FUND 2040
Investing in the Chicago Region
Great Cities Institute
February 18, 2015
While overall quality of life is high, our region has grown in unsustainable ways that create congestion and make it hard for people to live near their jobs.
We need to invest in our existing communities while making wise development choices that make our communities great places to live.
While our region’s transportation infrastructure has been key to a century of progress, it is aging rapidly.
We need strategic investments that modernize and maintain these road and transit systems to meet the needs of our growing population.
Livable Communities
Human Capital
Regional Mobility
FUND 2040
Investing in the Chicago Region
FUND 2040 will create regional benefits

A Stronger Economy
Less traffic congestion and more travel choices
Less flood damage

Healthier people
Healthier environment
Efficient government
An ideal FUND 2040 infrastructure project meets multiple objectives.

- A new park with green infrastructure linking to an off-street trail.
- A new express toll lane that also enables BRT.
- A street reconstruction combined efficiently with water main or sewer replacement.
FACT: Congestion has been increasing 5 percent annually for 30 years.

Average commuter, hours stuck in traffic, by year

- 1982: 18 hours
- 2012: 71 hours

Source: Texas Transportation Institute.