

Resolution No.031424
McHenry Township Resolution in Support of CMAP's Report Entitled
PLAN OF ACTION FOR REGIONAL TRANSIT (PART)

WHEREAS, McHenry Township recognizes the importance of a robust and accessible transit system to the well-being and development of our community; and

WHEREAS, transit agencies in Northeastern Illinois are facing significant financial challenges, including an estimated \$730 million operating budget shortfall beginning in 2026, due to shifts in travel behavior following the COVID-19 pandemic and the expiration of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) emergency assistance funds; and

WHEREAS, Public Act 102-1028 in 2022 assigned the task to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) to explore funding and governance options for the Chicago region's transit system; and

WHEREAS, CMAP's thorough analysis, encompassing insights from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) strategic plan, Transit is the Answer, and CMAP's Mobility Recovery project, culminated in the comprehensive report titled PLAN OF ACTION FOR REGIONAL TRANSIT (PART); and

WHEREAS, McHenry Township acknowledges the critical role of transit in achieving regional goals such as enhancing mobility, fostering economic development and competitiveness, mitigating climate change, and promoting equity; and

WHEREAS, McHenry Township supports the adoption of a diversified revenue approach as outlined in the PART report, recognizing the necessity of new revenue streams to sustain and enhance the transit system, with a particular emphasis on directing funds generated from McHenry County residents toward service improvements in currently unserved or underserved areas within the county; and

WHEREAS, McHenry Township opposes the consolidation of the RTA board and associated service boards (CTA, METRA, and PACE) into a single regional transit agency governance unit, advocating instead for the preservation of the existing governance structure to maintain the unique identity and focus of each service board while strengthening the RTA; and

WHEREAS, McHenry Township strongly opposes any alterations to regional board appointments that may diminish the representation of suburban residents in regional transit decision-making processes, advocating for increased involvement of local government representatives from collar counties; and

WHEREAS, McHenry Township supports maintaining the current funding allocation policy, which allocates 58% to CTA, 34% to METRA, and 8% to Pace, with the requirement of a supermajority vote for the approval of budgets or funding for any city or suburban program or project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that McHenry Township stands in full support of all endeavors aimed at fortifying the region's transit system and understands the indispensable role of transit in advancing the community's objectives and aspirations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that McHenry Township endorses the recommendations outlined in CMAP's PART report and commits to actively participating in efforts to implement these recommendations for the betterment of our community and the region at large;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that McHenry Township also endorses the recommendations outlined in the McHenry County Council of Governments Resolution R24-001 of January 24, 2024, attached hereto as Exhibit "A".


ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2024, by the McHenry Township in County of McHenry, Illinois.

Ayes:
Nays:
Absent:

Passed this 14th day of March 2024

Adopted this 14th day of March 2024

Signed: 
Gary Barla, McHenry Township Supervisor

Attested: 
Danielle Aylward, McHenry Township Clerk

Seal:

