



MEMORANDUM

To: Transportation Committee

From: CMAP Staff

Date: July 25, 2025

Subject: Regional Transportation Plan update

Action Requested: Information

General update

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) continues to make progress on research and analysis as the plan prepares to begin conversations about strategy and implementation later this year. Over the summer, CMAP has been active in local communities, engaging residents about their transportation experiences, challenges, and priorities. To date, the [RTP questionnaire](#) has received more than 1,100 responses. Over the remainder of the year, CMAP will continue this community engagement to capture diverse perspectives.

Financial plan update

In partnership with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), CMAP is continuing to advance efforts to estimate the RTP's fiscal constraint by forecasting the revenues that will be available over the planning horizon and the costs anticipated by the plan, as required by federal regulation (23 CFR § 450.324). However, both revenue and expenditure forecasts are subject to economic, policy, and implementation uncertainties — particularly over a 20+ year timeframe. To ensure the fiscal constraint presents a realistic and resilient blueprint for transportation investment between now and 2050, CMAP is beginning to shape and conduct a risk assessment in partnership with resource group members.

The *Financial Plan Risk Assessment* will evaluate known uncertainties by systematically identifying, prioritizing, and analyzing the risks associated with key financial assumptions, such as the availability of future revenue streams, cost escalation rates, and project delivery schedules. CMAP will test how sensitive the financial plan is to assumptions related to prioritized risks, and work with resource group members and other stakeholders to identify mitigation strategies that protect the region's ability to implement its transportation priorities under various future conditions. By revealing the conditions under which the fiscal constraint

may be at risk, this exercise will increase transparency about the strengths and limitations of a long-range forecast and support better decision-making in the face of uncertainty.

Regional capital projects

Through coordination with partner agencies, CMAP has identified 138 Regional Capital Projects (RCPs) to be included in the RTP. CMAP is currently conducting RCP evaluations, in which proposed RCPs are assessed for how well they advance the region's transportation goals. The evaluations will review a variety of measurable project criteria including current asset and travel time conditions on the facilities proposed for improvements, as well as the anticipated impact of the project on regional travel times and vehicle emissions based on outputs from the regional travel demand model. A draft report presenting the benefits that each of the proposed RCPs offers to the region will be shared in September.

Congestion management

In partnership with resource group members, CMAP is advancing key deliverables in support of the Congestion Management Process. The *Congestion Management Strategy Guidebook* will outline a suite of strategies to manage congestion in alignment with the region's transportation planning goals and offer a framework to guide strategy selection. The guidebook will be made available to partners for review this summer. Key strategies from the guidebook will be included in the RTP for further development and advancement.

Following the guidebook, staff will produce a *Comprehensive Corridor Study Template*, a resource that will provide guidance on planning for the implementation of congestion management strategies at the corridor level, particularly for priority corridors, emphasizing multiagency coordination. The template will be available later this year.