Glossary of Acronyms and Other Terms

CCLF – Chicago Community Loan Fund - CCLF supports challenging projects that will help revitalize low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and suburban communities throughout metropolitan Chicago, aiding families and communities along the path toward economic stability, prosperity and sustainability. CCLF leverages their investments in community development for the greatest impact possible. CCLF is partnering with Enterprise to manage the South Suburbs’ new transit oriented community development fund.

CDBG – Community Development Block Grant - The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs, including economic development, disaster recovery, neighborhood stabilization and brownfield remediation.

CIC – Community Investment Corporation - A not-for-profit mortgage lender that provides financing to buy and rehab multifamily apartment buildings with five units or more in the six-county metropolitan Chicago area. CIC also offers Property Management Training to help owners and managers better market, manage, maintain and improve affordable rental property.

CMAP – Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning - CMAP is the official regional planning organization for the northeastern Illinois counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. CMAP developed and now guides the implementation of GO TO 2040, metropolitan Chicago’s first comprehensive regional plan in more than 100 years. To address anticipated population growth of more than 2 million new residents, GO TO 2040 establishes coordinated strategies that help the region’s 284 communities address transportation, housing, economic development, open space, the environment, and other quality-of-life issues.

CMHDC – Chicago Metropolitan Housing Development Corporation – CMHDC’s mission is to retain and develop properties with both affordable and market rate housing in Chicago. In order to maintain a balance between the two, they target areas vulnerable to affordable housing shortages, and then acquire multifamily buildings in need of improvement while identifying other opportunities to develop new construction.

CNT – Center for Neighborhood Technology – Founded in 1978, CNT is a “think-and-do” tank that promotes more livable and sustainable urban communities. CNT focuses on research, coalition building and designing, developing, and operating economic development demonstration projects to address urban sustainability in innovative ways. CNT houses two non-profits, CNT Energy and I-Go car-sharing organization, as well as a client-based consulting firm, Urban Practice Consulting.

COD – Cargo-Oriented Development – COD is the development of manufacturing and logistics businesses at locations with excellent access to railroads, expressways, intermodal freight terminals, complimentary nearby businesses and large pools of workers that allow for more efficient goods movement. The South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association has prioritized COD in the south suburbs to capitalize on the area’s abundant freight transportation assets.

Cook County Landbank Proposal - Under the blueprint laid out by President Toni Preckwinkle, the Cook County Land Bank will be a tool of economic development designed to acquire, hold, and transfer property for reuse. Redevelopment entities and municipalities will target strategic, unproductive properties that they
would like to acquire and redeploy through a redevelopment plan. The Land Bank will then acquire the property through a number of potential mechanisms, including: transfer from government, transfer from a bank or a lending institution, direct purchase, or no cash bid at the scavenger sale. Once the Land Bank has acquired the property it is anticipated that the property will be held tax free for a pre-negotiated period of time, ideally one to four years. During the period of time the Land Bank holds property, the Land Bank will manage the vacant and abandoned properties with the goal of making them more marketable and prepare them for transfer to responsible owners.

CSHCDC — Chicago Southland Housing and Community Development Collaborative — This collaborative, housed within the South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association, comprises 22 towns in the south suburbs whose mission is to ensure that limited resources are spent most strategically, advancing the housing, economic, and transit oriented development goals of communities represented by participating area mayors. The collaborative prioritizes funding by focusing on the areas along transit lines and in conjunction with a recent RTA Grant; supporting the Calumet River Corridor’s economic development goals; bolstering areas around existing mixed-income investments such as South Holland’s Town Center; and leveraging private sector investment through Employer-Assisted Housing.

DCEO Ike — Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Disaster Recovery Program — The “Ike” program, named after 2008’s Hurricane Ike, targets and prioritizes economic development, housing and public infrastructure activities designed to meet locally defined community needs, with an emphasis on addressing long or longer term forms of recovery from disasters such as floods. Ike funds are being used to purchase, renovate and sell affordable single family homes in South Holland and Hazel Crest in the south suburbs as well as in the western Cook County suburbs.

Enterprise — Enterprise Community Partners — Enterprise’s mission is to create opportunity for low- and moderate income people through affordable housing in diverse, thriving communities with jobs, quality schools, child care, transportation, health care and support for seniors, with access to parks, community spaces and food and retail services that support a healthy lifestyle. Enterprise develops and preserves affordable housing in communities linking people to opportunities for success. When these links are absent, Enterprise forms partnerships and bridges gaps toward creating more vibrant places for people to live and pursue their dreams. Enterprise is partnering with CCLF to manage the South Suburbs’ new transit oriented community development fund.

Green TIME Zone — Chicago Southland Green TIME Zone (TIME is an acronym for Transit, Intermodal, Manufacturing and Environment.) — A strategy through which older communities can translate the value of their established rail infrastructure and manufacturing capacity into desirable neighborhoods, good jobs, and environmental improvement. The strategy is built on three linked mechanisms for sustainable redevelopment: transit-oriented development (TOD) to establish livable communities, cargo-oriented development (COD) to capture the economic benefits of intermodal freight movements, and green manufacturing to build a healthy economy with a bright future. Communities and economies are rebuilt around Transit, Intermodal facilities and Manufacturing, all founded on a commitment to preserve and improve the natural Environment.

HOME - HOME Investment Partnerships Program - HOME provides formula grants to States and localities that communities use—often in partnership with local nonprofit groups—to fund a wide range of activities that build, buy, and/or rehabilitate affordable housing for rent or homeownership or provide direct rental assistance to low-income people. HOME is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. Each year it allocates approximately $2 billion among the States and hundreds of localities nationwide.
**Homes for a Changing Region** - Led by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the Metropolitan Planning Council, Homes for a Changing Region is identifying specific, local, regional and state strategies to address imbalances in northeastern Illinois’ housing stock.

**Housing Investment Tool** – This tool, created by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), will help the collaboratives inventory and prioritize areas and/or sites for housing investment. The tool’s priority function will rank the sites based on established criteria which could include the site’s “shovel readiness,” livability and a number of other criteria. The main purpose of the Housing Investment Tool is to prepare the South Suburban Housing Collaborative and its member communities to respond to the availability of public/private funding for housing investment by providing a technically and politically viable tool for prioritization/ranking methodology.

**IFF** – One of America’s leading nonprofit community development financial institutions, IFF strengthens nonprofits and their communities through lending and real estate consulting. IFF works in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. IFF also houses the West Cook County Housing Collaborative, an interjurisdictional housing agency comprising Oak Park, Berwyn, Maywood, Bellwood and Forest Park.

**IJ – Interjurisdictional Collaboration** - Even if all of the municipalities in the region had the staff capacity, political will and expertise to develop, implement and monitor the programs and policies necessary to address local development needs, many issues—such as housing, transportation and workforce development—do not adhere to municipal borders and can be more efficiently and effectively dealt with on an interjurisdictional basis. MPC, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and RHORI partners more broadly are working with a variety of municipal housing collaboratives around the region to help them address these issues.

**MMC – Metropolitan Mayors Caucus** – Originally convened in 1997; the intent of this organization was to promote the continued economic health of the metropolitan area. 272 mayors now make up the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. The Caucus has addressed major issues and has made a difference in the areas of economic development, affordable housing, and so much more. It is a model for what can be accomplished when achievement, agreement and working together for the common good are top priorities. MMC is a leader in assistance to a number of interjurisdictional collaboratives, including the South Suburban, West Cook County and Northwest Suburban Housing Collaboratives.

**MPC – Metropolitan Planning Council** - MPC is dedicated to shaping a more sustainable and prosperous greater Chicago region. As an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, MPC serves communities and residents by developing, promoting and implementing solutions for sound regional growth. MPC connects the dots — between regional needs, challenges, and solutions, and among the individuals and organizations with the power and capacity to guide the growth of the ever-changing Chicago metropolitan region. MPC helps communities realize the benefits of working together across municipal boundaries to address shared challenges, and works with a variety of interjurisdictional collaboratives to tackle these issues, including the South Suburban, West Cook County and Northwest Suburban Housing Collaboratives.

**NCST – National Community Stabilization Trust** - A national nonprofit organization working with the nation’s largest financial institutions and local housing providers across the U.S. to reclaim neighborhoods hard hit by high levels of foreclosure and abandonment. The Trust supports the stabilization of distressed neighborhoods by ensuring local housing providers have the right tools to transform empty, foreclosed properties into community assets that increase the stock of affordable ownership and rental housing for working families.
**NHS** – Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago - NHS is a nonprofit neighborhood revitalization organization committed to helping homeowners and strengthening neighborhoods throughout Chicago & Elgin. Neighborhood Lending Services (NLS), an NHS-affiliated corporation, is Illinois’ largest nonprofit lender for homeowners and new home buyers.

**NSP** – Neighborhood Stabilization Program - The federally-funded Neighborhood Stabilization Program is combating a challenging housing market that affects neighborhoods across large sections of Chicago. Its primary focus is on areas of the South, West and North sides that can serve as catalysts for revitalization of larger areas around them. By creating high-quality, energy efficient housing and arranging for tiered subsidies based on income levels and neighborhoods, the program will re-ignite local markets, lock in affordability for buyers and renters, and support local economic development and job growth. This will restore local confidence, protect recent and planned investments and ultimately turn around local markets. NSP grants fund housing efforts by both the South Suburban and the West Cook County Housing Collaboratives.

**NWSHC** – Northwest Suburban Housing Collaborative - The newest Cook County housing collaborative works to address the common housing issues that impact five communities in the northwest suburbs. Its goal – through outreach, advocacy, program development and education – is to facilitate progress, leverage additional funds to address the issues, and forge partnerships with stakeholders to strengthen neighborhood housing stock and stability. The collaborative focuses on rental housing preservation, foreclosure prevention, neighborhood stabilization, Homes for a Changing Region and employer-assisted housing.

**RHOPI** – Regional Home Ownership Preservation Initiative - A network of organizations working collaboratively to address the foreclosure crisis in order to develop and implement more coordinated and robust regional responses. By engaging public, private and non-profit stakeholders, fostering collaboration across sectors and jurisdictional boundaries, and building capacity and galvanizing support across the region, RHOPI seeks to exert a collective, measurable impact on the foreclosure crisis in the Chicago metropolitan region.

**RTA** – Regional Transit Authority – In 1974, the RTA was created upon approval of a referendum in the northeastern Illinois region of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will counties. The RTA is considered a special purpose unit of local government and a municipal corporation of the State of Illinois. Initially, the RTA provided financial assistance to existing public transit operators. As the need for public transportation increased, the RTA's role expanded to include the acquisition and operation of public transportation carriers as well as contracting to provide service. The RTA comprises the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra commuter bus and Pace suburban bus.

**SCI** – Sustainable Communities Initiative – A partnership between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), SCI aims to coordinate affordable housing and access to public transportation with environmental protection. In 2010, SCI awarded SSMMA a grant to support its multi-town collaboration, and CMAP also won the SCI Regional Planning Grant the same year, in part to support multi-town strategies across the region. SCI awarded a $3 million challenge grant to the West Cook County Housing Collaborative in 2011 for its transit-oriented development strategy, to update comprehensive plans and to create a sustainable transit-oriented development fund.
**SSMMA – South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association** - An intergovernmental agency providing technical assistance and joint services to 42 municipalities representing a population of over 650,000 in Cook and Will Counties. SSMMA members work cooperatively on transportation, legislation, land use, economic development, recycling, purchasing, stormwater and open space planning, infrastructure, human resources, public safety and housing issues. SSMMA houses the Chicago Southland Housing and Community Development Collaborative.

**SSMMA Landbank Proposal** – Under the auspices of the South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association, four pilot communities brought an intergovernmental agreement before their village boards in May and June 2012 to combat community deterioration by returning vacant properties to productive use in order to provide housing, industry and employment for the citizens of the communities. This effort is bolstered by Cook County’s larger plan.

**TOD – Transit-Oriented Development** - Transit-oriented development is often defined as higher-density mixed-use development within walking distance – or a half mile – of transit stations. TOD is about creating attractive, walkable, sustainable communities that allow residents to have housing and transportation choices and to live convenient, affordable, pleasant lives—with places for our kids to play and for our parents to grow old comfortably.

**WCCHC – West Cook County Housing Collaborative** – WCCHC is a joint effort between Bellwood, Berwyn, Forest Park, Maywood and Oak Park to respond to extremely high foreclosure rates in the five towns. Housed within IFF, the collaborative focuses on creating and stabilizing quality housing options near public transportation, reducing housing/transportation costs for working families and connecting people to jobs.