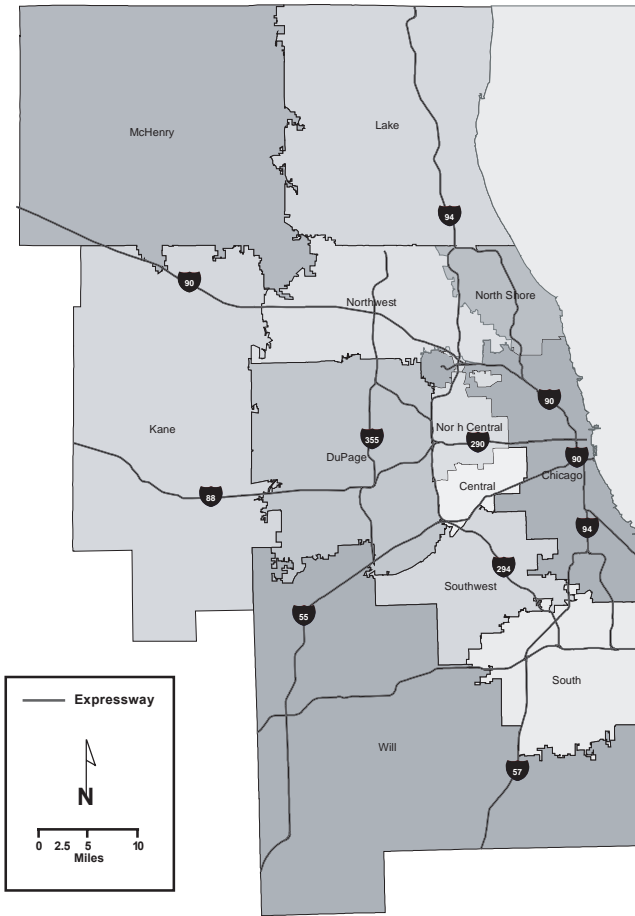


## Area served by CATS



## Do you want more information?

More information about committees, subcommittees and task forces, including scheduled meeting dates and times, is available on the CATS Website at [www.catsmpo.com](http://www.catsmpo.com). You may also contact us at 312-793-3456. All meetings are open to the public.



**Chicago Area Transportation Study**  
**300 West Adams Street, Second Floor**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60606**  
**312-793-3456**  
**[www.catsmpo.com](http://www.catsmpo.com)**

# PARTNERS IN PROGRESS



## What is CATS?



## What is CATS?

In 1955, the City of Chicago, Cook County and the State of Illinois, acting in cooperation with the US Bureau of Public Roads, established the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) to develop the first comprehensive long-range transportation plan for north-eastern Illinois. Completed in 1962, this plan had a horizon year of 1980 and included many recommendations that have since become part of today's highway and transit networks.

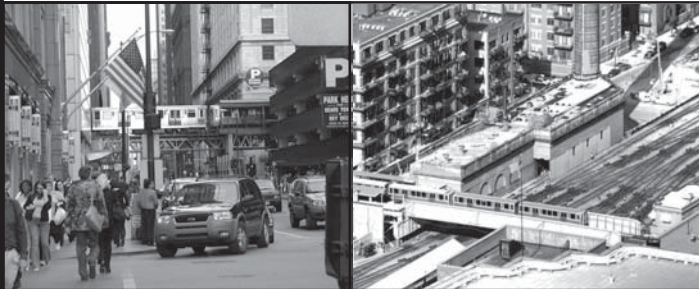


CATS' success was used to support the 1962 Federal Highway Act's requirement of an urban transportation planning process for all metropolitan areas with 50,000 or more people. The Act says a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) must be designated by agreement between the governor and local units of government.



In 1974, the governor and local elected officials designated the Chicago Area Transportation Study's Policy Committee as the MPO for the northeastern Illinois region, which includes all of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will counties and a portion of Kendall County.

Since then, CATS has helped plan, program and implement transportation improvements for northeastern Illinois.



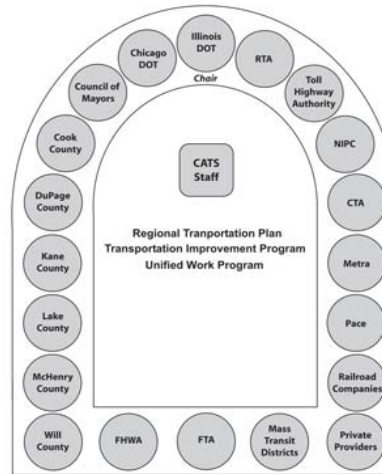
## Who is CATS?

CATS is composed of a 20-member Policy Committee, the Regional Council of Mayors, a professional working staff, a standing committee known as the Work Program Committee, and other committees, subcommittees and task forces created by the Policy Committee.

Policy Committee members represent the following entities: Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will counties, City of Chicago Department of Transportation, North-eastern Illinois Planning Commission, Council of Mayors, Regional Transportation Authority, Chicago Transit Authority, Commuter Rail Board (Metra), Suburban Bus Board (Pace), Class I Railroads, Mass Transit Districts and Private Transportation Providers.

The Policy Committee receives direct input from the Council of Mayors Executive Committee and the Work Program Committee.

The Council of Mayors encompasses 272 municipalities organized into 11 subregional councils plus the City of Chicago. The subregional councils appoint two mayors each to serve on the Council of Mayors Executive Committee, whose chairman serves on the Policy Committee.



CATS Policy Committee Structure

The Work Program Committee (WPC), the operational arm of the MPO, meets to address and review all issues that come before the Policy Committee. The WPC is comprised of a representative from each of the member agencies of the Policy Committee and six other agencies. The Work Program Committee establishes committees, subcommittees and task forces to address specific issues.

This structure provides various agencies, citizen participants and stakeholders the opportunity to work together to identify regional transportation issues and options to address them.

## What does the CATS staff do?

CATS support staff has six components: planning, programming, operations, development, communications and administration.

- **Planning** has two divisions, Plan Development, which creates the long-range regional transportation plan (RTP) for highway and transit system improvements, and Plan Implementation, which conducts studies on specific components of the plan.
- **Programming** has three divisions, Transportation Improvement Program, Transportation Decision Systems and Community Liaison. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a five-year agenda of surface transportation projects.
- **Operations** has three divisions: Private Providers, Transportation Management and Operations Analysis. Transportation Management evaluates and recommends strategies, programs and protocols that have the potential to increase system efficiency. Operations Analysis assesses operations of private passenger and freight providers to facilitate efficiencies within those transportation systems.
- **Development** has three divisions, Financial Planning, Information Services and Technical Analysis.
- **Communications** is responsible for informing the public about CATS' activities and involving the public in the planning process.
- **Administration** is responsible for handling the day-to-day operations of CATS, including office management and personnel matters.

