



## MINUTES

### CMAQ Project Selection Committee

Thursday, July 11, 2013 9:30 a.m.  
CMAQ Offices

**Committee Members Present:** Ross Patronsky, Chair (CMAQ), Chris Snyder (counties), Bruce Carmitchel (IDOT), Mayor Rodeghier (Council of Mayors), Mark Pitstick (RTA), Luann Hamilton (CDOT), Mike Rogers (IEPA)

**Staff Present:** Alex Beata, Patricia Berry, Kama Dobbs, Jesse Elam, Doug Ferguson, Don Kopec, Tom Murtha, Holly Ostdick

**Others Present:** Francisco Acevedo, Tom Agema, Bill Baltutis, Jennifer Becker, Bruce Christensen, Jay Ciavarella, John Donovan, Kevin Duffy, Bud Fleming, Terry Heffron, David Johnson, Valbona Kokoshi, Jason Osborn (via phone), Keith Privett, Tom Rickert, Chad Riddle, Joy Schaad, Christopher Schmidt, Chris Staron, Brian Stepp, David Tomzik, Mike Walczak, Tom Weaver, David Wilkerson

#### 1.0 Call to Order

Committee Chairman Patronsky called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

#### 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

None

#### 3.0 Approval of Minutes—June 20, 2013

Mr. Carmitchel asked that the minutes be revised to reflect that Christopher Schmidt was present and to attribute the comment on the joint process review under item 8.0 to Mr. Donovan. On a motion by Mr. Carmitchel and a second by Mr. Rogers, the minutes of the June 20, 2013 meeting were approved as corrected.

#### 4.0 Program Monitoring

Mr. Patronsky reported that a table of Reasons for Delay by Project Types, which was requested by Mr. Rickert at the June 20 meeting, was included in the packet. Mr. Snyder noted that he was surprised to see so many delays on Bicycle Facilities projects. Ms. Dobbs noted that specific circumstances of the delays didn't present any patterns and that

this project type was the largest type reported on, so the raw number of delays is partially due to the larger number of projects.

#### **4.1 Programming Project Status Sheets**

Mr. Ferguson reported on the programming status of active projects and the line item changes since the last meeting of the Project Selection Committee. Mr. Pitstick asked about the increased funds for the Bloomingdale Trail project (TIP ID 01-08-0002) relative to the unobligated balance. Ms. Hamilton noted that an additional IPA was in process.

#### **4.2 Obligation Goal**

Mr. Ferguson presented a summary of the current CMAQ programming status for federal fiscal years 2013 to 2016 and the annual CMAQ obligation goals as laid out in the agenda attachment. He noted that another \$6 to \$9 million is expected to be obligated on the transit side. There were no questions. Mr. Patronsky noted that the obligations for FFY 2013 have exceeded the region's apportionment for FFY 2013.

### **5.0 Project Changes**

#### **5.1 CDOT – Signal Controller Upgrade and Timing Program (TIP ID 01-08-0003)**

The sponsor is requesting that funding for implementation be restored from the deferred list in the amount of \$1,600,000 federal and that unused funds programmed for engineering be transferred to the implementation phase. The sponsor demonstrated project phase readiness by submitting a locally executed IPA. Staff undertook the restoration of deferred funding as an administrative change. On a motion by Mr. Carmitchel and a second by Mr. Pitstick the request to transfer funds to the implementation phase was approved.

#### **5.2 IEPA – Illinois Clean Diesel Engine Repowers (TIP ID 13-12-0003)**

The sponsor requested to add USEPA or CARB certified remanufactured engines to the scope of the project. Mr. Rogers noted that the requested scope change could include the use of remanufacture kits at the Tier 2 and above level which is still above their current Tier 0 level and that the program is primarily focused on marine engines in tug boats operating in Lake Michigan and the Des Plaines River. On a motion by Ms. Hamilton and a second by Mr. Carmitchel, the request was approved.

### **6.0 FY 2014-2018 Program Development**

#### **6.1 Project Questions from Last Meeting**

Mr. Patronsky reported that supplemental information requested pursuant to the presentation of IEPA's Indiana Harbor Belt proposal was included in the agenda. He stated that additional questions have been forwarded to staff and that the committee members would be notified when responses to those questions are posted.

#### **6.2 Staff Proposed Program**

Mr. Patronsky provided an overview of the program recommended by staff and the methods used to develop the recommendation. He reported that the recommendation is for approximately \$286 million in new programming in FFY 2014 – 2018. With the currently programmed projects, the programmed total would be approximately \$582 million which staff feels is adequate to meet the obligation goal of \$280 million over the

next two fiscal years. Programming this amount also leaves enough funding available to accommodate cost increases and reinstatement of deferred project phases. In addition to using the recommendations of the focus groups to identify proposals that support GO TO 2040, staff used the cost/benefit rankings, looking for break points or other logical divisions to determine which proposals to recommend. Mr. Patronsky noted that the Pace Ridesharing proposal, although not recommended by the Transit Focus Group, is recommended for funding. This program is a long-standing CMAQ project. Rather than simply stop funding it, staff will review it and other travel demand management projects between now and the next cycle to assess their contribution to congestion reduction and air quality.

The ITEP and TAP program calls end in August and will provide additional funding for non-motorized facilities. All unfunded CMAQ applications for bicycle and pedestrian facilities will automatically be considered for the TAP funding and do not need to apply again. Many of the remaining proposals are of such a magnitude that it would be difficult to include them in the program without causing over-programming in some years. Mr. Patronsky also reported that prior to the meeting Metra requested to swap the recommend FFY for two projects: Repower on BNSF (DR13143938) for \$4 million in FFY 2017 and Install engine/generator set for hotel power (DR13143934) for \$4 million in FFY 2015.

In response to a question from Ms. Hamilton, Mr. Tomzik and Mr. Pitstick explained that the Regional Bus on Shoulders project (TI13143911) would extend the existing service. Mr. Snyder expressed concern that the recommended program does not utilize all of the funding potentially available, even though some of the projects are recommended for only partial funding. Mr. Patronsky explained that many of the partially funded projects are multi-year projects and staff consulted with the applicants and is recommending funding the first few years until the next call for projects. Mr. Christensen requested that the committee consider programming funding for Lake County's IL 43/Waukegan Rd signal interconnect (SI10143981) project instead of their US 12/Rand Rd signal interconnect project (SI10143987). He also requested that the committee consider funding Lake Forest's Robert McClory Bike Path project (BP10143878) because the project addresses a safety concern raised by FHWA during coordination meetings on the Lake Forest Train Station Bike Parking (10-12-0002) project and IDOT's IL 120 at Hainesville Rd intersection improvement project (II10143922). Mr. Christensen also stated that Lake County staff fails to see the benefit of the task force recommendations. Mr. Pitstick stated that the proposed program is well balanced. He noted that RTA and Pace would like to be included in the early phases of the Aurora Station Blv Extension to IL 59 Commuter Parking Lot project (CP09143969) and also noted that the IEPA sponsored IHB Locomotive Fuel Conversion Project (DR13143957) involves new technologies, similar to a demonstration project, and requested regular updates on the project as it progresses. IHB staff indicated that they would welcome the opportunity to provide updates and hope the technology can be expanded to Class I Railroads in the future.

On a motion by Mr. Pitstick, seconded by Mayor Rodeghier, the committee recommends that the Transportation Committee release the staff recommended program with the change to the fiscal years for the two recommended Metra projects

(DR13143938 & DR13143934) for a public comment period on August 2, 2013 through August 25, 2013.

#### **7.0 MAP-21**

Mr. Donovan reported that FHWA has determined that there is public benefit to the granting of Buy America waivers so that FHWA recipients and sub-recipients could use their Federal funds to acquire and retrofit vehicles on the condition that the final assembly for the vehicle occurs in the United States. A process is established for quarterly submittal and review of Buy America vehicle waiver requests with submittals due by the last day of each calendar quarter (March 30, June 30, September 30, and December 31). Following the last day of the calendar quarter, FHWA will post a notice of the intent to process a waiver for each project submitted and allow a period of at least 15 days for public comment. After 15 days, FHWA will then evaluate the comments and prepare a Federal Register Notice regarding FHWA's final decision regarding the waiver. The FHWA's decision regarding the waiver would become effective on the date of publication in the Federal Register.

FHWA is currently accepting Buy America waiver requests for vehicle acquisition/retrofit projects until July 14, 2013. Applicants should submit their waiver requests to the FHWA Illinois Division at least one week prior to each quarterly submittal deadline. All Buy America waiver requests should be sent to Chris Byars ([chris.byars@dot.gov](mailto:chris.byars@dot.gov)) and all CMAQ-related waiver requests should also copy John Donovan ([john.donovan@dot.gov](mailto:john.donovan@dot.gov)).

#### **8.0 Other Business**

Mr. Rickert commended CMAP staff, the Project Selection Committee and the task forces for their efforts during the program development process. He also noted and thanked CMAP staff for the detailed program information developed over the last year or so, as this information has greatly improved the Committee's ability to better understand the progress of the existing program and to make more informed decisions.

#### **9.0 Public Comment**

None.

#### **10.0 Next Meeting**

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

#### **11.0 Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. Rogers and a second by Ms. Hamilton, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.