



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

312 454 0400
www.cmap.illinois.gov

Land Use Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 21, 2011

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

Members Present:

Mark Avery (chair), Judy Beck, Robert Cole, Roger Dahlstrom, Lisa DiChiera, Kimberly Flom, David Galowich, Jim LaBelle, Steve Lazzara (for Curt Paddock), Ed Paesel (co-chair), Heather Smith, Heather Tabbert, Eric Waggoner, Norm West

Members Absent:

Kristi DeLaurentiis, Arnold Randall, Dennis Sandquist, Nathaniel Werner, Nancy Williamson, Jeromie Winsor

Staff Present:

Stephen Ostrander (committee liaison), Ylda Capriccioso, Bob Dean, Matt Maloney, Elizabeth Schuh

Others Present:

Michael Carney (graduate student – UIC), Clayton Jirak (graduate student – UIC), Varun Kalhan (“private citizen”), (Ryan Richter (Metra)

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Mark Avery called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Mark announced to committee members that he would be retiring from his current position with DuPage County, with his last day being November 18, 2011. As a result, a new Chair for the committee would be selected in the coming weeks.

3.0 Approval of Meeting Notes

A motion to approve the minutes of July 20, 2011, was made by Heather Tabbert and seconded by Rob Cole. All in favor, the motion carried.

4.0 GO TO 2040 Implementation Report – Bob Dean, CMAP

This fall, CMAP intends to create a report describing actions that have taken place over the past year that advance the implementation of GO TO 2040. CMAP staff is requesting the assistance of the working committees in preparing this document. The report is expected to be an item of discussion for the working committees for the next several months. Bob Dean introduced CMAP's plans for the report and respond to initial questions.

He asked committee members to come up with 1 or 2 accomplishments of their organization/agency over the past year, and forward them to Committee Liaison Stephen Ostrander—by October 12, one week before the next meeting, if possible.

5.0 CMAP's 2011 State Agenda – Ylda Capriccioso, CMAP

Committee members were asked to review the current CMAP 2011 State Agenda, and were asked to consider the following questions: *Considering the recommendations of the GO TO 2040 plan: Are there things left off or that could be more universal to the agenda? What are we missing? Should we be emphasizing certain principles or concepts in the agenda?* Committee members had little feedback; Mark Avery stated that the State Agenda seemed consistent with GO TO 2040.

6.0 Implementing GO TO 2040: Proposed Regional Analyses supporting Land Use and Housing Implementation Actions – Elizabeth Schuh, CMAP

Matt Maloney first introduced Elizabeth Schuh, a new hire for CMAP's policy division (which Matt heads); Elizabeth was previously with S.B. Friedman.

Committee members were asked to read the associated policy memo, which outlines several potential regional-level research and analysis tasks that seek to further the recommendations of GO TO 2040 and provide tools for plan implementation. Elizabeth walked committee members through the content of the memo, and answered their questions, particularly regarding the utility of these concepts for supporting the implementation of GO TO 2040.

Jim LaBelle: Value capture has been discussed in places like the Elgin-O'Hare. Regarding Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) – where are the stations? Virginia has transportation improvement districts (that could be an interesting model).

Roger Dahlstrom: We have prepared a report on this manner of value capture, and found that Illinois laws simply don't allow for it.

[Matt Maloney announced that CMAP's value capture study is almost done, and will be discussed next month.]

Steve Lazzara: regarding infill, the LTA project in Fairmont is a great example of a successful infill project.

Norm West: The peaks and lows of the past decade and the jobs-housing balance offer us a good chance for study.

Bob Dean: The conclusion of the original jobs housing balance study detail the mismatch between where jobs and housing are located, and these patterns are expected to hold.

Heather Smith: Interested in the "Last Mile" issue in regard to BRT. Would like to see CMAP look at best practices nationwide (and beyond) to tackle this issue.

Ed Paesel: One potential issue relation to jobs-housing balance would be the concentration of subsidized housing. For example, southern Cook County has about 30% of the county population, but about 70% of the county's subsidized housing. This housing is generally concentrated in areas that are very low in jobs and county services.

Heather Tabbert: Have you actually found examples of highway BRT?

Elizabeth Schuh: Minneapolis is looking at implementing.

Heather Smith: Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) is working on this. CNU would be glad to get ideas for case studies.

Jim LaBelle: CTA's experience with the Blue Line (i.e. middle of expressway) might serve as an example.

7.0 Discussion: Role of Committee in Addressing Regional Land Use Concerns Raised by Local Transportation Projects – Norm West, U.S. EPA

Following from the ideas included in the paper he authored (posted online with other meeting materials), Norm explained that he is basically concerned with the issue of connectivity within the ecosystem, referencing two maps included in the GO TO 2040 plan, illustrating park and green space, as well as the region's "green infrastructure" (on pages 125 and 128, respectively).

Norm: With a two-lane road, animals can cross rather easily, but when additional lanes and, especially, a divider, are added, the [ecosystem connectivity] can deteriorate rapidly.

The Illiana, currently in the EIS stage, has the potential to sever connectivity (to a greater degree than most transportation projects).

Therefore, a question for the committee: Does the committee address these sorts of concerns, specifically regarding connectivity?

Lisa DiChiera: [Asked whether Will County had any response to Norm's comments]

Steve Lazzara: We are working through a UWP grant on greenway connections to establish connectivity.

Judy Beck: There needs to be consideration of groundwater issues as well.

Chicago Wilderness has a climate change work group that is very concerned with connectivity.

There have been many engineering studies that have looked at how to do culverts and passages for connectivity that should be looked at, especially by Will County. This project can be expected to increase stormwater problems.

David Galowich: Norm's real focus is on the committee's role. I think we're all interested in rolling up our sleeves. There is a need to focus on these sorts of issues. But there is also need for consideration of all aspects of these projects.

Ed Paesel: [Agreed with Dave G.] Every couple of months, projects that are exempt from DRI—due to EIS—could be considered by the committee.

Judy Beck: Land Use Committee could invite members of CMAP's Environment Committee to present on the status of the Green Infrastructure Vision (GIV) initiative.

Mark Avery: Don't think the focus should be project driven.

[Norm asked for an explanation.]

Mark: Let me clarify – we want to focus on any flaws in the internal CMAP process, but not individual projects.

Norm: Would appreciate consideration of the Illiana—focusing on connectivity.

Dave Galowich: We don't have a bully pulpit. If staff could report at stages of these sorts of projects, when staff could offer the committee a chance for comment.

Ed Paesel: Don Kopec presents comments to various EIS (e.g. public hearing in Dec.). Land Use Committee members could make sure their comments were represented.

Rob Cole: Agreed, but focused on policy implications rather than “getting into the weeds” of specifics of a given project.

Ed Paesel: It seems that this committee should have the opportunity to comment if there are projects that have been exempted from DRI due to EIS.

Ed asked about Tollway – will GO TO 2040 be amended (given changes in revenue and available operating funds)?

Bob Dean: We will be updating the plan in 2014, but given that changes involve constrained projects, it's not inconsistent with the GO TO 2040 as it stands.

8.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CMAP Land Use Committee will be on Wednesday, October 19, 2011.

9.0 Other Business

Heather Tabbert provided a very brief, general update on projects selected for the RTA's component of the Community Planning grant program.

Judy Beck announced the State of Lake Michigan / Great Lakes Beach joint conference: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich/6585.htm>. Please contact Judy Beck (Beck.Judy@epa.gov) if you are interested in webinar information.

Lisa DiChiera announced the 2011 Illinois Main Street State Conference - October 26-27, 2011 in Galesburg, IL. Agenda and registration information: <http://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/mainstreet/Pages/events.aspx> ; Seminar Training Workshop info: <http://www.landmarks.org/pdfs/Seminar%20Training%20Workshop0001.pdf>

10.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Ostrander
Staff Liaison to the Land Use Committee