



Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes
October 26th, 2010
DuPage County Conference Room

Members Present: Grant Davis, JoAnn Eckmann, John Greuling, Judith Kossy, Harry Pestine

Members Absent: Ivan Baker, Tracey Bosman, Consuella Brown, Bill Browne, Lori Clark, Thomas Gary, Robert Gleeson, Joanna Greene, Rand Haas, Dennis Marino, Angie Powell, John Schneider, Gary Skoog, Ed Sitar

Staff Present: Brett Baden, Annie Byrne, Bola Delano, Jon Hallas, Ricardo Lopez, Matt Maloney, Brian Rademacher, Peter Saunders

Others Present: Kristen Andersen

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

2.0 Welcome and Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

3.0 Approval of the Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

5.0 Staff Report

There was no staff report.

6.0 Chairman Report

The chairman reported on recent developments around the region including the completion of the Will County Inland Port Study and the opening of the new Union Pacific intermodal facility.

7.0 Role of the Committee after Launch of the Plan

The committee agreed to table the discussion until such a time when more direction is provided.

8.0 GOTO 2040

8.1 Brett Baden gave an overview of a proposed policy brief on a cluster drill-down analysis report of the freight industry. The purpose of the report is to follow-through on the recommendation made in GO TO 2040 and identify workforce, finance, and infrastructure needs for the cluster. These reports would be regional in scope and focus on how policy effects cluster growth. The methodology and outline of the proposed report was next described. This methodology could be used for future cluster policy briefs. As the report progresses he identified the role of the committee to serve an advisory role, review progress, assist in developing appropriate contacts, and help inform the recommendations so they remain useable. He concluded the presentation by indicating the Transportation and Logistics Cluster would be analyzed first because this would complement other reports and work completed by CMAP and it is an established cluster in the region.

The floor was open for comments. In general, the committee said a lot of work has already been done to identify clusters of importance and suggested utilizing this to assist in the process. Further, they said this type of report may be better positioned to further make the case for supporting the cluster in the region. John Greuling asked how the report would take into account local geographic variances. Staff indicated that community and technical assistance is currently providing county-level cluster analysis that analyzes this. Harry Pestine said that freight serves all other businesses and recommended that staff investigate the industries that rely on the transportation and logistics cluster.

8.2 Pete Saunders presented initial ideas on how CMAP should approach additional local technical assistance efforts now that GO TO 2040 has been launched. He reviewed a few case studies of technical assistance programs of other regional planning organizations to highlight different types of activities it can provide. He said the Sustainable Communities Initiative grant allows CMAP to provide Local Technical Assistance (LTA) with municipalities as well as develop grant programs that local governments can apply for financial assistance to implement GO TO 2040. He further indicated that CMAP will continue to provide ongoing technical assistance that is currently available.

The committee suggested making clear the distinction between a grant for technical assistance and the current set of programs and projects offered free of charge. Grant Davis agreed saying that the current services provided are invaluable. He also suggested that CMAP ensure the grants are obtainable for small communities that may not have the staff or expertise to write grants. Harry Pestine suggested extending the title to include the word financing since it offers financial assistance.

9.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10.0 Upcoming Regional Events

Harry Pestine distributed copies of “Addressing the Impact of the Foreclosure Crisis: Federal Reserve Mortgage Outreach and Research Efforts”. A link has been provided for an electronic copy: <http://tinyurl.com/FedReserveBankChic>

He also invited committee members and colleagues to an upcoming breakfast at the Federal Reserve Bank to participate in the Chicago Area Community and Economic Development Roundtable Forum scheduled for **November 18, 2010**. Members can learn more and register using the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/CEDForum>

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher
Staff Liaison

11-04-10