



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Programming Coordinating Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2009

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
DuPage County Conference Room  
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois

**Members Present:** Joe Deal (City of Chicago – CMAP Board), Mark Avery (DuPage County – Land Use Committee), Alan Bennett (Village of Elmwood Park - CMAP Board), Jack Darin (Sierra Club – Environment and Natural Resources Committee), Beth Dever (Metropolitan Mayors Caucus - Housing Committee), Luann Hamilton (City of Chicago – Transportation Committee for Tom Cuculich), Russell Hartigan (Lyons Township - CMAP Board), Marilyn Michelini (Village President of Montgomery – CMAP Board), Dan Shea (McHenry County Board - CMAP Board), Steve Schlickman (Regional Transportation Authority – CMAP Board), Tammy Wierciak (West Central Municipal Conference- Human Service Committee)

**Members Absent:** John Grueling (Will County Center for Economic Development - Economic and Community Development Committee), Raul Raymundo (Resurrection Project - CMAP Board), Nigel Telman (Sidley-Austin, LLP - CMAP Board)

**Others Present:** Len Cannata (WCMC), Pat Carey (City of Chicago), Kristina Dalman (ULI), David Galowich (ULI), Paul Heltne (Public), J. Christopher Huff (Village of Schaumburg), Mike Sullivan (KKCOM), Chris Staron (NWMC)

**Staff Present:** Patricia Berry, Randy Blankenhorn, Doug Ferguson, Tara Fifer, Tom Garritano, Don Kopec, Jill Leary, Holly Ostdick, Ross Patronskey, Brian Rademacher, Gordon Smith, Kermit Wies

### 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Joe Deal. Mr. Deal introduced himself as the new City of Chicago representative on the CMAP board, Vice-Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Programming Coordinating Committee.

## **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

## **3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes**

A motion made by Mr. Shea to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2009 Programming Coordinating Committee meeting as presented was seconded by Ms. Dever. With all ayes, the motion carried.

## **4.0 Developments of Regional Importance (DRI)**

Mr. Wies stated that CMAP staff has developed a skeletal document that takes the ULI proposal and stakeholders' comments into consideration. He reviewed the five parts of the report.

- Requesting a DRI Review
- Defining Criteria
- Quantitative Thresholds
- CMAP Board Activity
- DRI Advisory Report

Committee members discussed the timeframe and process for public comment. It was determined that the proposal would be released for public comment on the website for 45 days. The Committee requested that staff bring a summary of comments to their meeting in April. After review it will go to the CMAP Board at their May meeting. Mr. Shea made a motion to release the document as revised for public comment for 45 days. Ms. Micheline seconded the motion. With all ayes, the motion carried.

## **5.0 RTP and TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendment**

Ms. Ostdick stated that CMAP conducts an RTP/TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendment twice every year for non-exempt and exempt tested projects. These are projects that have an effect on air quality and the changes are analyzed to demonstrate that our transportation improvements will not preclude the region from meeting national ambient air quality standards. Programmers requested eighty-four revisions to seventy-five projects. Types of changes include changes in work types, adding or deleting new projects, changing the limits to existing projects, projects being included in our regional model, or changes to the year in which a project will be completed. The public comment period ends on February 15 and to date no comments have been received. These amendments have been analyzed and CMAP has determined that the transportation improvements meet air quality requirements. She continued to state that included with the memo is a report of changes being completed and distributed a map showing the project locations.. Ms. Ostdick highlighted the sheer number of projects in the TIP, saying that if she produced a map at the same scale with all TIP project, it would be completely filled. To view a map of all TIP projects she suggested viewing the [interactive TIP map](#) available on CMAP's website.

- It was asked regarding why bids for transportation projects have been coming in very low.

- Accurate cost estimates and the decrease in the price of oil leads to lower asphalt costs.

## **6.0 Revised Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program Procedures**

Mr. Ferguson stated there was a memo distributed in the packet with recommendations for programming changes to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program that the CMAQ Project Selection Committee has developed over the last three months. The Project Selection Committee started the discussion of programming changes over two and a half years ago due to the high unobligated balance the CMAQ program is carrying and a concern over missed opportunities to achieving air quality and congestion reduction benefits.

With over \$200 Million in unobligated funds, it is not feasible to reduce the balance in one year but more aggressive measures can reduce the balance within in a reasonable time span.

The memo was presented as an informational item with the anticipation that the recommendations will be brought for the committee's approval at their next meeting. Some highlights include:

- CMAQ funds were programmed in a lump sum fashion with all phases of a project sitting in one year. The project phases include engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction and implementation.
  - In 2007 a switch was made to a multi-year programming format. Multi-year programming places funding for phases of a project in separate years when the individual phases are expected to start so that funds that can't be spent do not tie-up current funding.
- The recommendations include moving funds into realistic years for projects that were programmed prior to the multi-year format. This will allow for more funds to be made available for cost increases and new projects.
- To make the multi-year format work the recommendations include active program management strategies that will allow staff with the help of the Council of Mayors' Planning Liaisons to:
  - Recognize when a project is not going to move forward;
  - Make timely decisions on pushing projects out of the current year;
  - Identify new projects that are ready to move forward.
- Stringent deadlines will be placed on the progress of projects.
  - Sponsors of projects need to realize that CMAQ funding can be withdrawn.

The recommendations also include measures to tighten up the application process. Sponsors will be responsible for submitting complete applications. A good deal of staff time has previously been dedicated to collecting missing information from applications. Mr. Ferguson stated the extra time could be used to follow-up with currently programmed projects.

## 7.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

## 8.0 Public Comment

Mr. Paul Heltne distributed a one page sheet with concerns regarding the DRI thresholds. He stated that only one other project, other than O'Hare airport, would meet the thresholds as defined. He additionally requested new thresholds be determined for air quality and water supply.

Ms. Kristina Dalman the chair of the ULI Technical Panel suggested possible ways to perform the public notification – specifically working with the municipal list.

Mr. David Galowich of the ULI Technical Panel stated that it is possible five different developments might have a cumulative impact of one different DRI but that he believes CMAP and the region will grab things that might possibly fall through the cracks.

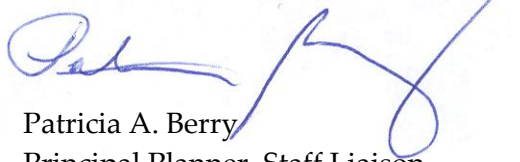
## 9.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Programming Coordinating Committee is scheduled for April 8, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.

## 10.0 Adjournment

Mr. Hartigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. Vote: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia A. Berry  
Principal Planner, Staff Liaison

03-20-09

*Approved as presented by unanimous vote, April 8, 2009.*