



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** MPO Policy Committee  
**From:** Erin Aleman, Executive Director  
**Date:** June 2026  
**Subject:** Executive Director's report  
**Action requested:** Information

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### CMAP federal certification

In January, CMAP underwent its federal certification review, a required review that occurs every four years to ensure our metropolitan transportation planning process meets federal standards for Transportation Management Areas.

FHWA and FTA jointly notified CMAP and IDOT that the Chicago IL, TMA's metropolitan transportation planning process meets federal requirements and is certified.

There were no corrective actions identified or issued in the report.

CMAP was commended for:

- Its Performance Measures Dashboard and regionally significant project benefits report
- Certification Review webpage
- Facilitating the Corridor Development Office (CDO) for the I-290/Blue Line project and encouraged CMAP to use this model for similar projects
- Collaboration with IDOT and Illinois MPOs on statewide eTIP deployment
- For developing detailed programming documents for STP, CMAQ, and TA programs
- The RTP, Congestion Management Process, Freight engagement webpages, and centralized committee materials are notable practices

Recommendations included:

- Supporting a smooth transition from RTA to NITA
- Improving clarity and consistency in the Unified Work Program (UWP)
- Strengthening coordination with IDOT and other MPOs
- Enhancing performance-based planning and target setting
- Increasing transparency and clarity in the TIP
- Advancing freight planning priorities

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Information

**Attachment:** USDOT Certification Review Finding Letter – Chicago IL CMAP