

The logo features a blue rectangular background. At the top, the text "KANE COUNTY 2040 PLAN" is written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. Below this, the words "Kane County Planning Cooperative" are written in a white, elegant cursive script. A white dashed line runs horizontally across the bottom of the blue background.

**KANE COUNTY 2040 PLAN**  
*Kane County Planning Cooperative*

## **For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Mark VanKerkhoff ([vankerkhoffmark@co.kane.il.us](mailto:vankerkhoffmark@co.kane.il.us) or 630-232-3491)

[www.countyofkane.org](http://www.countyofkane.org)

### **Kane County to Receive the 2013 “Best Practice” Award from the American Planning Association – Illinois Chapter**

The Kane County Board will be awarded a 2013 “Best Practice” Award from the Illinois Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA-IL) for its implementation efforts of the ***Kane County 2040 Plan*** through the creation of the **Kane County Planning Cooperative**. The ***Kane County 2040 Plan*** is recognized as being the first comprehensive plan in Illinois to fully integrate health, transportation and land use planning. The **Kane County Planning Cooperative** – which is a collaborative effort between Kane County’s Health, Transportation and Development planning staff- was created as the central core of the 2040 Plan’s implementation strategies under the 2040 Plan’s overarching theme, *Healthy People, Healthy Living and Healthy Communities*.

This award recognizes the vision and planning investments by the Kane County Board. The 2040 Plan was developed and recommended to the County Board by the Kane County Regional Planning Commission. The Kane County Planning Cooperative is staffed by the combined efforts of the Development Department, the Health Department and The Kane County Division of Transportation (KDOT) in implementing the 2040 Plan’s vision with our municipalities and other planning partners.

One of the Cooperative’s fundamental goals is to help municipalities and other planning partners “fill in the gaps” in local planning resources by providing technical assistance. This is of particular importance in some of the county’s municipalities that have no, or overextended, planning staff. To date, the Kane County Planning Cooperative has held four county-wide meetings to address local planning issues such as dealing with stalled developments.

“Kane County is leading the charge for keeping taxes low. Coordinating the County’s planning resources with municipalities is good for our residents and businesses”, stated Kane County Board Chairman Chris Lauzen, “Kane County is a leader in best practices and innovations for ensuring that Kane County remains a great place to live, work and do business.”

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's (CMAP) Executive Director, Randy Blankenhorn, supported the Kane County Planning Cooperative by stating, "Kane County's integration of health, transportation and land use places Kane County at the leading edge of planning in the region and is the most effective way to plan for the future."

The collaborative effort between the three County departments serves as a model for other governmental agencies, a tool to capture and distribute funding and technical assistance, and a planning entity that has Kane County in the position to implement the smart growth and healthy community design principles that are leading to improved public health outcomes.

The Planning Cooperative's strategy has been presented at seminars throughout the region and will be featured at the American Public Health Association's (APHA) Conference in Boston this November. The Kane County Planning Cooperative also recently won the APHA's 2012 Power of Policy contest, along with winning the APA-IL's 2013 "Best Practice" Award.

Kane County will receive the award for "Best Practice" at the APA-IL Chapter Awards Reception on Friday, October 4, 2013. This award will be presented in conjunction with the Chicago Metro Section Fall Conference which is held at the DePaul Center Concourse in Chicago.

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