2005-06

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is created, merging the Chicago Area Transportation Study and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission. This new regional government agency works on behalf of the 7 counties (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will), more than 250 municipalities, and 8.3 million residents of northeastern Illinois.



Randy Blankenhorn is named CMAP's first executive director and serves in this position for nine years.

2008

The Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP) program launches, providing a summer immersion experience for high school students to explore the planning field and how it shapes our communities, as well as connect with experts and changemakers in civic engagement and community development.





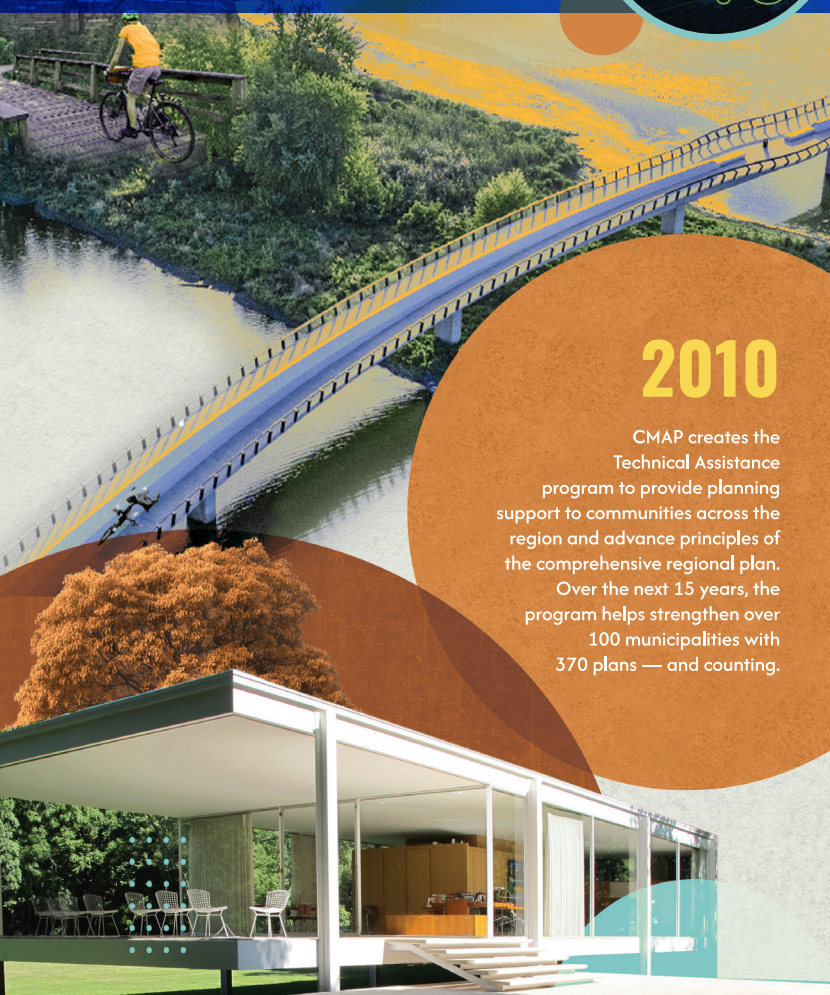
2009

One hundred years after Daniel Burnham and Edward H. Bennett co-authored and published the 1909 ***Plan of Chicago***, CMAP begins development of a new regional plan for the Chicago metropolitan area.

2010

The GO TO 2040 regional comprehensive plan is adopted unanimously by leaders from across seven counties in October 2010 after two years of research, policy analysis, and extensive public outreach. It is the first regional plan since the 1909 *Plan of Chicago*.

GO TO 2040



2010

CMAP creates the Technical Assistance program to provide planning support to communities across the region and advance principles of the comprehensive regional plan. Over the next 15 years, the program helps strengthen over 100 municipalities with 370 plans — and counting.

2013

CMAP launches its first public data sharing platform that enables anyone with an internet connection to access high-quality data to inform planning and policy decisions across the region.



2015

Joe Szabo becomes CMAP's second executive director serving from 2015 to 2019.

2017

A new online version of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) launches, giving partners and the public **unprecedented access to real-time transportation funding and implementation details** for thousands of transportation projects across the region.

The region agrees to shift to a new data-driven model for the allocation of federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding, creating a regional shared fund that **encourages strong partnerships and advances projects** that local agencies cannot readily fund on their own. The agreement establishes the STP project selection committee to oversee program development and maximize federal funding opportunities.





2018

ON TO 2050 is adopted by the CMAP Board and Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee. This comprehensive regional plan helps the 7 counties and 284 municipalities of northeastern Illinois implement strategies that address transportation, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues.

ON TO 2050





Erin Aleman becomes CMAP's executive director. She is the first woman to serve in this role and the first professional planner to lead the agency.

2019

CMAP earns accolades for its work on the ON TO 2050 plan, receiving the Daniel Burnham Award for Outstanding Comprehensive Plan from the American Planning Association – Illinois Chapter.

2020

CMAP relocates from the Willis Tower to the Old Post Office, the largest historic redevelopment in the country. This designated landmark was formerly a national mail delivery hub and now sits at the nexus of major forms of transportation, commerce, and revitalization — making it a uniquely well-suited home for CMAP.



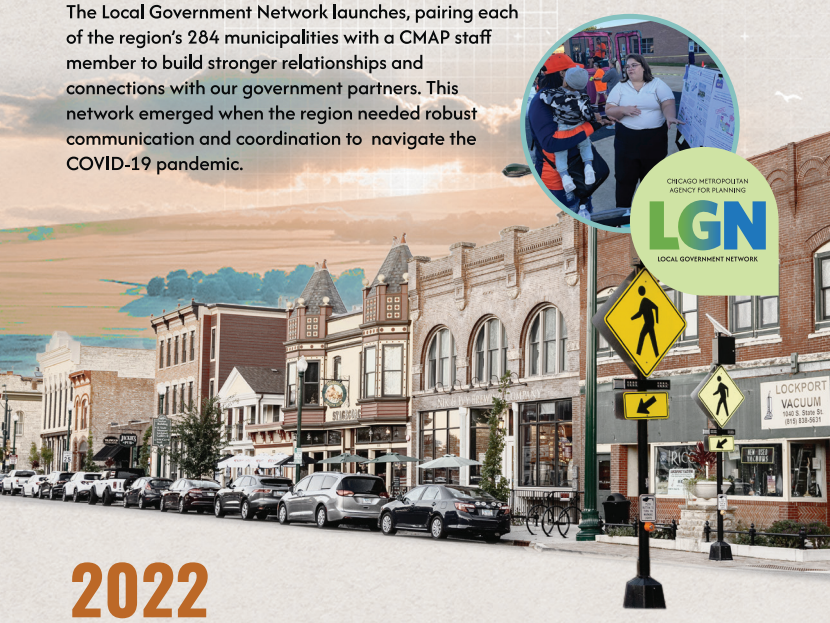
2020

The pandemic prompts a call to action from the seven county board chairs and the City of Chicago to create an action plan on transportation, economic development, and tourism. As the region's convener and consensus builder, CMAP engages with regional stakeholders and puts forward recommendations that lead to the first jointly funded regional tourism campaign and joint economic development workshop series with the Brookings Institution.

2021

CMAP convenes regional stakeholders and delivers a first-ever **consensus list of the region's highest-priority transportation projects**. CMAP continues to partner with our federal leaders to bring together our region and maximize funding opportunities.

The Local Government Network launches, pairing each of the region's 284 municipalities with a CMAP staff member to build stronger relationships and connections with our government partners. This network emerged when the region needed robust communication and coordination to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

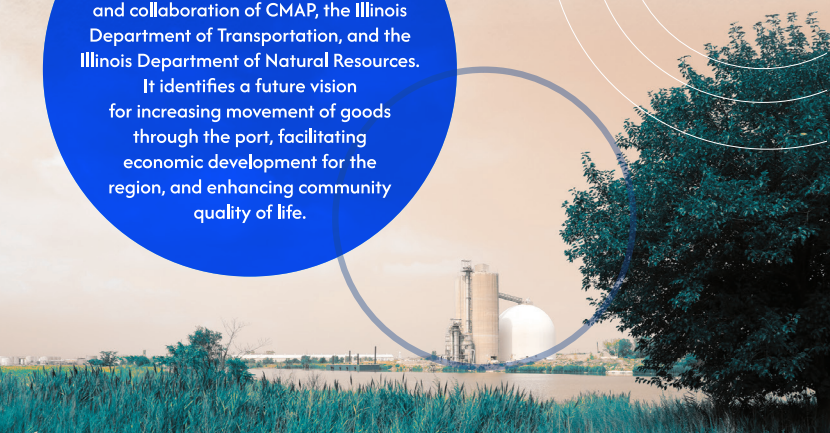


2022

CMAP's Accessible Communities program launches, providing in-person training, guidance, and resources to improve Americans with Disabilities Act compliance throughout the region.

CMAP receives the WTS Greater Chicago Chapter's 2022 Innovative Transportation Solutions Award for our research on *Improving Equity in Transportation Fees, Fines and Fares.*

The award-winning *Illinois International Port District Master Plan* builds upon the momentum and collaboration of CMAP, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. It identifies a future vision for increasing movement of goods through the port, facilitating economic development for the region, and enhancing community quality of life.



2023

The Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership (GCEP) launches. CMAP, in partnership with the Brookings Institution and The Chicago Community Trust, propels actions that leads to a trailblazing regional economic collaboration between the region's seven counties and the City of Chicago. Managed by World Business Chicago, the GCEP demonstrates how northeastern Illinois is stronger when it works together.



CMAP delivers the *Plan of Action for Regional Transit* to provide big, bold solutions to transform and strengthen northeastern Illinois' transit system.



CMAP builds on its mission of delivering data and serving as the region's authoritative data source with the launch of the CMAP Data Hub. This platform provides data, analysis, and evaluations on land use, transportation, and environmental topics to help leaders make informed decisions and plan for decades into the future.

2024

The *Illinois Regional Greenways and Trails Plan*, adopted as part of ON TO 2050, achieves a milestone with nearly 50% of the plan being complete. This plan guides decisions for the federally-funded, locally-programmed Transportation Alternatives Program.



2024

The region takes steps to save lives on roadways with the adoption of six countywide safety action plans. Using federal grant funds through the Safe Streets and Roads for All Program, CMAP and the Illinois Department of Transportation manage this initiative.



SAFE TRAVEL FOR ALL

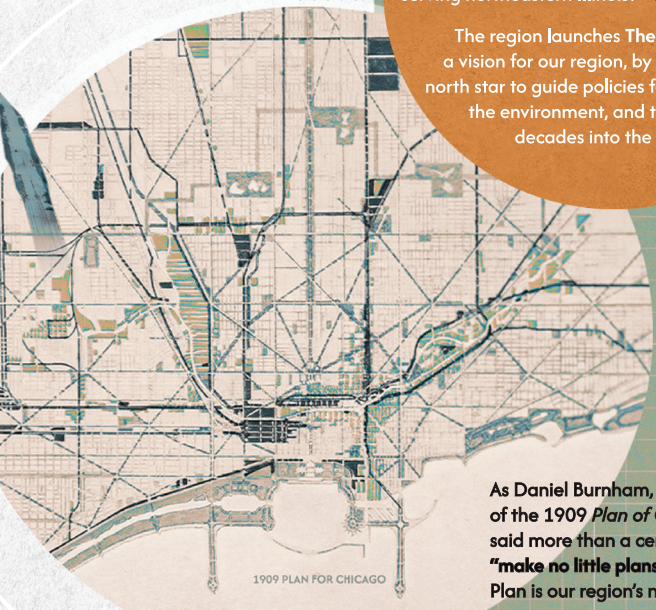
THE CENTURY PLAN

SOLVING FOR TOMORROW, TODAY

2025

CMAP celebrates 20 years serving northeastern Illinois!

The region launches **The Century Plan**, a vision for our region, by our region — a north star to guide policies for transportation, the environment, and the economy decades into the future.



As Daniel Burnham, co-author of the 1909 *Plan of Chicago*, said more than a century ago: **"make no little plans."** The Century Plan is our region's next big plan.

