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Housing Working Committee Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2009

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

Members Present: Phil Ashton, Paul Colgan, Beth Dever, Nancy Firfer, David Gravel, Paul Leder, Nicole Nutter, Andrea Traudt, , Joanna Trotter, Dan Ungerleider, Stacie Young

Staff Present: Lee Deuben, Bob Dean, Andrew Williams-Clark, Annie Byrne, Justine Reisinger

Others Present:

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 by committee Co-Chair, Beth Dever

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Beth Dever welcomed new housing committee members, David Gravel and Stacie Young. Beth Dever provided a brief update on the foreclosure legislation and best practice guide. The foreclosure legislation will go back to the legislature during the veto session. Following the veto session the best practice guide will be published for distribution to municipalities. CMAP and the Mayors Caucus will work closely with BPI to distribute the publication and provide technical assistance to municipalities who want to implement best practices.

Agenda items six and seven were reversed.

3.0 Approval of Minutes- July 16th, 2009

A call for a motion to approve the minutes of the July housing committee, as presented, and a motion was made by Dan Ungerleider and seconded Nancy Firfer. All in favor the motion carried.

4.0 CMAP Call to Action Letter- Financial Institutions and Foreclosures, Lee Deuben

Lee Deuben presented a letter to the housing committee that was sent to financial institutions as a Call to Action in regards to foreclosure. The letter was the result of a

motion made by CMAP's Board at the July Board meeting. Adam Dontz recommended that as a follow up CMAP could use Regional HOPI as a platform to engage financial institutions further.

5.0 Regional Housing Market Trends, Adam Dontz

Committee member, Adam Dontz presented a brief overview of housing trends in the Chicago region based on MetroStudy's recent quarterly report. He discussed that the housing market isn't likely to rebound until jobs and wages stabilize, population grows and the cost and availability of credit flows again. Mr. Dontz stressed that now is the time to get homebuilders and municipalities together to discuss how to get the housing market moving again. Nancy Firfer stated that Metropolis 2020 and the Mayors Caucus are working with the Urban Land Institute to plan an event this fall on this very topic. Mr. Dontz suggested the CMAP take the lead in facilitating discussions with municipalities. David Gravel suggested that we should target specific communities that are influential in doing things differently. Dan Ungerleider stressed that this is a pivotal time to talk about building smaller houses and at higher densities to increase affordability. Lee Deuben offered to form a sub-committee on this topic to further discuss CMAP's role and next steps.

6.0 GO TO 2040 Preferred Housing Scenario Discussion, Bob Dean

Bob Dean provided an updated draft of the preferred scenario memo. He commented that these were preliminary findings but that the bullets included in the memo on housing will likely be included in the preferred scenario for housing. Beth Dever mentioned that the Mayors Caucus is working with Fregonese and Associates on modeling energy efficiency and housing. Paul Colgan commented that often times model energy efficiency homes are very expensive to build. Mr. Colgan also stressed that is important to consider individual behaviors when looking at energy efficiency. Phil Ashton cautioned that CMAP should look into other supply and demand factors and not solely focus on regulatory barriers (oversupply was not caused by regulatory barriers). Stacie Young suggested that when mentioning public programs they should be separated into preservation of the existing housing stock versus new production programs.

7.0 GO TO 2040 Housing Innovation Indicators, Andrew Williams Clark

Andrew Williams Clark provided the committee with a draft survey on housing innovation indicators. He requested feedback from the committee on the initial list of questions. Andrew Traudt suggested clarifying affordable housing programs as publically subsidized or privately funded. Nancy Firfer suggested reordering the questionnaire. The committee provided several more suggestions on capturing "affordable housing goals" such as adding questions about staff capacity and or inquiring as to whether or not there are committees established to address housing within the communities.

8.0 Public Comment

There were no public comments

9.0 Other Comments

Nicole Nutter made a few brief announcements in regards to the RTA's preliminary community planning grants awards. Ms. Nutter also announced the housing policy that the RTA developed is still waiting to go to the RTA board but should be within the next few months.

Joanna Trotter made a brief announcement about the Metropolitan Planning Council annual luncheon. This year's luncheon will feature to discuss the federal agenda to better align resources through the Sustainable Communities Initiative.

10.0 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

11.0 Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Housing Working Committee is Thursday, September 17th 2009 at 9:00 am in the CMAP offices.

4.0 Adjournment

A call for a motion to adjourn was made and a motion was made by Joanna Trotter and seconded by Andrew Traudt. All in favor the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Deuben', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lee Deuben