Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

312 454 0400
www.cmap.illinois.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: **CMAQ Project Selection Committee**

From: Douglas Ferguson, Senior Planner

Date: September 8, 2011

Re: Public Comments on Proposed FY 2012 – FY 2016 CMAQ Program

---

The following is a summary of comments received on the proposed FY 2012 – 2016 CMAQ program and staff recommendations with regard to those comments. 17 comments on specific proposals and one general comment on the program were received. Copies of the individual comments are available at http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/cmaq/2012-2016-program-information or by selecting the links within the memo. Based on the comments received, staff recommends that the Project Selection Committee make two revisions to the Multi-Year B list: 1) Revise Pace's I-90 Corridor proposal in the Multi-Year B list to 100 percent funding to match the funding percentage in the Proposed Program for the proposal, and 2) include Aurora's intersection improvement proposal on Eola Rd from 83rd St/Montgomery Rd to 87th St in the Multi-Year B-list as a corridor-level proposal with the Eola Rd signal interconnect proposal that is included in the Proposed Program.

Several of the comments received made reference to the GO TO 2040 Focused Programming Approach and the recommendations of the individual Focus Groups. The role of the Focus Groups' priority recommendations to the Project Selection Committee was to assist them in the development of a focused program that helps to implement the vision of GO TO 2040. The Focused Programming Approach recognizes that some projects recommended by the program focus groups may not, in the final analysis, end up being good CMAQ projects, or there may be insufficient funds to program all good CMAQ candidate projects.

David Tomzik, Pace Suburban Bus

TI13123713-Pace-I-90 Corridor Enhanced Markets

Mr. Tomzik submitted a verbal comment requesting the funding included in the Multi-Year B List for the subject transit proposal be changed to 100 percent funding to match the funding levels included in the Proposed Program.

- The proposed program has been revised and staff recommends that the subject project be listed in the Multi-Year B list at 100 percent funding ($10,360,350).

Matt Mann, Director of Public Works, Village of Streamwood

BP03123735-Streamwood-IL19/Irving Park Rd from Schaumburg Rd to Park Blv

Mr. Mann submitted a letter requesting the inclusion of the subject bicycle facility proposal in the Proposed Program or the Multi-Year B list. The project is being engineered as part of a roadway project on IL 19.

- The proposal was not a recommendation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and the project ranked 31st among 102 bicycle facility proposals. Staff recommends that the proposed program not be updated to include BP03123735.

David R. Inman, Director of Sustainability, Wilbur Wright College

OT13123629-IEPA-Partners for Clean Air

Mr. Inman submitted a letter in support of the subject project.

- The subject project continues to be included in the proposed program for FY2012-2016.

Angela Aye Tin, Vice President Environmental Health, American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest

OT13123629-IEPA-Partners for Clean Air

Ms. Tin submitted a letter in support of the subject project.

- The subject project continues to be included in the proposed program for FY2012-2016.

Akram Chaudhry, Vice President, HRGreen (on behalf of the City of Aurora)

II09123762-Aurora-Eola Rd from 83rd St/Montgomery Rd to 87th St

Mr. Chaudhry submitted a letter on behalf of the City of Aurora requesting the inclusion of the subject intersection improvement proposal in the Proposed Program or the Multi-Year B list. The engineering for this project is being completed with STP and City funds.

- The proposal was not recommended by the Regional Transportation Operations Coalition and ranked 23rd among 118 Intersection Improvement proposals. The review by the Regional Transportation Operations Coalition did not identify it as being in the middle of a signal interconnect proposal on Eola Rd that was recommended and included in the proposed program. Staff recommends that the project be added to the proposed program in the Multi-Year B list as a new corridor project with the Eola Rd signal interconnect proposal.

Scott Marquardt, Village Engineer, Village of Carpentersville

II09123773-Carpentersville-L W Besinger Drive from Maple Av to IL 25/JFK Memorial Drive

Mr. Marquardt submitted a letter requesting the inclusion of the subject intersection improvement proposal in the Proposed Program. The Village indicated that the proposal was not analyzed fully for the bicycle facility benefits included in the scope.

- The proposal was not recommended by the Regional Transportation Operations Coalition and ranked 56th among 118 Intersection Improvement proposals. The analysis for emissions benefits did include the bicycle facility benefits as proposed. Staff recommends that the project not be added to the proposed program.

Dewey Pierotti, President, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

BP09123633- Forest Preserve District of DuPage County-Winfield Mounds Segment – West Branch Regional Trail
BP08123632- Forest Preserve District of DuPage County-Mallard Lake – North Central DuPage Regional Trail

Mr. Pierotti submitted a letter requesting the subject bicycle facility proposals be reconsidered for inclusion in the Proposed Program. The Winfield Mounds proposal has local match budgeted by the Forest Preserve District and the Village of Winfield to commence engineering. The Forest Preserve District has acquired property for the Mallard Lake proposal and has completed preliminary engineering.

- Both proposals were recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and continue to be included in the Multi-Year B list. The Winfield Mounds proposal ranked 34th and the Mallard Lake proposal ranked 48th among 102 Bicycle Facility proposals.

Curt Barrett, Village Manager, Village of Winfield

BP08123633- Forest Preserve District of DuPage County-Winfield Mounds Segment – West Branch Regional Trail

Mr. Barrett submitted a letter requesting the subject bicycle facility proposal be reconsidered for inclusion in the Proposed Program. The Village is participating with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County and currently has funding committed to the proposal. The project is a connecter for western DuPage County with the Illinois Prairie Path trail network and the Naperville trail network to the south. The Village further commented on the bicycle facility portion of the Proposed Program, stating that there is a preponderance of funding in Cook County, and there should be more equity among geographic areas in the region with regard to the bicycle facility portion of the proposed program.

- The proposal was recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and continues to be included in the Multi-Year B list. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force, along with the other three focus groups, was asked to develop packages of projects to address the goals of GO TO 2040. It was made clear by all that the focus groups were not tasked

with programming CMAQ funds. The proposal ranked 34th among 102 Bicycle Facility proposals. The CMAQ Project Selection Committee considers regional equity as a minor overall consideration (i.e., among all project categories) when proposing a program of projects. Staff does not review individual project categories for equity – different parts of the region have historically exhibited different levels of congestion and emphasized different project types in their proposals.

Mark R. Avery, Planning Division Manager, DuPage County Economic Development and Planning

BP08123633- Forest Preserve District of DuPage County-Winfield Mounds Segment – West Branch Regional Trail

Mr. Avery submitted a letter in support of the subject bicycle facility proposal and requests the Committee reconsider the proposal for inclusion in the proposed program. The County is disappointed that no bicycle facility proposals in DuPage County were included in the proposed program.

- See staff notes from the previous comment from Mr. Barrett.

Bob Sobie, President, The Illinois Prairie Path not-for-profit corporation

BP08123633- Forest Preserve District of DuPage County-Winfield Mounds Segment – West Branch Regional Trail

Mr. Sobie submitted a letter requesting reconsideration of the subject bicycle facility proposal for inclusion in the proposed program. He also calls for equitable geographic division of bicycle facility resources throughout northeastern Illinois and supports a regional trail system that links counties together.

- See staff notes from the previous comment from Mr. Barrett.

Christopher Canning, President, Village of Wilmette
Kerry Cummings, President, Village of Glenview
Sandra Frum, President, Village of Northbrook
Fred Gougler, President, Village of Northfield

BP02123698-Wilmette-Skokie Valley Trail from Lake Cook Rd to Old Orchard Rd

The Village Presidents from Wilmette, Glenview, Northbrook and Northfield submitted a letter requesting reconsideration of the subject bicycle facility proposal to include phase I funding in the amount of $500,000 in the proposed program. The Villages have had success engaging the Union Pacific Railroad in converting the abandoned railroad right-of-way for the proposed project. Funding has been secured through an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant to fund legal services necessary for land acquisition.

- The proposal was recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and ranked 37th among 102 bicycle facility proposals. It is included in the Multi-Year B list.

Michael Hankey, Director of Transportation and Engineering Division, Village of Hoffman Estates

BP03123555-Hoffman Estates-Shoe Factory Rd/I-90 Bicycle and Pedestrian Project
BP03123557-Hoffman Estates-Harmon Blv/Huntington Blv Corridor Bicycle Project

Mr. Hankey submitted a letter that supports the following three projects which are currently included in the proposed program.

- TI13123713-Pace-I-90 Corridor
- II03123503-IDOT-Barrington Rd at Bode Rd
- II03123469-IDOT- IL 62/Algonquin Rd at Barrington Rd

The letter also offers thoughts on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force review process, regional equity among bicycle/pedestrian projects. Mr. Hankey requests that the subject bicycle facility proposals be reconsidered for inclusion in the proposed program.

- The Shoe Factory Rd/I-90 Bicycle and Pedestrian proposal was recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and continues to be included in the Multi-Year B list. The project ranked 40th among 102 bicycle facility proposals.

- The Harmon Blv/Huntington Blv Corridor proposal was not recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and ranked 15th among 102 bicycle facility proposals. Staff does not recommend that this proposal be added to the program.

Irvana K. Wilks, Mayor, Village of Mount Prospect

BP03123618-Mount Prospect-Kensington Rd Shared Use Path fromUS12/Rand Rd to Burning Bush Ln
BP0312123617-Mount Prospect-New Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Across US 14 and UPRR Tracks
BP03123624-Mount Prospect-Golf Rd Alt 3 Regional Bike Route

The Mayor of Mount Prospect submitted a letter supporting the inclusion of the Golf Rd Alternative 3 bicycle facility proposal. The Mayor also requested inclusion of the Kensington Rd and US 14 bridge proposals in the proposed program.

- The Golf Rd proposal continues to be included in the proposed program.

- The Kensington Rd and US 14 bridge proposals were not recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and rank 67th and 80th respectively among 102 bicycle facility proposals. Staff does not recommend that this proposal be added to the program.

Christopher S Canning, President, Northwest Municipal Conference and President, Village of Wilmette

Various Projects

President Canning submitted a letter supporting the intersection improvement proposals included in the proposed program along the Lake-Cook Rd, Dundee Rd and Illinois Route 59 corridors along with Pace's I-90 corridor proposal. He expressed concerns with regard to the number of bicycle facility proposals recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force that were not included in the proposed program. The Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) requests that the Committee reconsider the six bicycle facility proposals on Tier One regional bicycle corridors in the NWMC Bike Plan and recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force for inclusion in the proposed program. A listing of these projects is below. While understanding that these projects were included in the Multi-Year B list, NWMC believes that this creates an unreasonable burden to fund engineering without federal assistance. Concerns were also expressed on the percentage of funding for municipally-sponsored proposals in the proposed program.

BP03123555-Hoffman Estates-Shoe Factory Rd/I-90 Bike and Ped Project
BP03123561-Des Plaines-US 12/Rand Rd Sidepath
BP03123732-Rolling Meadows-IL 58/Golf Rd Bike Path Extension
BP03123563-Schaumburg-Higgins, Golf, and Roselle Rd Corridor Bikeways
BP03123695-Elk Grove Village-Busse Woods Trail Overpass
BP02123698-Wilmette-Skokie Valley Trail

- The six proposals above were recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and are included in the Multi-Year B list.

- The issue of equity at the project category level was discussed above. Regional equity is a minor consideration and no level of funding is guaranteed to any group of sponsors.

Mark Baloga, Executive Director, DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference

Various Projects

Mr. Baloga submitted a letter supporting the several DuPage (County) and DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference member proposals that were included in the proposed program. Mr. Baloga requested further information from staff on the evaluation and selection process used in the development of the proposed program.

- Staff will participate in the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference Transportation Policy Committee as requested.

Ron Burke, Executive Director, Active Transportation Alliance

Various Projects

Mr. Burke submitted a letter indicating his concern that the proposed program does not provide adequate funding for priority regional projects in suburban communities. In particular he referenced the proposals submitted by suburban communities that were part of the bike plan for the Northwest Municipal Conference. Other projects of concern that were not included in

the proposed program were BP07123587 Park Forest's bicycle parking proposal, BP06123571 Blue Island's Cal-Sag East Segment proposal the BP08123633 Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's Winfield Mounds Segment of the West Branch Regional Trail proposal, and BP02123698 Wilmette's Skokie Valley Trail proposal. Mr. Burke asked that these proposals be reconsidered for inclusion in the proposed program and that the Committee review the funding split between bike, pedestrian and transit projects and non-active transportation projects. Of particular concern to ATA is the proposed funding for TI01123760 CDOT's Clark/Division Station proposal.

- The proposals referenced from communities in the Northwest Municipal Conference were recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and included in the Multi-Year B list along with the Forest Park proposal, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's proposal and Wilmette's proposal.

- The proposal from Blue Island for the Cal-Sag East Segment was not recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force and ranked 29th among 102 bicycle facility proposal. Staff recommends that the project not be added to the proposed program.

- The Clark/Division station on the CTA red line serves residents, downtown workers and visitors and has an average weekday boarding of 7,679. To put that into perspective, the Jackson/State station on the Red line has an average weekday boarding of 11,372. The station connects with not only the Clark #22 bus but also the Division #70 and Broadway #36 buses. The Clark/Division Station proposal has received prior CMAQ funding; the funds recommended in this program should be sufficient to finish the project and will obligate more than $90 million in CMAQ funds. Completing projects with existing CMAQ funding is a priority in programming decisions, to achieve the air quality benefits and obligate previously-programmed funds. This proposal was one of six recommended by the Transit Focus Group. The project, once completed, will be adding a new, accessible entrance to this station on LaSalle St. and providing additional bus connections beyond the existing Clark St. connections.

Jason Duba, Master's Candidate, Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago

General Program

Mr. Duba submitted an email comment supporting projects to enhance bike infrastructure and facilities, encourage biking and integrate biking with public transit.

Brian Urbaszewski, Director, Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago
Lynda DeLaforgue, Co-Director, Citizen Action/Illinois
William McNary, Co-Director, Citizen Action/Illinois

Various Projects

Mr. Urbaszewski, Ms. DeLaforgue and Mr. McNary submitted a letter supporting the diesel emissions reduction proposals included in the proposed program that will reduce the harmful

emissions linked to diesel exhaust. They also support the inclusion of the Pace 2015 and 2016 diesel retrofit projects included in the Multi-Year B list.

- All proposals referenced in the letter were recommended by the Direct Emission Reduction Focus Group and were included in either the proposed program or the Multi-Year B list.