



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

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MAYOR EMANUEL JOINS TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY LaHOOD AND GOVERNOR QUINN AT ANNOUNCEMENT OF \$20 MILLION IN TIGER GRANT FUNDING

CTA Blue Line and Chicago Bike Share Program to Benefit

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today joined Federal Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Governor Pat Quinn at the Logan Square L stop to announce that Chicago is receiving \$20 million in Tiger Grant III funding to help rehabilitate a portion of the CTA Blue Line and to expand the Chicago Bike Sharing Program that is launching next year.

"From our roads to our runways to our rail, our infrastructure is one of Chicago's most important assets," said Mayor Emanuel. "I want to thank Secretary LaHood, Senator Durbin, Representative Luis Gutierrez and the Illinois delegation for their support. We're providing more stations, more service and more safety across the City, and this TIGER grant will help ensure we provide a solid foundation for the city's future."

"I want to thank Secretary LaHood, Governor Quinn and Mayor Emanuel for their leadership in securing funding for this project which will strengthen the city's infrastructure and create good-paying jobs in the Chicago-area," said U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL). "We developed the TIGER grant program over two years ago to empower local officials to identify nationally significant transportation projects in their communities that will improve safety, spur economic development, reduce congestion and create jobs. Illinois has done well under this highly competitive program due to the coordination and hard work of our state and local officials, groups and organizations."

"These important investments are necessary to grow our economy, create jobs and ensure that our state remains strong for years to come," Governor Quinn said. "A top-notch transportation system attracts new investment and jobs to Illinois and I want to thank



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Secretary LaHood, Senator Durbin and the Illinois congressional delegation for their continued leadership in Washington on behalf our state.”

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), which will administer the Chicago Bike Share Program, are sharing the \$20 million grant, with the CTA receiving \$16 million and CDOT \$4 million.

The CTA will use the TIGER grant funding to eliminate the slow zone between the Logan Square L stop and the California L stop on the Blue Line to allow trains to move at 55 MPH instead of the current 25 MPH, as well as help reduce maintenance and operating costs.

This is part of the CTA’s efforts to repair several miles of track to complete improvements along the Blue Line between Chicago’s Downtown Loop and O’Hare International Airport.

The Chicago bike share program will be partially funded by this TIGER grant. Chicago expects to offer 3,000 bikes at 300 bike stations in June 2012, and plans to expand the program to 4,000 bikes and 400 stations by 2013.

Logan Square is a candidate to receive a bike sharing station in 2012. The city is still accepting and reviewing bids to operate the program, and recently announced an RFP for a partner to solicit sponsorships, but the Chicago Department of Transportation has started to identify potential locations for the stations.

The system will provide a convenient, easy-to-use transit option envisioned for short trips. Users will pick up a bike from a self-service docking station, ride to their destination and drop off the bike at the nearest station.

Bike sharing is a great option to supplement existing transportation choices and can be used to fill gaps in the transit system or to complete the last segment of a trip, for example between a transit station and the workplace.

More than 800 projects applied for \$14 billion in funding, and Chicago is one of 46 approved applications to receive funding from a pool of \$511 million. Chicago’s funding of \$20 million matches four other cities as the highest award.



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