



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Agenda Item No. 3.0

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Local Coordinating Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

8:00 a.m.

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

Committee Members

Present:

Susan Campbell (CMAP Board) Chair, Lenore Beyer-Clow (Openlands-Environment and Natural Resources), Mike Connelly (CTA-Transportation), Nancy Firfer (MPC-Housing), Ngoan Le (Chicago Community Trust-Human and Community Development), Marilyn Michelini (Village of Montgomery-CMAP Board), Heather Niehoff (VOA-CMAP Board), Raul Raymundo (Resurrection Project-CMAP Board), Dan Shea (Algonquin Township-CMAP Board), Heather Tabbert (RTA-Land Use alternate)

Members Absent:

Rick Reinbold (Village of Richton Park -CMAP Board), Jerry Weber (College of Lake County-Economic Development)

Staff Present:

Randy Blankenhorn, Bob Dean, Yesenia Ambriz, Jason Navota, Kristin Ihnchak, Samyukth Shenbaga

Others Present:

Chris Staron-NWMC, Mike Albin-DMMC, Hildy Kingma-Village of Park Forest

1.0 Call to Order

Susan Campbell, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m., and members were asked to introduce themselves.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

3.0 Approval of the Minutes-May 9, 2012

Minutes of the May 9, 2012 meeting were approved as presented.

4.0 Project Selection Recommendations

Bob Dean reported that staff had forwarded a memo in September to committee members requesting input on CMAP's proposed Local Technical Assistance (LTA) projects. Today, staff is requesting a recommendation to approve the list of proposed projects. One application, a comprehensive plan for the Village of Rosemont, had been overlooked, Dean continued, and had only just been added to the recommended projects list. The existing comprehensive plan dates back to 1977. The Village had assembled a very thorough application and has many attributes that make it a good candidate for LTA assistance. A motion by Dan Shea was seconded by Mayor Marilyn Micheleni to recommend approval by the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee, the project selection recommendations as had been presented. All in favor, the motion carried.

5.0 LTA Project Report

Hildy Kingma, Director of Economic Development and Planning for the Village of Park Forest, led the Committee through a presentation on the Park Forest Sustainability Plan. Kingma highlighted some of the Village's sustainability efforts that had been built into the community from its inception in 1949. Having garnered assistance through last year's LTA program award, the Village began its sustainability planning process last May. The plan includes 14 key topic areas, some of which (such as Arts & Culture and Health & Wellness) were included based on Park Forest's specific interests, Kingma reported.

With heavy emphasis on implementation, Kingma described the matrix included for each section of the plan. For instance, the Monitoring and Reporting section of the plan includes a scorecard that mandates annual reporting toward implementing strategies and achieving indicators. Kingma concluded by thanking Ngoan Le and the Chicago Community Trust for grant funding that allowed Park Forest to hire a Sustainability Coordinator which will also help to implement many of the plan's recommendations.

Following the presentation, a list of grants made by the Chicago Community Trust towards community-based and regional sustainability initiatives was distributed. Le indicated that it is important to the Trust to work at both the community and regional scales and went through the list of grants. The Trust focuses on continuing efforts already in place which they feel have the most opportunity to be successful. New RFPs for funding will come out in November (community-based) and March (regional).

6.0 Local Food Webpage

CMAP Principal Planner Jason Navota reported on CMAP's newly launched local food microsite. Promoting local food is one of the 12 major GO TO 2040 recommendations, and CMAP has been implementing this recommendation by including content in LTA comprehensive plans and developing model language for regulations. Last year, CMAP staff began an LTA project to explore the local food system in Lake County, Navota also reported. Defined more broadly and regionally than just community gardens, the local food microsite provides a central location for information relating to local food and the many resources available, benefits of local food systems, what local governments can do, and additional resources.

The committee discussed several elements related to local food, including the often higher cost of locally produced food. Navota noted that season extension activities (such as growing food in greenhouses) can make certain crops cheaper for longer. Regarding higher prices at farmers markets, Navota indicated that a greater supply of local food would bring prices down, and effective distribution systems would also help small farmers to have more competitive prices. Committee members observed that one successful strategy has been to facilitate the use of food stamps/Link cards to buy produce at farmers markets.

The committee also discussed food access, particularly in food deserts in Chicago. Navota indicated that there were three priority areas to address local food in GO TO 2040: facilitating sustainable local food production and processing, increasing access to food, and raising awareness by providing data, research, training, and information. The Green Healthy Neighborhoods project on the south side of Chicago has provided an avenue of addressing access issues at the local level by increasing awareness and creating new districts for urban agriculture and community gardening.

7.0 LTA Program Update

A complete program update had been included in the committee materials.

8.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the Local Coordinating Committee.

9.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

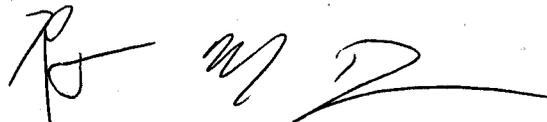
10.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Local Coordinating Committee is scheduled for February 13, 2013.

11.0 Adjournment

At 9:20 a.m., a motion to adjourn was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large initial 'R' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

1-31-2013

/ya

Approved as presented by unanimous vote, February 13, 2013