



News Release

For Immediate Release

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R1 Receives \$166,360 Grant to Fund Plans to Modernize Parking in Rockford Region

ROCKFORD, IL — Region 1 Planning Council (R1) was awarded a \$166,360 grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to support creation of a Parking Reimagined Plan for the Rockford Region. The Parking Reimagined Plan will demonstrate how parking can be transformed over the next 5-10 years to balance the need to provide space for automobiles while also supporting equity, affordability, environmental stewardship, community design, and the economy.

The completed plan will examine the following areas:

- The current state of parking in the Rockford Region
- Parking costs
- Benefits and drawbacks of effective parking systems
- Current and future trends
- Strategies and recommendations

R1's award was part of a total \$11 million administered through IDOT to support a variety of long-range transportation projects throughout Illinois. Grants awarded included a mix of federal, state, and local funds.

"Thanks to Gov. Pritzker's leadership, we are partnering with communities throughout the state to get them the tools they need to reimagine how they want transportation to work for their residents," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman in a press release.

R1 is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Rockford Region, which is a federally required designation for all urban areas with a population over 50,000. As the MPO, it is R1's responsibility to plan and execute all transportation-related decisions for the urbanized areas of Winnebago, Boone, and Ogle Counties.

ABOUT R1: Region 1 Planning Council (R1) is a special-purpose, regional government agency. Regional councils are public organizations comprised of local elected officials that promote collaboration among local governments, working across the jurisdictional silos of states, counties, and municipalities. A regional council depends on intergovernmental collaboration to foster economic and community growth; through planning, research, federal funding, and data. For more information, visit <http://r1planning.org>.

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