



INVEST IN COOK

Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
FY2024 Call for Projects

Applicant Municipality/Agency/Organization

Applicant's Name and Title

(Mayor, President, Supervisor, Chief Executive Officer, Executive Director, etc.)

Project Name

Toni Preckwinkle, President
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (DOTH)
69 West Washington, Suite 2300
Chicago, IL 60602

Jennifer "Sis" Killen, Superintendent

January 17, 2024

AN INITIATIVE OF:

CONNECTING
COOK COUNTY
Beyond Transportation



Application Checklist

Required Items:

- ☐ Signed mayor's or chief executive's cover letter
- ☐ Completed application
- ☐ Project milestone schedule (use template provided)*
- ☐ Map showing project location and limits
- ☐ Project area pictures (provide 2 photos that show pre-project conditions)
- ☐ Most recent financial audit or proof of financial standing

Optional Items:

- ☐ Sections or summary of applicable project-related studies or reports (limit five pages)
- ☐ Funding resolutions and Certifications of Resolutions
- ☐ Detailed Cost Estimates (Required for construction funding requests)
- ☐ Letters of Support from relevant organizations

* Must show awarded phase beginning work within one calendar year of receiving the award

If you have any questions or would like to request assistance filling out the application please do not hesitate to call Laura McFadden at [\(312\) 603-1223](tel:3126031223). County staff will be available to answer questions about the application, how to submit a competitive application, and other general questions. Depending on availability, the County will also set aside staff time to assist with more technical tasks like developing cost estimates or mapping project information. Applicants are encouraged to contact the County as soon as they know they will be requesting technical assistance. The County will prioritize aid to disadvantaged communities/applicants but cannot guarantee staff availability to help in every instance.

Please submit an electronic copy of the completed application PDF, with all related attachments, through the Invest In Cook application portal at:

CLICK THIS BOX TO BE TAKEN TO THE SUBMISSION WEBPAGE

The deadline for submitting all applications is: **MARCH 22, 2024 at 5:00 pm**
(Applications received after this time will not be accepted.)



Applicant Information

**Applicant Municipality,
Agency, or Organization:**

**Project Title (use TIP title
if applicable):**

Main Contact Name:

Main Contact Email:

**Main Contact Phone
Number:**

**Mayor, President, or
CEO Name and Title:**

**Mayor, President, or
CEO Email:**

Applicant Address:

City: _____ **Illinois** **Zip Code:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Total Amount Requested*: _____ \$

Total Matching Funds:** _____ \$

*A total funding request is not required at the time of submission, but it is highly recommended and may improve your chances of being selected. Please contact DOTH at investincook.cc@cookcountyil.gov before applying if your organization needs assistance with developing a cost estimate. Your request for assistance will be evaluated for need and approval will be dependent on DOTH staff availability.

**Very low and low-need communities (as [designated by CMAP](#)) will be expected to match County funds on at least a one to one basis. Matches from moderate-need communities will be calculated on a sliding scale basis. Very high and high-need communities may not need a local match to County funds.



Applicant Information (Continued)

County Commissioner
District Number(s): _____

Council of
Mayor(s): _____

Project Type ☐ Transit ☐ Freight
(select one): ☐ Bike/Ped ☐ Roadway ☐ Other _____

Funding Phase ☐ Feasibility/Planning Study ☐ ROW Acquisition ☐ Construction
Request ☐ Preliminary Engineering ☐ Design Engineering ☐ Other _____
(select one):

TIP ID (for existing projects): _____

Will you need assistance
with a cost estimate?
(Y/N): ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will you need any other assistance
before your project can begin?
(Y/N): ☐ Yes ☐ No

If additional assistance is desired, please describe your needs below*:

*The County will make available resources in the form of staff and time for projects that we feel warrant the effort from applicants who can justify their need. These services will be provided at the Department's discretion and are contingent upon staff availability.

Project Location Information

Please ensure the following fields are filled in, as completely as possible.
Please attach a map with sufficient detail to accurately locate your project in a GIS system.

Project Limits

Name of Street or Facility to be Improved

Municipality (or Municipalities) Involved

South/West Project Extents

North/East Project Extents



Project Description

Provide a description of the planned use for Invest in Cook funds, the anticipated benefits, and project history. You may include references (a website, specific page numbers) from relevant studies or reports that may provide more detail. **PLEASE LIMIT YOUR RESPONSE TO APPROXIMATELY 350 words.**

Applicant Experience

In the box below, please demonstrate your organization's ability to execute a project of similar size, scope, and complexity as the project for which you are submitting this application by **listing** comparable projects completed by your organization in the past five years. Please include project type, total cost, and year completed.



Cook County DOTH Invest in Cook | 2024

Grant Request and Project Funding Summary

Please provide a funding summary that aligns with the project schedule submitted as part of the project application. If you have already received other grant funding, please list those awards under "Other Project Funding." Please document funding for previous phases but do not count it as match for the Invest in Cook grant request. If you are requesting County assistance in developing a cost estimate, you may leave the table blank, but consult with staff through InvestInCook.CC@cookcountyil.gov before submitting your application. Project funding awarded under this program cannot be used for staff salaries.

	Starting Calendar Year	Phase Cost	County Funds Request**	Local Funds	Other Project Funding*	
					Funding Source Name	Amount
Planning/Feasibility Study						
Preliminary Engineering						
Design Engineering						
Construction (Including Construction Engineering)						
Right of Way Acquisition						
Total Project Costs						

*Please describe grant funding already received for the project.

**Low-need communities (designated by CMAP as Cohort 1 or 2 communities) should match County funds with local funds on at least a one-to-one basis. Very high and high-need communities (Cohort 3 and 4) may not need a local match to County funds.

What phase is your project currently in?

Not yet initiated
Planning/Feasibility Study
Preliminary Engineering

Design Engineering
ROW
Construction

Other: _____

Is ROW acquisition required for this project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, has the ROW already been acquired? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you received Phase I design approval from IDOT? ☐ Yes ☐ Submitted to IDOT, not yet approved ☐ Not yet submitted ☐ Not applicable

Have pre-final plans been approved by IDOT? ☐ Yes ☐ Submitted to IDOT, not yet approved ☐ Not yet submitted ☐ Not applicable

Is local funding committed? (Y/N) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide copies of resolutions demonstrating the funding commitment.

Estimated Construction Year: _____

Are you applying for CDBG funds for elements of this project? If yes, please describe:



Evaluation Criteria

Consistency with Existing Plans

Does this project implement goals from *Connecting Cook County*? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Does this project implement goals from other local and regional plans? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please list the specific local and/or regional plans this grant would help to implement and provide links to the plans:*

*If the plan is not available online, please include relevant pages as supplemental material in the application. Plan examples include local comprehensive plans, transit-oriented development plans, capital improvement plans, or other local plans in addition to regional plans such as the Cook County Policy Roadmap and Partnering for Prosperity, CMAP's ON TO 2050, or RTA's Invest in Transit: 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.

Prioritizing Transit and Other Transportational Alternatives

Transit improvements being made (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better bus service | <input type="checkbox"/> Service to new areas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More frequent or longer hours of service | <input type="checkbox"/> Fare integration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better access to transit | <input type="checkbox"/> Better bus stops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADA accessibility / station rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Bicycle and pedestrian project benefits (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fills gap(s) in the pedestrian network | <input type="checkbox"/> Provides new pedestrian facilities where none had existed | <input type="checkbox"/> Provides pedestrian access to transit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fills gap(s) in the bicycle network | <input type="checkbox"/> Provides new bicycle facilities where none had existed | <input type="checkbox"/> Provides bicycle access to transit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helps complete a planned trail project | <input type="checkbox"/> Improves an existing pedestrian facility, inc. repairing deteriorated sidewalks | <input type="checkbox"/> Improves pedestrian safety in a high crash area (provide documentation) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provides on-street bike facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Improves an existing bicycle facility | <input type="checkbox"/> Improves bicyclist safety in a high crash area (provide documentation) |

Promote Equal Access to Opportunities

ADA improvements being made (list all): _____

Primary project impacts on equal access (please check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project is in an economically disadvantaged area | <input type="checkbox"/> Project is located in a CDBG designated low to moderate income census tract |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project located in an area with a high minority population | <input type="checkbox"/> Project reduces travel time for transportation users in a disadvantaged area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project creates or retains jobs accessible to low- and moderate-income persons | <input type="checkbox"/> Project helps make a disadvantaged area more attractive to new businesses |



Support the Region's Role as North America's Freight Capital

Cook County Freight Plan Priorities Addressed by the Project (check all that apply):

Road improvements

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitates a connected truck route network | <input type="checkbox"/> Improves a priority trucking corridor from Cook County Freight Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improves first- and last-mile connectors | <input type="checkbox"/> Improves expressway freight access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Streamlines truck permitting | <input type="checkbox"/> Improves truck parking |

Rail improvements

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supports business access to rail | <input type="checkbox"/> Implements the CREATE Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduces conflicts between rail and vehicle/pedestrian traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses grade crossing from Cook County Freight Plan, CMAP priority list, or other |

Number of employees in freight-related businesses benefitting directly from the project – list businesses and estimated number of employees:

Maintain and Modernize What Already Exists

Primary project impacts on maintenance and modernization (please check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repairs a facility that is in poor condition. | Pavement condition rating, if known, and rating system type (PCI, CRS, etc.): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brings a facility up to modern standards. | Condition of transit facility being improved (TERM rating), if applicable: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helps manage roadway access. Briefly describe: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improves intersection geometry. Briefly describe: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improves traffic signals. Briefly describe: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Implements crash reduction strategies. Briefly describe: _____ | |

Traffic Volumes (AADT): _____ **Truck/Heavy Vehicle Share of Traffic (%):** _____



Increase Investments in Transportation

Funding Programs Applied For:

- ☐ Federal Grants
- ☐ State Grants
- ☐ Local
- ☐ Other

Funding Awards:

- ☐ Federal Grants
- ☐ State Grants
- ☐ Local
- ☐ Other

Anticipated future funding opportunities for the project

If you plan to apply for additional grants in the future for this project, please list the grants and estimated amounts under consideration. Cook County often provides support for grant applications for projects previously funded by Invest in Cook.

Grant 1:	_____	Grant 2:	_____	Grant 3:	_____
Amount:	_____	Amount:	_____	Amount:	_____
Phase:	_____	Phase:	_____	Phase:	_____

PLEASE **DO NOT** SUBMIT A SCANNED COPY OF THIS APPLICATION