



Community Planning Program



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Local Technical Assistance Program

Application form: Community Planning program and Local Technical Assistance program

DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesday, June 26, 2013

This application form is online at www.rtachicago.com/applications. You may submit the form by email to applications@rtachicago.com.

Upon receipt of application, you will receive an e-mail verifying that your application has been received.

1. Name of Applicant:

CITY OF HARVARD
201 W. DIGGINS P.O. BOX 310
HARVARD, IL. 60033

2. Main Contact for Application (please include name, phone number and email):

DAVID A. NELSON CITY ADMINISTRATOR
1-815-943-6468
NELSON@CITYOFHARVARD.ORG

3. Type of Applicant (please check any that apply):

Local government

Multijurisdictional group* \longrightarrow Please list the members of the group (including government and nongovernmental organizations):

Nongovernmental organization* \longrightarrow Name of local government partner(s):

*Applications submitted by multijurisdictional groups and nongovernmental organizations must include a letter indicating support from each relevant local government. See the FAQs for more information. Nongovernmental applicants are strongly encouraged to contact CMAP or the RTA prior to submitting their application to discuss their project and the demonstration of local support.

4. Project Type (please check any that apply):

Please check all statements below that describe characteristics of your project. (This will help us determine whether your project is best handled by CMAP or RTA.)

- My project involves preparation of a plan.
- My project helps to implement a past plan.
- My project links land use, transportation, and housing.
- My project has direct relevance to public transit and supports the use of the existing transit system.
- My project is not directly related to transportation or land use, but implements GO TO 2040 in other ways.

5. Project Location:

Please provide a brief description of the location of your project. You may include a map if that helps to describe location, but this is not required. If your project helps to implement a past plan, please include a link to that plan.

The location would take place in the corporate limits of the City of Harvard and 1 ½ miles around the corporate limits. http://www.cityofharvard.org/info_maps.asp

6. Project Description:

Please tell us what you would like to do in your community, and what assistance is needed. If you have more than one idea, please submit a separate application for each project. Please be specific, but also brief (less than two pages per project idea)—we simply want to have a basic understanding of what you want to do. CMAP and RTA staff will follow-up with you if we need any additional information to fully understand your proposed project.

The City of Harvard, (Population 9,447) is proposing that its current comprehensive land use plan be re-written.

The City of Harvard last updated its comprehensive land use plan in 1994 upon the arrival of a large electronic manufacturer. In the following months a 1.5 million square foot plant was constructed on the City's northern boundary. At that time the city prepared a plan to address our future with the plan that this manufacture would still be in operation. The manufacturing plant is currently vacant, and has been for the last ten years.

Since 1994 the City of Harvard has reviewed the comprehensive land use plan on three separate occasions with the last being in 2006. We have been having discussions about preparing a new plan that is more reflective of today's situation and goals. Unfortunately, with the state of the economy and Harvard's smaller tax base (30% loss of property value since 2010) lower incomes of its residents, and lower revenues for the City, the comprehensive land use plan has lacked funding for a re-write. Since the 1994 comprehensive plan was devised the 1.5 million manufacturing plant was under construction and 5,000 people were being interviewed, outside investment was prevalent, and the overall economy was on an upward cycle. Since then the City of Harvard has experienced a 180 degree downturn. This planning effort is vitally important at this juncture, due to the changing economy of Harvard.