

MEMORANDUM

To: MPO Policy Committee

From: CMAP/Transportation Committee

Date: January 2, 2025

Subject: FY 2026 Unified Work Program (UWP)

Action Requested: Approval of the FY 2026 Unified Work Program (UWP) budget allocations for inclusion in the FY 2026 UWP

Purpose

The MPO Policy Committee annually approves the Unified Work Program (UWP) that supports transportation planning in northeastern Illinois. CMAP's Transportation Committee requests MPO Policy Committee approval of UWP budget allocations for FY 2026.

Overview

The proposed FY 2026 UWP budget is \$34.25 million and includes \$27.5 million for CMAP operating activities (including personnel and contractual services that support transportation planning activities), \$5.67 million for partner agencies' core transportation planning activities, and \$1.07 million approved by the MPO Policy Committee on March 24, 2024 for partner agencies' competitive program activities.

Based on a call for FY 2026 Unified Work Program (UWP) core funding proposals (issued in October 2024) and in accordance with the [Unified Work Program Development Methodology](#), CMAP developed FY 2026 funding allocations by agency and activity. These allocations were reviewed by the UWP Committee and presented to the Transportation Committee for approval in December 2024.

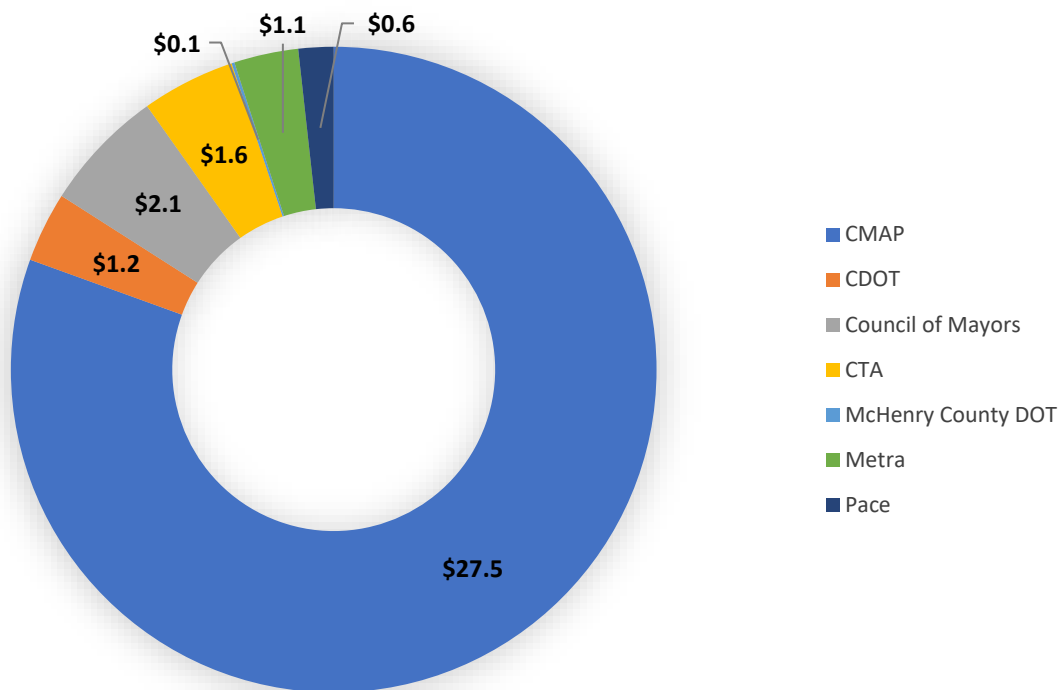
Proposed allocations by agency and activity were presented to the Transportation Committee on December 20, 2024. The Transportation Committee recommends approval of the allocations by the MPO Policy Committee for inclusion in the FY 2026 UWP. The proposed funding allocations, details of the program activities, and other highlights to be included in the FY 2026 UWP are provided below. The final UWP document incorporating the UWP budget allocations will be provided to the committee upon completion.

FY 2026 Funding Summary

FY 2026 UWP funds will be allocated to CMAP and sixteen external agencies: the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), the eleven individual Councils of Mayors (CoM), Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), McHenry County Division of Transportation (McHenry DOT), Metra, and Pace for core and competitive transportation planning activities. Figure 1 below summarizes the allocation of funding by agency. Funding allocations include both personnel costs and expenses, including consulting services.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) requires that at least \$856,289 (2.5% of the federal funding available) be allocated for activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities. The scope of the projects included in the FY 2026 competitive program aligns with these activities and the funding allocated exceeds the 2.5% requirement. It is anticipated that the requirement will be further exceeded with CMAP's Safe Travel for All Roadmap, Accessible Communities program, and other work.

Figure 1. FY 2026 UWP funding allocation by agency



FY 2026 core program

The core program consists of six major activities necessary for meeting MPO requirements. The allocation of funding for those activities, by agency, is provided in Table 1 below. The allocation of funding by activity for CMAP will be determined in CMAP's FY 2026 comprehensive budget, currently under development. CMAP's FY 2026 work plan will be reviewed by the CMAP Board on January 13, 2025. The CMAP Board is anticipated to take action on both documents in February.

Table 1. FY 2025-2029 UWP Competitive Program

Agency	Proposed FY 2026 Core Budget		
	Personnel	Expenses	Total
CDOT	\$284,453	\$885,612	\$1,170,064
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$204,040	\$598,737	\$802,777
Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)	\$70,875	\$258,186	\$329,061
Public Participation (PP)	\$9,538	\$28,688	\$38,226
CMAP	TBD	TBD	\$27,508,413
Council of Mayors	\$1,898,533	\$251,355	\$2,149,888
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$803,257	\$12,374	\$815,631
Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)	\$373,010	\$10,614	\$383,624
Performance Monitoring (PM)	\$83,602	\$480	\$84,082
Public Participation (PP)	\$326,522	\$7,655	\$334,177
Operations (Ops)	\$312,142	\$220,233	\$532,375
CTA	\$1,135,534	\$0	\$1,135,534
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$1,006,278	\$0	\$1,006,278
Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)	\$75,564	\$0	\$75,564
Performance Monitoring (PM)	\$53,691	\$0	\$53,691
McHenry County DOT	\$3,316	\$50,000	\$53,316
Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)	\$2,487	\$50,000	\$52,487
Congestion Management Process (CMP)	\$829	\$0	\$829
Metra	\$560,000	\$0	\$560,000
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$397,152	\$0	\$397,152
Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)	\$42,026	\$0	\$42,026
Performance Monitoring (PM)	\$107,950	\$0	\$107,950
Public Participation (PP)	\$12,872	\$0	\$12,872
Pace	\$230,000	\$375,000	\$605,000
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000
Congestion Management Process (CMP)	\$50,000	\$375,000	\$425,000
Performance Monitoring (PM)	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000
GRAND TOTAL CORE			\$33,182,215
Federal Share (80%)			\$26,545,772
Local Share (20%)			\$6,636,443

FY 2025 – 2029 competitive program

One-time planning studies or activities that support, implement, inform, and/or complement the MPO’s required work are funded through a multi-year competitive program. Table 2 illustrates the competitive program approved by the MPO Policy Committee on March 24, 2024. The projects and funding approved for FY 2026 are included in the FY 2026 UWP.

Table 2. FY 2025-2029 UWP Competitive Program

Sponsor	Project	Total Cost	Recommended by FY				
			FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29
CTA	I-290/Blue Line Corridor Program (PMO Funding)	\$750	\$250	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Metra	Targeted Station Ridership Counts	\$225	\$165	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$0
DuPage County	Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	\$148	\$148	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Metra	Origin/Destination Survey	\$750	\$0	\$509	\$242	\$0	\$0
Total			\$563	\$1,069	\$242	\$0	\$0
Federal (80%)			\$451	\$855	\$193	\$0	\$0
Sponsor Match (20%)			\$113	\$214	\$48	\$0	\$0

All figures in thousands of dollars

In addition to the programs highlighted above, the FY 2026 UWP document will contain several appendices, detailing sources of local match, civil rights and environmental justice requirements, staff requirements, audit requirements, an acronym list, a summary of non-UWP funded transportation planning studies, and core budget details.

MPO Policy Committee approval of the UWP activities and funding allocations described in this memo for inclusion in the FY 2026 UWP is requested. The final UWP document will be provided to the committee upon completion. Should any substantive changes to the allocations be proposed during the development of the CMAP comprehensive budget, those changes will be brought to the MPO Policy Committee for approval in March.