

Form Name: Community Planning
Submission Time: March 13, 2024 1:32 pm
Browser: Chrome 122.0.0.0 / Windows
IP Address: 64.7.100.162
Unique ID: 1204340068
Location: 42.0354, -87.737

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For which project type are you applying? (Choose one – You may apply for more than one type of assistance by completing a separate application form.) Transportation Safety Plan

Transportation Safety Plans

Describe the proposed study area boundaries for your project using streets, geographic features, jurisdictional boundaries, etc. Please specify if the study area spans multiple jurisdictions and include any existing public transit services, greenways, or trails that are in the study area:

The proposed study area centers on Southwest Highway and its intersections with Timber Lane and 121st Street, in Palos Park. Specifically, the boundaries of the study areas would be Timber Lane from 119th Street at the north to Southwest Highway at the south and would then follow 121st Street running from Southwest Highway at the west to the Palos Heights Bike Path at the east. The proposed study area includes the Palos Park Metra Station (the northerly access of the Metra Station is off of 121st Street) and the study area would also include the Palos Heights Bike Path. The Village's Bicycle and Trail Plan identified this corridor to a provide a connection between the Cal Sag Trail System and the Tinley Creek Trail System. A portion of the proposed study area would be in the City of Palos Heights (the easterly portion of 121st Street) and Southwest Highway is under IDOT's jurisdiction.

In addition to those outcomes, what are the priority goals you would like the plan to address? (Choose up to three)

Identify strategies for pedestrian, bicycle, and ADA compliant crossings
Redesign problematic intersections
Identify and propose solutions for gaps in the bicycle network

Does the proposed project benefit groups who have been historically disadvantaged, or residents with limited proficiency in English?

Yes

If yes, please describe:

According to CMAP's Community Data Snapshot for Palos Park (July 2023) 9.4% of the Village's population is identified as Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race). Additionally, 2022 ACS 5-Year estimate data from the U.S. Census Bureau notes that 14.1% of the population in Census Tract 8239.01 aged 5 years and older speaks a language other than English at home with 5.7% speaking English less than "very well". Census Tract 8239.01 is one of the two Census Tracts that the proposed study area is located in. In the other Census Tract (8239.03) 11.3% speak a language other than English at home, with 2.1% speaking English less than "very well". Additionally, the Census ACS data shows 9.2% of Census Tract 8239.01 "with a disability" and 13% of Census Tract 8239.03 "with a disability".

Are there existing projects within the study area that might affect traffic, mobility, or safety? (i.e., transportation or mobility studies, redevelopment plans/projects, road re/construction projects, storm water management, economic development plans, etc.)

Yes

If so, please identify them: The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is currently in Phase 1 engineering on a project for resurfacing 119th Street from LaGrange Road to IL Route 83 (Cal Sag Road). This project would include the installation of a shared bicycle lane on 119th Street. The inclusion of the shared bicycle lane in this project is due to a recommendation from the Village's Bikeway and Trails Plan from 2018. This plan also identifies the 121st Street/Timber Lane as a priority project.

How well is your existing bicycle and/or pedestrian infrastructure used by the community? Village residents are generally active bicyclists. The Village has a distinct advantage due to the abundance of forest preserves in the vicinity and access to trail systems including the regional Cal-Sag multi-purpose trail system. The Village has an active "Palos Pedalers" bicycle club. However, improvements in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure throughout the Village is required in order to better facilitate mobility within the Village as well as access to the regional trail systems. Streets in the Village typically do not have sidewalks, and there are areas where there is a lack of safe bicycle/pedestrian crossings of major thoroughfares, which impacts connectivity.

If not, why? (Select all that apply) Unsafe conditions / major barriers
Perceived lack of safety
Lack of connectivity

Are you able to provide CMAP staff with local crash reports? Yes

Would your community be open to pursuing the advancement of equity as it relates to this project? Yes

Please tell us if you have reviewed the contribution schedule above and understand that if selected, your community will be required to pay the contribution amount indicated: Yes

Please indicate your agreement to these requirements: Yes

Closing Questions

How did you find out about the call for projects? (Select all that apply) Website

What resources did you find helpful as you apply for the call? (Select all that apply) Web page FAQ

How difficult was it to fill out this application? Very easy
