



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Planning Coordinating Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2009--8:00 a.m.

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

Members Present: Elliott Hartstein, Chair-CMAP Board, Frank Beal-CMAP Board, Lori Clark-NIU, Nancy Firfer-CM2020, Luann Hamilton-CDOT, Al Larson-CMAP Board, Ed Paesel-South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association, Rae Rupp Srch-CMAP Board, Phil Smith-DuPage County

Staff Present: Erin Aleman, Lindsay Banks, Patricia Berry, Randy Blankenhorn, Bob Dean, Tom Garritano, Sean Glowacz, Kristin Heery, Don Kopec, Matt Maloney, Jill Leary, Ylda Pineyro

Others Present: Curtis Bright-UIC, Len Cannata-WCMC, Bruce Christensen-Lake County, Cara Goldsberry-UIC, Lynn Hanley, Paul Heltne-Center for Humans and Nature, Catherine Kannenberg-Metra, Tam Kutzmark-DMMC, Marilyn Micheline-CMAP Board, Dan Midorski-UIC, Hugh O'Hara-WCGL, Mark Pitstick-RTA, Chris Staron-NWMC, Mike Sullivan-KKCOM, Mike Walczak-NWMC, Jan Ward-KKCOM, Tammy Wierciak-WCMC

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Elliott Hartstein.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting notes from the January 14, 2009 meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Roger Claar and a second by Al Larson.

4.0 Scenario Descriptions

Bob Dean described the purpose of scenario evaluation, noting that scenarios were being constructed and analyzed to provide a framework to review different policy and investment option. He briefly reviewed the identities of the three alternative scenarios. Mr. Hartstein stated that each of the scenarios had positive features, and that choosing between them was not possible. Mr. Dean clarified that a preferred scenario would be

constructed that combined the best features of each alternative. Rae Rupp Srch asked for definitions of some of the strategies, and asked what recommendations might be made on these topics. Phil Smith noted that the implementation of many of the strategies were up to local decision-makers. Mr. Dean stated that CMAP had limited implementation ability, and that many of the plan's recommendations would be addressed to other organizations and supported by technical assistance, model programs, or other means.

Mr. Larson observed that the "innovate" scenario did not appear particularly innovative in some areas, and asked that additional thought be given in this area. Lori Clark suggested that nanotechnology and biotechnology be identified as possible industry sectors in the "innovate" scenario, in addition to green jobs.

Frank Beal stated that a good analogy for scenario evaluation was the use of crash test dummies in automobile design. He stated that the scenarios are the equivalent of cars with alternative design features, and the result of the crash test can help identify the merits and flaws of each design concept. Mr. Smith noted that different observers might have different interpretations of the results of the crash test, depending on their priorities. Nancy Firfer added the scenario evaluation process worked well to provide objective analysis for decision-making at the end of the process.

5.0 Public Engagement Update

Erin Aleman provided a presentation on public engagement activities that are planned for spring and summer 2009 to support the *GO TO 2040* plan. She explained that these include design workshops with local communities during spring, a series of workshops over the summer to engage the general public and key stakeholders, an online scenario planning tool and website, several kiosks that could be placed in high-traffic locations, and CMAP staff presence at festivals and events around the region.

Ed Paesel asked who was participating in the design workshops, and Ms. Aleman listed a number of communities and offered to send a full list. Ms. Rupp Srch advised that this public engagement should not duplicate NIPC's work during the Common Ground process, and Ms. Aleman responded that it built upon this past work, rather than duplicating it. Mr. Hartstein advised that the public engagement work be supported through media outreach and the use of public access stations.

Tam Kutzmark asked whether the economic situation had reduced the ability of municipalities to participate, and Mr. Dean stated that the public engagement activities placed very little strain on local resources, so this was not expected to cause a problem.

6.0 Alignment of Federal Policy and GO TO 2040

Matt Maloney distributed a summary of the similarities and differences between CMAP's federal priorities and the content of the proposed federal budget from OMB. He noted that there was generally very good alignment between CMAP interests and the proposed budget, but that there were some gaps, particularly in the areas of freight, land-use transportation linkages, and the overall importance of regions.

Luann Hamilton noted that CDOT was already involved in a partnership to advance freight in the federal agenda, and Mr. Larson added that the National League of Cities has a stated national transportation policy that includes freight. Ms. Rupp Srch stated that it would be useful to communicate the work of these different groups to local officials, and Mr. Hartstein added that a coalition around these issues would be effective.

Mr. Hartstein advised that because CMAP has a limited ability to influence the federal agenda, these priorities should also be communicated to state decision-makers. Randy Blankenhorn reported that federal decision-makers did appear to understand the importance of regions, and that the lack of national transportation policy was an acknowledged problem. Mr. Hartstein asked whether CMAP had found allies among regional agencies in other parts of the country, and Mr. Blankenhorn stated that the major metropolitan areas were discussing coordination.

7.0 County and Local Plan Reports

Mr. Dean stated that he would like to invite counties or municipalities who were undertaking long-range comprehensive plans to attend future committee meetings to provide presentations on their plan. The committee agreed that this was a good idea, and Mr. Paesel suggested that COGs be invited as well.

8.0 Staff Updates

No other business was raised.

9.0 Other Business

No other business was raised.

10.0 Public Comment

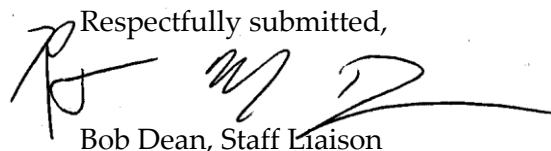
Paul Heltne distributed a copy of comments on the Development of Regional Importance (DRI) process, and stated that he would be making similar comments at the Board meeting.

11.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Planning Coordinating Committee was scheduled for May 13, 2009.

12.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Larson, second by Mr. Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Dean, Staff Liaison

Approved as presented, by unanimous vote, June 10, 2009.