



Regional Transportation Authority

For immediate release

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RTA MAKES UPGRADES TO REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ASSET DATABASE *More information now available at www.rtams.org*

Chicago -- The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) has upgraded the Regional Transportation Asset Management System also known as RTAMS, giving the site more content as well as upgraded features. Developed with other regional agencies, RTAMS provides planning and financial information on the transportation system in the northeastern Illinois area surrounding Chicago. RTAMS also allows users to access transit and tollway data through an interactive map.

Several improvements enhance the already data-rich ridership section, and the site's mapping applications have been upgraded by utilizing NAVTEQ™ road data that the Illinois Department of Transportation contributed.

"The site enhancements make our asset database a more powerful tool for municipalities and planning agencies as they work to include transit in their overall transportation plans," said Leanne Redden, Senior Deputy Executive Director of Planning and Regional Programs. She added, "Upgrading RTAMS with more content is yet another way we're providing data to the public while demonstrating transparency."

New ridership data added:

- Service Board monthly ridership summaries: Four new reports include ridership for CTA and Pace bus, and CTA and Metra rail. All summaries include historical graphs and search functionality.
- Metra 2006 boarding and alighting counts: Detailed station-level ridership for the entire Metra system. The data can be viewed by time of day, direction or by rail line.
- Pace vanpool and paratransit ridership: The Pace monthly summary page now includes vanpool and paratransit ridership totals. The page includes links to detailed vanpool/paratransit ridership information.

Other Improvements:

- Upgraded with NAVTEQ™: All static and interactive mapping applications now utilize the NAVTEQ™ road network providing superior mapping content and accuracy.
- 2030 Regional Transportation Plan - 2007 update: Content includes updated project descriptions, recommendations, investment categories and planning timeframes. Project descriptions now include planning status, regional plan conformity and priority summaries.

To access RTAMS, go to www.rtams.org. The RTAMS is a password-protected site so you will need to register before using this transportation tool.

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About the RTA: The RTA provides financial oversight, funding and regional planning for the three public transit operators in northeastern Illinois: The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) bus and train, Metra commuter rail and Pace suburban bus and paratransit. For more information, visit www.rtachicago.com and www.MovingBeyondCongestion.org.