

2019/2020 Local Technical Assistance and Community Planning Programs

Application Number: 25

Project Title: Harvey TOD Plan Update

Applicant: City of Harvey



Project Description:

The City seeks assistance from RTA and/or CMAP on a TOD Plan Update. We intend to build upon the 2005 TOD Plan to account for changing local context - in particular to develop new strategies to address (a) population loss, (b) complementary activities to leverage improvements underway at the Harvey Transportation Center, (c) evolution in urban planning best practices.

Regarding (c), the City hopes to obtain from urban planning experts at RTA/CMAP new insights on infill development strategies and activities that would foster high-quality, high-density, transit-supportive development. This might reflect recent TOD successes/case studies at other communities in the greater Chicago area.

The Transportation Center and the adjacent Metra Electric Station serve as a focal point for future redevelopment creating a linkage between transit and development. Moreover, the TOD Update would incorporate improvements PACE is planning for the Harvey Transportation Center. According to PACE, the 20-year-old Harvey Transportation Center will be rehabbed and upgraded over the next several years. Facility improvements include rehabbing/upgrading pavement, lighting, platforms, shelters, operator restrooms, structures and systems. These improvements are needed to support the implementation of Rapid Transit service on the Pulse Halsted and 159th Street Lines in addition to the Tri-State Express Bus service.

The TOD Update would also review improving mobility within the study area such as pedestrian access including sidewalks, pedestrian street crosswalks, pedestrian signals and lighting. In addition, the study will recognize and incorporate findings from the currently planned Rideshare Pilot Program within the Harvey area. The program provides for a 12-month, late night subsidized on-demand transportation with supplementary mobility options to riders during evening hours when it is difficult to ride public transportation.

An optional element for the application request is to complement the TOD Plan Update with a TOD Developer Panel. If this is were added to the scope of work, the City would work with RTA/CMAP on a TOD Developer Panel immediately after the TOD Plan Update is completed. This additional step would contribute to the long-term success of the TOD Plan Update's implementation.

Project Location: The area under consideration is a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) area. It is approximately the same TOD area as defined in a November 2005 TOD Plan prepared for the RTA (see: <http://www.rtams.org/rtams/planningStudy.jsp?id=78>). It covers the Harvey Transportation Center (PACE), the City's primary Metra station, and adjacent City Hall campus and it extends west to connect to residential areas and importantly the UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial Hospital.

The UChicago Medicine Ingalls Memorial Hospital serves as an anchor for the community in terms of high-quality jobs and future investment, with an opportunity to strengthen "last mile" connectivity to the PACE and Metra station.