



Vision: A world-class public transportation system that is convenient, affordable, reliable and safe, and that is the keystone of the region's growing business opportunities, thriving job market, clean air and livable communities

Road congestion is a severe and growing threat to Northeast Illinois' economic prosperity, costing residents more than \$4.2 billion each year. The proven solution to reducing the cost of bad traffic is transit, as the RTA system currently saves the region \$1.6 billion annually. Unfortunately, current transit resources are not growing fast enough to keep pace with ridership demands, and we have been using capital funds for operating expenses to make ends meet. This is not sustainable and certainly not a recipe for growth. Thus, the RTA, CTA, Metra and Pace, joined with dozens of Partners for Transit, are launching the Moving Beyond Congestion project to build a consensus on an improved and expanded transit network.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR TRANSIT

- The RTA, in partnership with the CTA, Metra and Pace has launched the Moving Beyond Congestion Project, a comprehensive regional strategic planning effort. This effort will evaluate how public transportation will best fit as a component of a larger transportation network that serves our region's travel needs.
- The RTA, the CTA, Metra and Pace are leading the effort, supported by a specialized consulting team. It will be completed in cooperation with state, regional and local leaders, as well as community and business groups.
- This effort includes bold visioning from RTA, CTA, Metra and Pace, and extensive outreach to elected officials, community and business groups, and service organizations. It will shape how we live, work, play and move around our region for the next decade and beyond.
- The strategic plan will identify the needs to preserve the existing transit system and determine how new transit investments can improve the region's transportation system. Our plan will:
 - Provide transportation options
 - Ensure financial viability
 - Enhance livability and economic vitality
 - Demonstrate value
- Transit is a critical element in promoting economic development and access to jobs, alleviating the congestion that threatens our region with gridlock, and mitigating the isolation otherwise faced by our most vulnerable citizens.
- Our riders, and taxpayers in general, deserve to know that we are working to provide them with the best possible system in the safest and most cost-effective manner.
- Join us as a Partner for Transit www.movingbeyondcongestion.org and show your support for transit.

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) provides financial oversight and regional planning for Northeastern Illinois' public transportation operators: the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra Commuter Rail, and Pace Suburban Bus. The CTA, Metra and Pace provide approximately 600 million transit rides per year.

