



HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative
Partnership for Sustainable Communities
Cultivating Vital, High Opportunity Places

Chicago, Illinois

GO TO 2040 Local Technical Assistance Program

Planning for the Future

Chicago and the seven-county region of northeastern Illinois is a global center of economic activity. With the goal of sustainable future prosperity, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) has prepared a long-range comprehensive plan, [GO TO 2040](#), that outlines the necessary policies and investment decisions to support an additional two million people and one million new jobs over the next 30 years.

The need to implement this vision is great. Recent growth has occurred on undeveloped land on the region's fringe, straining infrastructure systems. At the same time, the region's transit system carries fewer passengers than it did 20 years ago, with trends suggesting that most housing and job growth will occur in areas without access to transit.

Chicago's regional blueprint is projected to reduce the need for local road maintenance, saving about \$1.5 billion.

Getting to GO TO 2040

Opportunities to reverse these trends exist, but the region's municipalities need new resources for implementation, especially given that the area's 1,200 units of local government have considerable authority over land use and related decisions.

"Development decisions are made locally, so we needed to translate the regional principles in GO TO 2040 to the local level," according to Bob Dean, CMAP's Deputy Executive Director for Local Planning.



With 2010 funding from the HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative, CMAP is building local capacity through a Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program. This has created a

pool of resources for communities across the region to draw from as they address interconnected problems related to housing, transportation, and land use.

Description

The [Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning](#) and partners are supporting neighborhood-based projects through its [Local Technical Assistance \(LTA\) program](#), making implementation of the region's comprehensive, long-term plan a reality.

Grants

2010 HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant: \$4,250,000

Partner Commitments

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning: \$6 million

The [Chicago Community Trust](#): \$1.5 million

In-kind contributions from many other partners

Major Partners

Center for Neighborhood Technology, Chicago Community Trust, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Metropolitan Planning Council, Openlands, Regional Transportation Authority

Benefits

- Supporting 100 local governments and organizations to address local transportation, land use, housing, and economic development needs
- Advance long-range vision and plan through local, place-based implementation
- Focus development on 100,000 acres of underutilized land to accommodate projected growth over the next 30 years
- The Chicago Metro Agency for Planning received a 2013 National Planning Excellence Award and was recognized by the Urban Land Institute

Contact Information

<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/lt>

www.hud.gov/sustainability



Homes for a Changing Region

The LTA has supported a number of local initiatives to date, including [Homes for a Changing Region](#). This project provides analysis of housing supply and demand to inter-jurisdictional groups of local governments – usually, four to five municipalities at a time – to help them plan for future housing needs and recover from the housing downturn. In partnership with the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) and Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC), CMAP is assisting multiple communities through three inter-jurisdictional groups in its *Homes for a Changing Region* project..

Sustainability Planning in Park Forest

As one of the first planned communities in the nation, the Village of Park Forest has a history of sustainable development. Recently, the diverse village has been struggling with population and job losses. With CMAP's assistance, the Village prepared the [Growing Green: Park Forest Sustainability Plan](#), which recommends actions in areas as diverse as open space, housing, transportation, health, the arts, and many others. Following the plan's adoption in 2012, the Village received a grant from The Chicago Community Trust to hire a full-time staff person to focus on implementing the plan's recommendations.



A New Vision for Fairmont

During the 1920s, the unincorporated Fairmont neighborhood of Will County provided housing for workers employed by neighboring industries. It has developed unevenly over the decades, however, and now faces high poverty, unemployment, and a declining population. Through the LTA program, CMAP worked with the Will County Land Use Department and Fairmont residents to develop the *Fairmont Plan*, which recommends actions to spur reinvestment and address the governance challenges facing unincorporated communities. Since the plan's adoption in 2012, a sidewalk serving Fairmont's elementary school has begun to be constructed, bus shelters have been installed, and work is underway to install a community garden.

HUD SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE IN ILLINOIS

Communities throughout the Prairie State are leveraging funding from the HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative. The [Tri-County Regional Planning Commission of Peoria](#), for example, is using a \$1.2 million grant from 2010 to create an economic development strategy that uses the region's assets to promote opportunity, innovation, entrepreneurship, and prosperity. Meanwhile, the [Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning](#) is using its 2010 grant of \$600,000 to develop regional governance models and an integrated planning approach to economic and workforce development.

Several cities are benefiting from Community Challenge grants, like **Freeport**, which received \$295,419 in 2011 to advance a dynamic initiative to create jobs and position their community within the global economy. Other recipients include the **Village of Oak Park** (on behalf of the West Cook County Housing Collaborative), and the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, whose \$2 million grant from 2010 is fostering industrial job growth and stimulating residential development along transit systems.

