

October 23, 2024

Public Statement CMAP Transportation Committee Special Meeting: CTA Redline Extension ETIP Funding Ordinance

Good morning, CMAP Transportation Committee Members, CTA Administrators and fellow transportation planners.

The Redline Extension TIF Coalition is a regional planning, public policy, economic development and civic engagement initiative working to ensure equity in transportation, infrastructure and green futures.

The Redline Extension TIF Coalition wishes to register our support for today's ordinances to advance Carbon Reduction Programming and Workforce Development Funding.

We appreciate action by the CMAP Transportation Committee to hold this critically important special meeting. This meeting adds value to the regional hope of obtaining this Fall season a Federal Full Funding Agreement from the Federal Department of Transportation.

As the Transportation Committee and staff are aware, time is money. The quicker, CTA secures its Full Funding Agreement, the quicker we can secure other necessary permits and supplies to contain hard and soft costs. Cost Containment is paramount!

With this support, it's our hope that CMAP and CTA planners would revisit ways to strengthen and improve upon Transit Oriented Development (TOD) concepts at the four (4) stations. We believe the increased cost of the Redline Extension project (now \$5.3 Billion) should trigger an expanded scope of redevelopment options via for each public dollar spent, a six (6) fold of private investment is generated.

Therefore, we request that CMAP and CTA pursue TOD and Workforce Solutions initiatives in FY 2025-26. In addition, we wish to encourage CTA to consider hosting a Public Meeting on its Station Area activities surrounding the Railroad Operations by Union Pacific Railroad via Railroad Yard at 121st street.

To this end, we urge full support of today's action to fund the CTA with Carbon Reduction Programming and Workforce Solutions grants. We look forward to celebrating this Fall season upon the receipt of the Federal Full Funding Agreement.

Thank you so much for today's special meeting.

John Paul Jones

John Paul Jones
Co-Founder
Redline Extension TIF Coalition

Janet Bell

Janet Bell
President
Golden Gate Community Association
Board Member
Redline Extension TIF Coalition

cc: Elected Officials within the CTA Redline Extension TIF district
City Council Committee on Transportation and Public Way
City Council Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy
Redline Extension TIF Coalition Board and Partners
Federal EPA Region 5 Office
Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) Region 5
CMAP Climate Committee
Hire 360
Chicago Urban League
Southside Branch - NAACP Board
City Colleges of Chicago