



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Human Services Committee Minutes from Monday March 9th, 2009

In Attendance:

Members:

Phil Smith

Sheri Cohen

Lorrie Lynn

Janelle Brown

Henry Sullivan

Janna Stansell

Mike Sullivan

Tammy Wierciak

Candace King

Walt Meyers

Laurie Dittman

Craig Adams

DuPage County Community Services

Chicago Department of Public Health

United Way of Metro Chicago

RTA

Center for Neighborhood Technology

Health and Medicine Policy Research Group

Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors

Metropolitan Mayors Caucus/Council of Mayors

DuPage Federation on Human Services

Northeast Illinois Area on Aging

MOPD, City of Chicago

Pioneer Center for Human Services

Guest:

Lillian Lahr

Peggy Mueller

Gudelia Lopez

Steve Tozer

CTA

Chicago Community Trust

Chicago Community Trust

UIC School of Education

CMAP Staff:

Russell Pietrowiak

Bob Dean

Shana Alford

CMAP Staff

CMAP Staff

CMAP Staff

1.0 Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

2.0 Approval of November minutes.

The minutes for the February meeting were approved.

3.0 Comments from the Chair or Vice Chair

The chair stated that there wasn't a planning committee meeting since the Human Services Committee last meet. The vice-chair stated that the next programming meeting would be on Wednesday (4/8/09) and that a summary of this meeting would be provided to the committee at the next meeting. At the last programming

committee meeting the focus was on a revised version of Developments of Regional Significance (DRI's) and that if anyone had any questions or comments on DRI's they should forward those to her or CMAP staff. It was also decided that DRI's would be discussed at the next committee meeting.

4.0 Human Services Issues

4.1 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Update.

A number of items regarding stimulus funding were discussed in brief by staff. CMAP puts together a weekly email that highlights the most current information regarding stimulus funding and requirements with particular attention given to how stimulus funding will come to the region. It was also stated that CMAP plans on tracking stimulus funds that come to the region with an emphasis on funds that go towards infrastructure.

4.2 2-1-1 Update

CMAP staff provided an update on the current status of 2-1-1 efforts. There are a number of activities regard 2-1-1 that were brought forth to the committee's attention. Two are legislative issues and the other is a planning issue.

Legislative Issues:

At the State level SB1922 was introduced by State Senator Susan Garrett. The bill would create a 501c3 to manage a statewide 2-1-1 system. It is modeled after legislation found in other states that have a 2-1-1 system. Copies of a synopsis of the bill were distributed.

At the national level there has been some discussion of various federal funding mechanisms to support 211 (CDBG, Homeland Security grants, etc.). In addition the United Way of America and its partners are steadily making progress adding co-sponsors to the 211 calling act. Currently they have over 100 members of the house (h211) and 35 senators signed up as co-sponsors of this bill (s211)

4.3 Community Development Block Grants (CDBG): Consolidated Plans, (Phil Smith, DuPage County)

Phil Smith lead a discussion regarding consolidated planning requirements related to using various Housing and Urban Development grants.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME, Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA), and Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) are the grants that typically are addressed by a consolidated plan. The goal is to have viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. A consolidated plan is designed to state in one document the plan to pursue these goals for all the community planning and development programs, as well as for housing programs. In the development of a consolidated plan various governmental entities are to be consulted, one of which is the local MPO, which in Northeast Illinois is CMAP. The consultation requirement

is not strictly adhered to. In the past NIPC was consulted. With the creation of CMAP it is thought that CMAP might want to become involved in this process, potentially as a way to help further the implementation of the region's goals and vision as outlined in the Go To 2040 plan. The question was then posed, should CMAP become involved in consolidated planning and what value would it add to the process. That question was left open for future discussion. Areas in the CMAP region that have consolidated plans include the counties and large municipalities such as Chicago, Aurora, Elgin, Joliet, etc.

Committee members then asked a variety of questions. One question/statement that was asked wondered if CMAP could help to bring some consistency to the various consolidated plans throughout the region. It was also mentioned that the planning process is somewhat burdensome and that CMAP might be able to help alleviate some of the burden by providing technical assistance. It was also suggested that CMAP could convene a forum in which all of the entities responsible for the development of a consolidated plan could come together and share ideas and talk with one another, which would help to facilitate coordination throughout the region. Another suggestion was to consult with the Housing Committee. Finally it was mentioned that all of the consolidated plans will need to be updated in order to receive ARRA funds. CMAP staff stated that they would have further discussions regarding what role CMAP would like to have in the consolidated planning process.

4.4 2009 National Association of Planning Council (NAPC) Conference Recap, (Candace King, DuPage Federation on Human Services)

Candace King provided the committee with a recap of the recent NAPC conference. In general various larger trends, such as the economy, aging society, etc. were discussed. Another highlight was the use and limitation of data from the American Community Survey (ACS). Candace stated that she would provide the committee with a link to information about what took place at the conference along with other relevant information. The link is below:

http://www.communityplanning.org/NAPC_Member_Information_Exchange_2009.htm

5.0 Go To 2040 Plan Development

5.1 Education Presentation

A presentation was given by the Peggy Mueller and Gudelia Lopez from the Chicago Community Trust and Steve Tozer from the UIC School of Education on their initial findings as they relate to education strategies and recommendations for the Go To 2040 plan. There are 3 lead agencies for education focuses each on one of three focus areas; kids birth to 5 years old, K-12, and higher education. UIC is the lead agency for the k-12 group. Each lead agency also has an advisory group. During the course of

their work they decided that there was enough linkages and overlap to look at education as a continuum from preschool through higher education (p-20). Some of the areas where they have focused their attention are transitions (going from high school to college for example), teaching enhancement, improving quality and access to quality education. It was mentioned that their findings are only in draft form at this time and it is possible that they could change as the review and comment period progresses. There was a great deal of discussion on the need to enhance the tracking of student and teacher performance, improving curriculum and readiness skills, the need to continually improve teacher quality and to provide for more leadership development. The final draft is expected to be completed sometime in May or June. There were a variety of questions from the committee. One question asked is disabled students are being included in this report and if their issues are being examined differently than other students, particularly when looking at transitions. The response was that transitions impact these students potentially more than they do other students and that this would need to be considered. Another question/statement that was made stated that Human Services is affected by education and that schools need to be better integrated with the community. The example given is that someone with an emotional or behavioral problem might be thought of as someone with a disability in a school setting, an issue for law enforcement to handle in a community setting, and as someone that need mental health services by the Human Services community. Better integration might produce better treatment and better outcomes for everyone. The education group stated that schools do need to become more community focused. There were also questions asked about teachers, unions, and the role that parents have in educating their children. The education group stated that all of these issues would likely be addressed in the final report and that they had been discussing various ways of addressing these issues.

5.2 CMAP/CTT Partnership Update

A brief update was provided to the committee on the activities of the lead agencies and the Trust. All of the lead agencies, the Trust and CMAP will be meeting on April 6th. The next lead agencies to present will talk about workforce development and health at the April Human Services Committee meeting.

6.0 Other

The RTA announced that they would be issuing a call for projects for their 2 planning grants and for JARC and New Freedom grants on April 8th, 2009.

7.0 Next Meeting (April 13th at 10:00am)

8.0 Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.