



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Agenda Item No. 4.0

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Local Coordinating Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

8:00 a.m.

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Cook County Conference Room
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Committee Members

Present:

Elliott Hartstein (Village of Buffalo Grove-CMAP Board) Chair, Alan Bennett (Village of Elmwood Park -CMAP Board), Susan Campbell (University of Chicago-CMAP Board), Nancy Firfer (MPC-Housing), Gretchen Kosarko (RW Ventures-Economic Development alternate), Ngoan Le (Chicago Community Trust-Human and Community Development), Anne McKibbin (CNT-Environment and Natural Resources alternate) Marilyn Michelini (Village of Montgomery-CMAP Board), Leanne Redden (RTA-Transportation), Rick Reinbold (Village of Richton Park -CMAP Board) via tele-conference, and Dan Shea (Algonquin Township-CMAP Board)

Members Absent:

Mark Avery (DuPage County-Land Use), Lenore Beyer-Clow (Openlands-Environment and Natural Resources), Raul Raymundo (Resurrection Project-CMAP Board), Jerry Weber (College of Lake County-Economic Development)

Staff Present:

Lindsay Banks, Patricia Berry, Randy Blankenhorn, Ylda Capriccioso, Bob Dean, Jesse Elam, Sherry Kane, Don Kopec, Jill Leary, Pete Saunders, Gordon Smith, Drew Williams-Clark

Others Present:

Bruce Carmitchel-IDOT, Michael Connelly-CTA, Catherine Kannenberg-Metra, Allison Milld-Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Chris Staron-NWMC, Mike Sullivan-KKCOM

1.0 Call to Order

Elliott Hartstein, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

3.0 Approval of the Minutes-August 10, 2011

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2011 meeting, as presented, made by Alan Bennett, was seconded by Marilyn Michelini and with all in favor, carried.

4.0 Local Technical Assistance Project Report

Allison Milld, Director of Housing Initiatives for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, gave a presentation on work that had been completed (in partnership with CMAP and MPC on the Homes for a Changing Region program. She stated that two projects were underway; one involving the four municipalities of Hazel Crest, Lansing, Olympia Fields and Park Forest in southern Cook County was wrapping up, and another project involving Berwyn, Bellwood, Forest Park, Maywood, and Oak Park in western Cook County was ongoing. Nancy Firfer contributed to the presentation as well.

A discussion of the Homes for a Changing Region program and housing policy in general followed Ms. Milld's and Ms. Firfer's presentation. Significant discussion occurred on the issue of housing. The committee discussed rental conversion to owner-occupied housing, including the work of the Preservation Compact to maintain high-quality rental housing. Several committee members noted the difficulty of engaging renters in civic activities in communities and expressed interest in best practices for this.

The committee also discussed the continued foreclosure crisis, the difficulty of rehabilitating scattered-site housing, and the need for intergovernmental coordination. Ms. Firfer concluded that while all the answers may not be in the Homes for a Changing Region reports, all these points have and will continue to be considered.

5.0 Schedule for Future Applications

Included in the packet was a staff memo outlining the 2012 application process for the Community Planning Grant program. Bob Dean reported that in 2011 the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program had been launched as quickly as possible after CMAP had been notified of its grant award, while the Community Planning Program grants were aligned with the RTA's longstanding application process schedule. In 2012, Mr. Dean continued, the application processes will be combined. A call for projects will take place in May with an August 1 deadline. The grants will be presented to the Board and MPO Policy Committee in October for consideration of approval.

Extensive outreach through the Councils of Government, as well as direct outreach to the smaller communities, is anticipated. At the next meeting of the Local Coordinating Committee, specific dates and criteria will be presented. In response to a question from the Committee, Mr. Dean stated that CMAP would accept applications that are follow-ups to current projects as well as entirely new project ideas.

6.0 Grants and Procurements

At its last meeting, the Local Coordinating Committee discussed future options for grants to support technical assistance work and concurred with staff's recommended approach.

Mr. Dean reported that in the “larger” grant category, 11 have now been awarded that total just about \$1,000,000. Dean also reported that CMAP had met with DCEO’s consultant and will likely contribute to designing and publicizing the IKE Planning Program. Finally, Dean described the “smaller” grant category and the various awards that had been made, stating that grants and procurements under a \$25,000 threshold would be approved by the Executive Director. Those over \$25,000 would continue to be brought before the full Board for approval.

7.0 Sustainable Communities Initiative: Future Funding Outlook

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported that the original funding for the LTA program had come from a HUD grant through the Sustainable Communities Initiative, that the grant expires in January 2014, and that the current outlook for continued funding in this form for this program may not be favorable in Congress.

Mr. Blankenhorn went on to say that CMAP had met with delegates and congressional staff and has noted considerable interest in CMAP’s work. Congresswoman Biggert is the chair of the subcommittee that oversees the HUD budget, and CMAP is will continue to communicate the progress that has been made, emphasizing CMAP’s interest in continuing to provide technical assistance to local governments. Mr. Blankenhorn stated that CMAP also plans to make contacts and build a strategy to renew the funding from HUD or from another source when the contract expires. Local governments may be asked to show support to members of Congress. Ngoan Le suggested that a national briefing of foundations should also be scheduled in 2012 to increase their interest in this type of program, as the leverage of non-public funding is always desirable.

8.0 Local Technical Assistance Program Update

A status update of the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program was included in the Committee’s packet.

9.0 2012 Meeting Schedule

The Local Coordinating Committee is scheduled to meet four times in 2012 (February 8, May 9, August 8, and October 10); the most important of which is October to approve the new grant program. An as-needed meeting may also be held in late September.

10.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the Local Coordinating Committee.

11.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

12.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Local Coordinating Committee is scheduled for February 8, 2012.

13.0 Adjournment

At 9:12 a.m., a motion to adjourn made by Mayor Marilyn Michelini was seconded by Dan Shea. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of three distinct parts: a stylized 'R', a cursive 'M', and a long horizontal stroke that ends in a slight upward curve, resembling a 'D'.

11-18-2011

/stk

Approved as presented by unanimous vote, February 8, 2012