress that the region has made toward the goals of *Invest in Transit* over the last year.

Prepared by: Capital Programming & Planning
LPR/JL/JH/PF

To: Planning & Administration Committee

From: Leanne P. Redden, Executive Director

Date: February 11, 2020

Re: Release of the 2020 Community Planning Program of Projects



**Regional
Transportation
Authority**

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Background

The Community Planning program provides funding and technical assistance to local governments and the RTA Service Boards for transit-focused planning studies and implementation activities. Eligible planning projects include transit-oriented development (TOD) plans, mobility plans and transportation corridor plans. Eligible implementation projects include zoning code updates, developer discussion panels and plans to establish special funding districts. The RTA has provided funding and planning assistance for over 200 projects through the Community Planning program since 1998. Project details on active projects and implementation updates on completed projects can be found on [RTAMS](#).

Purpose

In September 2019, the RTA and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) launched a joint Call for Projects for the 2020 Community Planning and Local Technical Assistance programs. Applications were due on October 17; the RTA received 14 transit-related applications for the Community Planning program. Each application was reviewed by RTA staff who also followed up with each applicant to discuss their application in more detail. Applications were evaluated based on each project's alignment with *Invest in Transit* and with the recommendations of the region's comprehensive plan ON TO 2050, feasibility of the proposed project, and the applicant's ability to implement. Applications for implementation projects were also evaluated for their ability to implement a recommendation from an adopted plan.

After reviewing each application and receiving feedback from the Service Boards, CMAP and other partner agencies, staff selected nine projects to pursue as part of the 2020 Community Planning program. The projects represent a diverse selection of larger planning projects such as TOD plans in Harvey and Elburn and a transit enhancement study with the CTA, and smaller implementation projects such as a TOD zoning code update in Hanover Park. A full listing of the 2020 projects including brief project descriptions is attached.

From January 10 to February 8 the RTA held a Public Comment Period for the 2020 Community Planning projects. A summary of comments received will be provided at the Board Meeting.

All applicants will be notified whether their application was accepted or not after the February RTA Board meeting. RTA staff will then begin meeting with each of the applicants this spring to start scoping their projects. All projects are expected to be underway by the end of the year.

Budget

The total program budget is \$979,000 and will be funded through a combination of federal Unified Work Program funds (\$233,000), existing RTA funds (\$519,000) and local matching funds (\$227,000) from the applicants.

Next Steps

No Board action is required at this time; RTA Board approval will be sought for individual project contracts as necessary.

Prepared by: Capital Programming & Planning
LPR/JL/LN/HBM/MSH

Attachment

2020 Community Planning Program of Projects

For more information on a project, click on the applicant name in the chart below to view the project application.

Applicant	Project Type	Project Description
Calumet Park	Developer Discussion Panel	The Village requests a Developer Discussion Panel be convened to assist its efforts to attract transit- oriented development (TOD) at a vacant ~6-acre site located directly adjacent to the Metra Electric Ashland Avenue station. The Village would like to benefit from developer expertise on how to attract and consider development proposals that optimize the neighboring transit asset and align with local and regional goals.
Chicago Department of Planning and Development	Transit Corridor Plan	The City requests support and assistance from the RTA and CMAP with a city-led initiative to provide transformative changes along neglected commercial corridors within select south and west community areas. Work along the high-priority corridors would include identifying ways for focusing resources and priorities to the benefit of the communities.
Chicago Transit Authority	Transit Improvement Plan	The CTA is seeking funding to develop a framework for bus enhancements that identifies key routes for improvements and concepts to make bus service a more attractive travel option in the North Branch area of Chicago. The plan would be developed in coordination with other transportation analyses in the corridor and include a study of a new transitway connecting the area to downtown. The combined analyses would provide guidance for the City and developers and would facilitate implementation for a program of transportation improvements that can accommodate the expected growth in the area.
Chicago Ward 45	Developer Discussion Panel	This project will assist the 45 th Ward with a Developer Discussion Panel to gather guidance and advice from development experts. The objective is to attract development to vacant sites and encourage infill development. The Developer Discussion Panel will help the Ward Alderman and the City determine goals and needs in order to best utilize vacant land along North Milwaukee Avenue near the Jefferson Park Transportation Center.
DuPage County Department of Transportation	County Mobility Plan	DuPage County is seeking to develop a framework for its first county-wide mobility plan. The plan would be multi-modal in nature, analyze current gaps in the transportation network, respond to the changing transportation market and address the needs of employers in the County to attract quality labor at all employment levels.

Elburn	TOD Plan	The Village is seeking assistance to develop a TOD plan for the areas near the Elburn Metra station and downtown Elburn. Plan objectives include identifying ways to unify the downtown business district with TOD development south of the station into a connected and vibrant area that serves the entire town, is an area shopping and dining destination, and incorporates the Metra station as a focal point.
Hanover Park	TOD Zoning Code Update	Hanover Park requests assistance to update the zoning code for its Village Center TOD area to enable the type of development envisioned in its TOD Plan. Zoning revisions would address parking requirements, number of dwelling units per acre, allowable land uses and the development review process.
Harvey	TOD Plan Update	The City is requesting an update to its TOD Plan that was completed in 2005 for areas surrounding the Harvey Transportation Center, including the Metra station, the adjacent civic campus and points west to connect to residential areas and the University of Chicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial Hospital. The plan would address population loss, leverage improvements underway at the Transportation Center and provide new insights to high-density, transit-supportive, quality infill development.
University Park	TOD Plan Update	The Village is requesting an update to its TOD plan that was completed in 2002 for the University Park Metra station. The study would include an analysis of surrounding land uses and zoning codes, local road safety improvements and a last mile mobility strategy.