



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Board Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2008

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

**Board Members:** Rita Athas-representing the City of Chicago, Frank H. Beal-representing the City of Chicago, Alan Bennett-representing Cook County, Gerald Bennett-representing southwest Cook County, Roger Claar-representing Will County, Zenovia Evans-representing south Cook County, Elliott Hartstein-representing Lake County, Russell Hartigan-representing west Cook County, Al Larson-representing northwest Cook County, Marilyn Michelini-representing Kane and Kendall Counties, Raul Raymundo-representing the City of Chicago, Andre Rice-representing the City of Chicago, Rae Rupp Srch-representing DuPage County and Dan Shea-representing McHenry County and Nigel Telman-representing the City of Chicago and non-voting members Stephen Schlickman-representing the MPO Policy Committee and Ian Doughty-representing the Governor's office.

**Staff Present:** Randy Blankenhorn, Jill Leary, Dolores Dowdle, Tom Garritano, Gordon Smith, Patricia Berry, Matt Maloney, Bob Dean, Lee Deuben and Sherry Kane.

**Others Present:** Vicky Smith-Southwest Conference of Mayors, Chris Staron-NWMC, Tammy Wierciak-WCMC, Chalen Daigle-McHenry County Council, Len Cannata-WCMC, Mike Walczak-NWMC, Mike Sullivan-Kane Kendall Council of Mayors, Anja Claus-Center for Humans and Nature, Peter Kamps-Consultant, Kristin Bennett and Karyn Romano-Metro Strategies, Inc., Jane Thomas-Office of Congresswoman Melissa Bean, Dawn Stockmo-MPC, Sheena Freve-CM2020, Karen Darch-TRAC/Mayor of Barrington, Kama Dobbs-DMMC, Norm West-US EPA, and David Seglin-CDOT.

### 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Gerald Bennett, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. Other Board members introduced themselves.

## **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes.

Mayor Bennett congratulated board member Russell Hartigan having been named supervisor of Lyons Township.

## **3.0 Approval of Minutes – October 8, 2008**

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2008 board meeting, as presented, was made by Mayor Marilyn Michelini and seconded by Rae Rupp Srch. All in favor, the motion carried.

## **4.0 Executive Director's Report**

4.1 Briefly Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported that CMAP staff has been working with MPC to develop a federal policy agenda for the region that will be available for review in January.

4.2 Further Blankenhorn reported that fairly frequently, staff is asked to comment on various topics, i.e., the Tollway's Green Lane proposal, the privatization of Midway airport and the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The technical comments are available on the website.

4.3 CMAP continues to work with the Tollway on the implementation of the Green Lane proposal and in cooperation with the Tollway, RTA and Pace have resubmitted an Urban Partnership Proposal, Blankenhorn continued.

4.4 Regarding the Wingspread Accord, Blankenhorn reported that Board Members and CMAP senior staff had attended a conference with our neighboring regional partners in the four state region of Northwestern Indiana, Southeastern Wisconsin and Southwest Michigan. The Executive Directors would be meeting in Chicago next week to develop a work plan.

4.5 Lastly, Blankenhorn reported that the *GO TO 2040* Partnership is well underway with membership at just around 100 partners consisting of community and business groups and Blankenhorn asked that Board Members continue to promote the program.

Blankenhorn concluded his report with the announcement that he had been invited to Washington DC to talk with the Transportation Transition Team regarding a possible stimulus package of ready-to-go projects including water/sewer, environmental and road projects. This announcement sparked discussion by the Board of a return to the federal/regional relationship for future project funding.

## **5.0 Contract Approvals**

The following procurement approvals were recommended by CMAP staff. A motion by Mayor Marilyn Michelini was seconded by Dan Shea and with all in favor carried, approving the contract award for development of the TIP database. A motion by Rae Rupp Srch was seconded by Dan Shea to approve all the procurements as were presented including a contract revision for purchase of scenario evaluation tools for public

involvement, an interagency agreement to operate the Technology, Research, Education and Communication Center (TRECC) and a contract award to assess the region's global competitiveness assets. Alan Bennett opposed the motion since he was not in agreement of the contract award under item no. 5.2 and specifically addendum #1 for the purchase of kiosks for public participation in the scenario evaluation. Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn stated that the \$160,000 purchase was viewed as valuable to the *GO TO 2040* public involvement process and that a number of the kiosks would travel throughout the region, located at libraries for perhaps a week at a time. Still opposed by Alan Bennett, the motion carried and the procurements were approved.

## **6.0 Committee Reports**

On behalf of the Programming Coordinating Committee, Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported that the Programming Committee had met earlier in the morning and had seen a presentation from the Urban Land Institute (ULI) regarding CMAP's draft process for reviewing DRIs. CMAP staff also summarized other public comments on the draft, which will now undergo some revisions before being brought back to the Programming Committee in January. The Neighborhood Stabilization Program was introduced and was also discussed briefly.

## **7.0 FY 2008 Financial Statements**

Deputy Executive Director of Finance and Administration Dolores Dowdle reported that a number of items in the internal controls report had been acted upon due in large part to the hiring of CMAP's new financial officer, Lorrie Kovac in January 2008. Dowdle then introduced Robert Horstman and David Farmer of the accounting firm of Virchow Krause & Company who presented the financial highlights of the annual statement and reported the following. New audit standards were implemented, new processes and internal controls that had been recommended were addressed quickly and right on target. The financial statements reflect compliance with federal and state grants as well as an overall view of stability in the agency. Chair Jerry Bennett stated that the auditors had worked closed with the Executive Committee through a very difficult time and over the past year and a half have come a long way toward its goal of transparency. Alan Bennett made a motion to table the audit report to the next meeting, having felt insufficient time had been allowed for review. The motion failed for lack of a second. A motion was made by Frank Beal and seconded by Rae Rupp Srch to accept the FY 2008 Financial Report. Opposed by Alan Bennett, the motion carried.

## **8.0 Regional Indicators**

The Board was asked to approve the preliminary indicators that will be used to track the progress of the *GO TO 2040* plan. CMAP staffer Andrew Williams-Clark reported that the indicators had gone through a comprehensive internal and external input process and were approved by both the Planning Coordinating and the MPO Policy Committees. A motion by Rae Rupp Srch to approve the preliminary indicators was seconded by Russell Hartigan and with all in favor, carried.

## **9.0 CN Acquisition of the EJ&E**

Chair Jerry Bennett, having concern over the Board's readiness to take a vote to support or oppose the CN Acquisition of the EJ&E, recommended tabling the action. A motion by Russell Hartigan was seconded by Mayor Al Larson to table the matter for another meeting. Since the agreement to purchase expires on December 28, 2008, some board members opposed the motion, which resulted in a lengthy discussion. A vote was called (Athas-absent, Beal-no, Alan Bennett-no, Gerald Bennett-yes, Claar-yes, Evans-no, Hartigan-yes, Hartstein-no, Larson-yes, Michelini-yes, Raymundo-no, Rice-no, Rupp Srch-yes, Shea-no and Telman-no) and the motion failed with no at 8, yes at 7.

The Board discussed whether to change CMAP Resolution 1-A's recommended \$150 million for mitigation to a percentage of the whole mitigation costs. Alan Bennett made a motion to adopt CMAP Resolution 1-A with the following amendment to article 4: "CN shall commit to fund 15% of the costs associated with the construction of the mitigation projects referenced in Mitigation Measure #4." Mayor Elliott Hartstein seconded the motion. A vote was called (Athas-no, Beal-no, Alan Bennett-yes, Gerald Bennett-no, Claar-no, Evans-no, Hartigan-yes, Hartstein-yes, Larson-no, Michelini-no, Raymundo-no, Rice-yes, Rupp Srch-no, Shea-no and Telman-no), and the motion failed with no at 11, yes at 4. A motion by Rita Athas was seconded by Mayor Hartstein that the previous \$150 million mitigation remedy should be changed to 50%. The vote was called (Athas-yes, Beal-yes, Alan Bennett-yes, Gerald Bennett-yes, Claar-no, Evans-yes, Hartigan-yes, Hartstein-yes, Larson-no, Michelini-no, Raymundo-yes, Rice-yes, Rupp Srch-no, Shea-yes and Telman-yes). Again the motion failed with no at 4, yes at 11 (requiring 12 votes to pass).

Finally, Mayor Zenovia Evans made a motion that a letter be directed to CN and the STB that the Board was unable to agree to support or oppose the CN acquisition of the EJ&E because many of the matters that were of concern were not addressed in the EIS statements. The motion was seconded by Mayor Elliott Hartstein and with all in favor, carried.

Although not specific, as a matter of record, Frank Beal reported that information contained in the TRAC material was inaccurate.

## **10.0 Principles for Infrastructure Investment in a Federal Economic Recovery Package**

Policy focused, not project oriented, DRAFT of Principles for Infrastructure Investment in a Federal Economic Recovery Package that had been developed by CMAP staff was presented for endorsement. A motion by Rae Rupp Srch was seconded by Mayor Zenovia Evans to endorse the principles and with all in favor the motion carried. One suggestion was made to develop a set of principles for Housing too.

## **11.0 Other Business**

There was no other business to be discussed.

## 12.0 Public Comment

Norm West, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 in Chicago, and the NEPA reviewer for the STB FEIS made the following statement. "We appreciate that this board has held discussions on the CN proposal to purchase the EJ&E Railroad and more importantly that the board did conclude to send a letter to the STB. We are encouraged that even though a position of either supporting or opposing the STB project could not be reached, the Board decided to inform the STB of its deliberation and difficulty in arriving at such a conclusion. Such input is consistent with the NEPA goal of public involvement, and will reflect the problems CMAP has previously communicated to the STB regarding insufficient information to adequately assess this development. Because this proposal represents an example of a Development of Regional Importance (DRI), a process CMAP is just establishing, it has offered an opportunity for this organization to start addressing such issues.

We are further encouraged by the six page statement handed out with this meeting's agenda, and particularly two points. First, that CMAP recognizes that it should, as a body, assess freight as an industry in this region and how that industry impacts future planning considerations. Secondly, the last paragraph, on page 6 of 6, which recognizes the important role CMAP should be taking in such developments and especially one such as freight. One of my roles as EPA NEPA Reviewer is to provide EPA oversight for the region's fulfilling the SAFETEA-LU legislated requirements for MPO planning, and this statement reflects such development of the CMAP organization. Thank you."

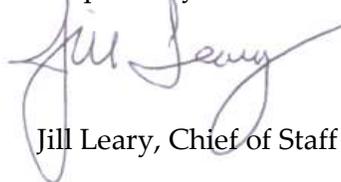
## 13.0 Next Meeting

The Board will meet again on January 14, 2009.

## 14.0 Adjournment

At 10:55 a.m., a motion to adjourn made by Alan Bennett was seconded by Mayor Al Larson. All in favor the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Leary, Chief of Staff

12-12-08  
/stk

*Approved as presented by unanimous vote, January 14, 2009.*