



Cook County 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

Goals and Objectives & Preliminary Action Steps

March 12, 2015

The following pages summarize the Cook County 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) revised goals and objectives and preliminary action steps. The first action we will take at the March 16th Advisory Committee meeting will be to finalize the LRTP goals and objectives. We will then discuss the preliminary action steps.

The preliminary action steps, which are tied to the goals and objectives, have been developed to address existing and future year transportation and mobility issues facing Cook County. We will spend the majority of the Advisory Committee (9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.) discussing these action steps. We are also interested in your thoughts regarding additional action steps that we might consider for the LRTP. We look forward to discussing these items with you at our working session on Monday.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS
69 W. Washington Suite 2300 Chicago IL 60602

CONNECTINGCOOKCOUNTY.ORG

Economic Opportunity – Invest in transportation improvements that support the economic vitality of the County by fostering local and regional competitiveness, sustained productivity, and increased access to economic productivity for all of the County’s residents and businesses.

Objectives	Action Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Working with local, regional, state, and federal agencies, align public policies and infrastructure investments with identified industry needs to incentivize private sector growth and maximize economic and employment opportunities. b) Support transportation investments and policies that link people with existing and emerging employment centers within Cook County and the region. c) Support improvements and policies across all transportation sectors (air, water, rail and roadway) to enhance the efficient movement of freight and provide connections to cargo-oriented developments. d) Prioritize infill and the reuse and renewal of transportation infrastructure to and between existing industrial areas and job centers. e) Support policies and investments that are aligned with the development of more economically productive residents, businesses, and sustainable communities. f) Improve transportation options and services in Cook County’s least advantaged communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design an integrated transportation and economic development strategy with the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development that aligns with “Planning for Progress” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cook County should advocate for more effective transit management, including improving system integration and developing permanent capital funding sources for maintaining and expanding the existing system ○ Cook County should organize itself to address a more comprehensive set of mobility issues that include both freight and public transportation and their impact on economic development • Support a balanced transportation investment strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invest in traditionally underserved and high unemployment areas to encourage redevelopment and economic development opportunities ○ Invest in established employment centers to enhance current business operations and to support future development • Conduct a countywide freight study and prepare sub-regional plans that identify strategic multimodal investments in the freight network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comprehensively address the movement of freight by all modes (truck, rail, air, and water) ○ Utilize study results to advance an integrated transportation-economic development strategy • Continue to support and implement priority CREATE projects • Support the identification and implementation of the next generation of CREATE projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reevaluate to confirm the program has the proper scope of projects ○ Promote a project selection process that places greater emphasis on enhancing regional mobility • Support efforts to coordinate regional truck permitting and routing to enhance the movements of goods, reduce the cost of doing business, and enable the growth of freight and related sectors

Accessibility and Reliability – Increase the integration, connectivity, reliability, and physical accessibility of the transportation system by developing a comprehensive multimodal system that expands mobility options for all transportation users.

Objectives	Action Steps
<p>a) Support investments and policies that increase options to sustainable alternative transportation modes, including public transportation, bicycling, and walking for people of all abilities.</p> <p>b) Improve access to regional employment and activity centers, and strengthen first- and last-mile access to regional transit hubs by establishing policies and implementing infrastructure improvements that provide affordable, convenient, and reliable multi-modal transportation options.</p> <p>c) Support policies and investments that improve affordability and reduce overall travel times, number of trips, and trip lengths for all trip purposes.</p> <p>d) Increase transit ridership and the efficient and reliable movement of people and goods through investments in customer information, system interconnection and other technologies that reduce travel delays, minimize modal conflicts and improve last-mile connections.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities to expand high capacity transit services in suburban Cook County by partnering with regional transit providers • Advocate for and support express bus service and bus-on-shoulder access on I-294 by partnering with PACE, Tollway, and local communities • Invest in infrastructure and technology that supports arterial rapid transit • Identify solutions to eliminate transit deserts within Cook County by partnering with regional transit providers • Support improved mobility services including shared mobility, infrastructure investments, and policies that address first-mile/last-mile connections to transit stations and job centers • Support efforts to coordinate and facilitate information-sharing and fare payment systems between regional transit service providers • Support regional efforts to enhance connections and streamline freight and traveler movement within the region by truck, rail, and water • Evaluate the feasibility of implementing off-peak delivery programs to reduce traffic congestion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Partner with IDOT, CMAP and CDOT to implement a pilot program

Safety – Provide a safer transportation system that balances the travel needs of all users, including the general public and area businesses and industries.

Objectives	Action Steps
<p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Improve travel safety and increase safety education and messaging within Cook County to reduce or eliminate fatalities and serious injuries. b) Reduce inter- and intra-modal conflicts to enhance safety in the movement of people and goods. c) Use innovative design strategies and technology to reduce crash exposure and improve traffic flow along major roadway segments and at intersections. d) Incorporate Complete Streets concepts into project designs to accommodate all users of all abilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce fatalities and serious injuries by working with IDOT and local officials to identify appropriate solutions • Utilize consistent standards for Cook County roadway construction and rehabilitation design practices that incorporate Complete Street designs, including land use designs that slow vehicle travel speeds and enhance the visibility and protection of non-motorized transportation users (e.g. road rechannelization, curb bulb-outs, protected bike lanes) • Encourage local municipalities to expand zoning regulations for land use designs that slow vehicle travel speeds and enhance the visibility and protection of non-motorized transportation users (e.g. road rechannelization, curb bulb-outs, protected bike lanes) • Use Cook County technical expertise to provide training on Complete Streets design concepts to municipal government departments

Land Use – Create a built environment that promotes healthy, sustainable communities through coordinated land use and transportation policies.

Objectives	Action Steps
<p>a) Promote transit-oriented development— more compact, mixed-use development within walking distance of transit nodes— with supportive transportation enhancements.</p> <p>b) Support the aggregation and growth of transportation, distribution, logistics and manufacturing businesses around existing intermodal facilities and distribution centers (i.e., cargo-oriented development) by ensuring that infrastructure meets their operational requirements.</p> <p>c) Encourage implementation of local land use and economic development plans and policies that coordinate and make efficient use of all modes of transportation and civil/storm-water infrastructure so as to maximize the benefits of transportation investments.</p> <p>d) Establish performance standard-based incentives that encourage most new local development in infill, rather than greenfield, areas as a condition of all transportation investments.</p> <p>e) Promote the preservation and renewal of pedestrian shopping districts through land use policies that restrict curb cuts and require new development to be built at the sidewalk (in designated areas) consistent with ADA standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote transit-oriented development throughout Cook County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leverage the development of the Rosemont transit center to enhance regional multimodal transit services and connections • Use County tools and incentives to encourage business development and job creation near public transit stations • Support efficient land use and development consistent with transit- and cargo-oriented development principles by conditioning transportation and community development investments on their adoption and implementation • Encourage local municipalities to expand inclusive zoning regulations (e.g. multifamily developments, accessory units), particularly within walking distance of public transportation • Target community development resources to the creation of affordable housing near public transit and job centers

Environmental Stewardship – Promote a sustainable future through a transportation system that protects, enhances and provides connections to natural, cultural, and historic resources in addition to more traditional destinations.

Objectives	Action Steps
<p>a) Incorporate sustainable infrastructure and utilize new tools, techniques, and resources to support the environment and mitigate negative impacts throughout an asset’s lifecycle.</p> <p>b) Encourage policies and programs that reduce carbon emissions and single occupancy vehicle use in the region and increase the efficiency of the transportation system.</p> <p>c) Provide, protect, and enhance connections to regional, cultural, and environmental assets (e.g., museums, forest preserves, regional trails, etc.) by eliminating barriers or modal conflicts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Cook County Building and Zoning Department to align building codes and zoning regulations with the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program • Encourage local municipalities to expand zoning regulations that support and enable land use and building design principles that align with the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program • Encourage local municipalities to expand zoning regulations for land use designs that enhance travel options of non-motorized transportation users (e.g. sidewalks and protected bike lanes) • Partner with local municipalities and regional employers to design and implement incentive programs that encourage commuters to take alternative modes of transportation

Implementation – Advance a plan that preserves, maintains, and strategically operates existing transportation assets while investing in the expansion and diversification of critical transportation services and infrastructure.

Objectives	Action Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Deliver a fiscally responsible and coordinated program of projects consistent with the state and region’s visions to meet transportation demand. b) Coordinate with public and private sector entities to support and implement projects that integrate multi-modal transportation options and land use to reduce cost and improve accessibility c) Support local and regional policies and investments that encourage a mode shift to alternative transportation modes. d) Maximize use of existing infrastructure assets to support current and future transportation needs for people and businesses. e) Leverage existing and secure new funding and financing sources to increase the number of projects that can be implemented. f) Support investments that maximize the use of our transportation system in a manner with highest benefits-to-cost ratio. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Cook County DOTH grant writing expertise to collaborate with local municipalities for state and federal transportation grant applications • Work with area transit agencies, Cook County government agencies, and municipal governments to present consistent messaging and a unified transportation vision for Cook County in all federal interactions • Work with local, regional, and state agencies to promote mode-neutral solutions to address mobility needs (i.e. funding restrictions limit solutions) • Leverage municipalities’ institutional knowledge to define mobility goals with first-mile and last-mile connectivity in multi-jurisdictional planning initiatives • Support a balanced investment strategy that allows for cost effective system expansion to serve the growth in jobs and population and sufficient efforts to renew and maintain the existing system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adopt a balanced investment strategy between maintenance and system expansion; between policy, professional expertise, and capital; across modes; across geographic areas ○ Encourage coordination of maintenance and construction projects to ensure that spending maximizes system-level utility ○ Encourage coordination and consolidation of purchasing functions and maintenance schedules among transportation departments and transit agencies • Support a sustainable funding source for transportation investments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work with elected officials to address the issue of transportation revenue diversions at both the State and County level ○ Support efforts to increase the Motor Fuel Tax and index to inflation ○ End Motor Fuel Tax diversions at the County level ○ Support planning and demonstrations that lead to VMT based user charges ○ Encourage new investment strategies, such as value capture ○ Support CMAP efforts for a dedicated regional transportation funding source ○ Support regional congestion pricing ○ Evaluate alternative funding strategies such as a sales tax on professional services • Identify high priority projects for investment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilize consistent evaluation criteria to prioritize projects<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Develop an asset management plan for DOTH pavements and bridges○ Partner with regional transportation providers to identify and support regionally significant priorities• Explore the feasibility of performance-based contracting to lower maintenance costs• Support partner agencies to achieve desired outcomes<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Leverage existing resources to support and implement regionally significant projects that enhance mobility within Cook County and the region○ Actively engage regional partners to identify new opportunities to strategically invest in multimodal solutions that address the region’s mobility needs
--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------