



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Transportation Committee Minutes June 20, 2008

Cook County Conference Room
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois

- Members Present:** Chair Luann Hamilton-CDOT, Chuck Abraham-IDOT, DPIT, Brian Carlson-IDOT District One, Bruce Christensen-Lake County, Thomas Cuculich-DuPage County, Heidi Files-Kane County, Rupert Graham-Cook County, Jack Groner-Metra, Robert Hann-Private Transportation Providers, Don Kopec-CMAP, Christina Kupkowski-Will County, Janice Metzger-CNT, Randy Neufeld-Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force, Les Nunes-IDOT, Jason Osborn-McHenry County, David Simmons-CTA, Holly Smith-Kendall County, Sid Weseman-RTA, Rocco Zuccherro-Illinois Tollway.
- Members Absent:** Vanessa Adams-FTA USDOT Chicago Metro Office, Bill Brown-NIRPC, Chris DiPalma-FHWA USDOT Chicago Metro Office, Rocky Donahue-Pace, Mayor Arlene Mulder-Council of Mayors, Mike Rogers-IEPA, Vonu Thakuriah-UIC-UTC, Ken Yunker-SEWRPC, Tom Zapler-Railroad Companies
- Others Present:** Kristen Bennett, Leonard Cannata, Roberto Requejo Carballo, Lynnette Ciavarella, Michael Connelly, Chalen Daigle, Kama Dobbs, Henry Guerriero, Cheri Heramb, Paul Heltne, Kindy Kueller, Tam Kutzmark, Hugh O'Hara, Adam Rod, Chad Riddle, David Seglin, Vicky Smith, Chris Staron, Mike Suvillan, Emily Tapia, Mike Walczak, Tammy Wierciak
- Staff Present:** Shana Alford, Alex Beata, Bob Dean, Teri Dixon, Jon Hallas, Kerry Leigh, Matt Maloney, Roseann O'Laughlin, John O'Neal, Holly Ostdick, Russell Pietrowiak, Ylda Pineyro, Joy Schaad, Todd Schmidt, Brandon Taylor, Kermit Wies

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Luann Hamilton, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

With a correction to the date of the minutes a motion was made by Mr. Groner and seconded by Mr. Christensen to approve the minutes from the May 23, 2008 meeting. All in favor, the motion carried.

4.0 Coordinating Committee Reports

Ms. Hamilton stated that there was no Planning Coordinating Committee. The Programming Coordinating Committee meeting was focused on Developments of Regional Importance (DRIs). Mr. Cuculich said those discussions would be reflected in agenda item 9, the presentation on DRIs by Mr. Wies.

5.0 RTA Update

Mr. Weseman stated that RTA staff has completed the supplement to the strategic plan and that the supplement may be found on the RTA website. The supplement will be approved at the July 17th RTA board meeting. The JARC/New Freedom programs were approved at the June 19th RTA board meeting. The projects will be submitted for inclusion of the TIP at the next Transportation Committee meeting on July 25th.

6.0 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ms. Ostlick requested committee approval of amendments to not exempt and exempt TIP projects that exceed amendment thresholds. Mr. Weseman added that the engineering for the Chicago Congestion Reduction Initiative Bus Rapid Transit project was included in the RTA capital program with strong approval and enthusiasm by the RTA board. Ms. Metzger asked if new parking lots were included in the exempt projects with modification and Ms. Ostlick responded that any new project with federal funds would be an amendment. Any parking lot in either of the modification reports would be an existing project unless they do not have federal funds. Currently this is not the case. Mr. Osborn requested that two projects 11-02-0003 and 11-06-0027 have McHenry County as the lead agency. IDOT had no objections to that request. On a motion by Mr. Christensen, seconded by Mr. Wesemen the not exempt and exempt project amendments were approved. All in favor, the motion carried.

7.0 GOTO 2040

7.1 Regional Snapshot - Planning Impact of Latino Population Growth

Mr. Hallas presented a slideshow regarding the regional snapshot regarding the planning impact of the Latino population growth. It is available on the web at: <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/WorkArea/showcontent.aspx?id=8794>. Ms. Metzger asked why there seemed to be a focus on health status of the Mexican population when the region has so many different groups of Latinos. Mr. Hallas responded that there were significant indicators of health issues in the Mexican community but that all the groups

were examined. Mr. Neufeld asked why the word pathway was used instead of pedway since pedways and sidewalk design specifically include intersections, for better street design. Ms. Heramb asked if mode split was included in the work to home and home to work travel patterns. Mr. Hallas stated that it was not researched. Mr. Hallas made the committee aware that all of the comments and concerns would be examined and included in the technical report portion of the snapshot. Ms. Hamilton asked if there would be another opportunity for the committee to examine this snapshot and Mr. Dean replied that the finalized snapshot will be provided to all working committees for comment before approval. Mr. Cuculich wanted to know how the Latino snapshot was relevant to the Transportation Committee. Mr. Hallas stated that the Latino population is facing the same employment and transportation issues as the rest of the population. Mr. Osborn suggested that Latinos are becoming an increasingly large proportion of suburban population and that will impact suburban transit issues. Mr. Cuculich asked about the credibility of the numbers. Mr. Hallas answered that the census data is what is being used, as well as information from various Latino groups. Mr. Neufeld was curious about Latinos and crash data. Mr. Zucchero asked about growth data. Mr. Hallas stated that there are limited amounts of resources to complete forecasting, due to the fact that the Latino population is young and very family oriented, there is an assumption that the population will continue to grow. Ms. Files commented that her citizen level observation with carpool, park-n-ride and walking patterns were obvious signs of the growth patterns in the suburb.

7.2 Scenario Construction

Mr. Dean gave a presentation regarding baseline scenario features. His presentation is available on the web at:

<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/WorkArea/showcontent.aspx?id=8848>. He then discussed thematic scenarios which include reference/baseline, preservation, infill, reinvestment and new technology. Scenario construction is based on the alternative courses of action for meeting goals based on the major themes of the GO TO 2040 Vision. He further stated that the staff recommendation of the thematic scenarios will be developed with the input of CMAP committees and stakeholders.

Mr. DiPalma asked if the baseline scenario was really a no build scenario, a scenario of what would happen if we did nothing. He felt that the cost of inaction should be represented since there was a thought that the current level of funding may not be sustainable. Mr. DiPalma suggested using If/Then statement to shore up the preferred strategy. Mr. Neufeld pointed out the cost constraint was an important issue; scenario of no build vs. allowing selective pieces of the system to fail because of lack of funding. Mr. Dean said that this will be addressed and would be tested. Mr. Osborn stated that the staff had done a good job on the thematic scenarios. He did think the important question is what we can do to preserve, invest and be innovative in the region. Mr. Hann thought that attention should be directed to funding resources and alternatives. Mr. Dean explained that there is research currently being conducted about funding opportunities including public/private partnerships. Mr. Cuculich stated he believed the thematic approach is the

best policy for comparitability. Ms. Hamilton asked how the scenario from the previous plan impacted this plan and how does the 2030 RTP and GO TO 2040 relate. Growth and the mixture of scenarios is somewhat similar and staff is still working on the links between the two plans. Mr. Seglin remarked that transportation will have to be fiscally constrained. Mr. Dean stated that the transportation portion of the plan will be fiscally constrained. Ms. Kutzmark commented that the region needed to be thinking globally; how do we compete and where would various scenarios lead us nationally.

8.0 Transportation & Environmental Collaboration Initiative

Ms. Heramb explained the initiative to improve communication and collaboration between transportation agencies and environmental stakeholders in the region. She invited all committee members to attend a luncheon workshop on Wednesday July 2nd from 11:30 a.m.– 2:00 p.m. to discuss the next steps in this process. She stated that there would be additional workshops to solicit community input at a later date.

Ms. Hamilton asked if additional information is available on a website. Ms. Heramb directed everyone to the Delta Institute web site (<http://www.delta-institute.org/>). Ms. Metzger asked if Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS), which is really restricted to bigger projects, plays a role in this initiative. Ms. Heramb responded that there has been some frustration with projects that have used the CSS process. This would be a topic for further discussion.

For information regarding the initiative, luncheon or presentation please visit:

<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/transportation/minutes.aspx>.

Mr. Zuccherro asked who the audience is for the luncheon. Ms. Heramb stated that transportation officials and environmentalists will be the majority of attendees. Mr. Zuccherro stated that the most environmental challenges occur during construction. He suggested inviting a representative from the Illinois Road Builders.

Ms. Schaad stated that the goal is for a collaborative way to improve the relationship between environmental advisors and road builders. She continued to state that the goal is to improve the process, not develop more levels of review or make it more difficult.

9.0 Developments of Regional Importance (DRI)

Mr. Weis gave a presentation on the Developments of Regional Importance draft process. Supporting documents including his presentation are available at:

<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/transportation/minutes.aspx>. He described how a DRI is referred to the CMAP board. There are three possibilities:

1. Alert Bureaucrat – CMAP staff identifies a DRI.
2. Democracy in Action – A local government such as a county may formally request a DRI review.
3. Executive Privilege – CMAP board can initiate a review.

He stated that there is no nominal way to identify a DRI and is why staff recommends we follow the three options above. Once a DRI is identified there are three tiers that they may fall under.

1. Is the proposed development subject to an established regional planning process such as NEPA or FPA? If so, no further analysis is required and the CMAP board may participate in the pre-determined planning analysis.
2. Does the proposal include certain characteristics such as affecting natural environment or affect regional transportation infrastructure? If so, then it proceeds to the third tier.
3. Will the proposal have measureable regional impacts? If so, then the project sponsor will be required to complete a regional impact study.

Ms. Kutzmark questioned the decision tree answering tier 2. She questioned how the decision will be reached. Mr. Weis stated that CMAP staff will do researched and take feedback from regional stakeholders. Ms. Hamilton asked what would occur if the board states the analysis shows that a proposal should not happen. Mr. Weis stated that the proposal will receive bad press but other than that – not much. Mr. Heltne from the Land Use committee stated that the process is extremely transparent and reflects the true complexities of the region. Ms. Hamilton stated she will inform Mr. Cuculich, the committee's representative on the Programming Coordinating Committee, of the committee's concerns so they are accurately represented at the next Programming Coordinating Committee.

10.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

11.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

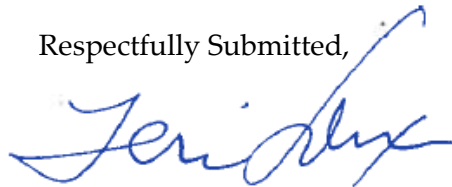
12.0 Next Meeting

Ms. Hamilton stated that the next meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the Cook County Room.

13.0 Adjournment

Mr. Nunes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 am. Mr. Graham seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



06-30-08