

691-24 A Resolution Regarding CMAP's Report Entitled PLAN OF ACTION FOR REGIONAL TRANSIT (PART)

WHEREAS, the Village of Island Lake is among the twenty-eight units of local government represented by the *McHenry County Council of Governments (MCCG)* and desires to support the promoting and fostering of intergovernmental understanding and collaboration; and

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

WHEREAS, through *Public Act 102-1028* in 2022, the Illinois General Assembly tasked the *Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)* with identifying options regarding funding and governance for the Chicago region's transit system; and

WHEREAS, CMAP considered the findings of the *Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)* strategic plan, *Transit is the Answer*, and CMAP's *Mobility Recovery* project; conducted multiple discussions at various levels from riders to system administrators and boards; and developed an in-depth analysis of three question areas: the system we want, how to pay for it, and how to implement it; and

WHEREAS, CMAP completed its' analysis and final report in the last half of October 2023 and will submit the report to the General Assembly for review and consideration during the 2024 Legislative Session;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Island Lake supports all efforts to strengthen the region's transit system and understands that transit is crucial to addressing the region's goals of improving mobility, increasing economic development and competitiveness, combating climate change, and building a more equitable region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Island Lake supports a combination of new revenue options in the form of: System Generated Revenues, Baseline Actions and Durable Sources, as well as Transformational Investment and Meaningful Change, all outlined in the PART report. The Village of Island Lake does so recognizing new revenue options as necessary to maintaining the region's transit system and making visionary, targeted improvements and investments for the future. However, the Village of Island Lake strongly voices the position that any new revenue generated from residents of McHenry County be largely directed to service improvements in areas of McHenry County currently unserved or underserved by transit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE strongly opposes the integration of the RTA board and associated service boards (CTA, METRA and PACE) into one single regional transit agency governance unit. Instead, the Council strongly supports keeping the current transit governance structure with the unique service boards and strengthening of the RTA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE also strongly opposes any changes made to regional board appointments that would dilute the voices of suburban residents who today feel underrepresented in regional transit decision-making. Instead, the Council strongly supports increased local government representation from collar counties; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that regardless of the governance structure, funding allocation policy remain the same as current policy; that is, CTA 58%, METRA 34% and Pace 8%, and that a super majority vote be required to pass any budget or funding for any City or suburban program or project; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to The Honorable Governor JB Pritzker, Members of the Illinois General Assembly, Chicago Regional Councils of Governments, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to make them aware of the commitments of the McHenry County Council of Governments regarding regional transit.

PASSED on the 22th day of February, 2024.

	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Brittany Alers	X			
Charles Cermak	X			
Thadd Lewis	X			
Stacey Pyne	X			
Will Ziegler	X			
Vacant				

APPROVED this 23th day of February, 2024, by the Village of Island Lake, Illinois.


Richard McLaughlin, Mayor, Village of Island Lake

Attest:


Georgine Cooper, Village Clerk

