



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 800, Sears Tower  
Chicago, IL 60606

312-454-0400 (voice)  
312-454-0411 (fax)  
[www.chicagoareaplanning.org](http://www.chicagoareaplanning.org)

## **Programming Coordinating Committee Minutes**

July 11, 2007

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

**Members Present:** Rita Athas-Chair, Mark Avery, Jack Darin, Beth Dever, Jack Groner, Marilyn Michelini, Raul Raymundo, Leanne Redden, Dan Shea, Holly Smith and Nigel Telman

**Absent:** Anthony Calderone, Calvin Jordon and John Greuling

### **1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. by Rita Athas.

### **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

### **3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2007**

Mr. Shea moved that the meeting minutes of May 9, 2007 be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Avery. Mr. Kopec informed the committee that he received a few corrections from Mr. Darin. These were that Mr. Darin participated by phone at the meeting; that the Environment and Natural Resources Committee has offered its services as a replacement to the NIPC Water Resources Committee; and that Kendall County should be included in the region's FPA process. The motion and second were amended to have the minutes reflect those changes and passed unanimously.

### **4.0 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program**

Patricia Berry briefed the group on the process involved with the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. There is a total of approximately \$73 million available for projects which means it will be a highly competitive process as the total request was for \$400 million. The types of projects were described and included bottlenecks, traffic flow improvements, bicycle related, pedestrian related, and others. The CMAQ Program Selection Committee will meet next week to discuss the projects and will solicit public comments through the end of July. The Programming Committee will review the projects before going to the Policy Committee and Board for approval in October. This year's programming process is significantly different from previous years as now projects will be funded by phase with funding coming from the year the phase

will occur. A multi-year program will no longer be funded using one year's funding as problems with significant unobligated balances were resulting from that structure. There is no preset amount on the type of projects that will be funded. Projects will be evaluated on four criteria as outlined by the CMAQ project selection procedures. Projects will be subject to an annual evaluation and if it is not progressing, reprogramming may occur if necessary.

Mr. Avery inquired as to when the proposed program would be made available to the committee. Staff committed to providing the committee with the proposed program as soon as it has been agreed to by the CMAQ Committee. It will also be posted on the website.

#### **5.0 CATS and NIPC Agreements**

Patricia Berry then introduced the topic of agreements that CATS and NIPC have entered into which may now have to be revised given the creation of CMAP and the closure of NIPC. The two most visible are the inter-agency agreement between CATS, NIPC, the RTA and IDOT and the Wingspread Regional Accord between CATS, NIPC, SEWRPC and NIRPC. The inter-agency agreement is really the outcome of a federal requirement. In addition to the probable replacement of NIPC with CMAP as a signatory to the agreement, the agreement needs to be thoughtfully revised in order to reflect what CMAP was created to do. It was suggested CMAP staff create a draft which would then go to the sub-committee for review. Staff will work with the RTA and IDOT to draft a new agreement. Three members volunteered to be on a sub-committee that will provide policy guidance for the work. The members are Leanne Redden of the RTA, Rita Athas of the City of Chicago, and Mark Avery of DuPage County. While the deadline for this revision is in 2009, Rita Athas suggested that this effort be completed within 12 months. With the Wingspread Accord, the only change necessary is the replacement of NIPC with CMAP as a signatory. However, Don Kopec explained that there has been discussion of expanding the area of the accord to include southwest Michigan, with Lake Michigan issues being the major focus of the accord. In the meantime the committee will make the recommendation that the CMAP Board endorse the accord.

While these two are the only agreements with NIPC as a signatory, it was suggested that staff look at the other agreements that the Policy Committee routinely signs. These should be examined to determine if it would be appropriate for the CMAP board to also be a signatory. The three member subgroup will assist in this effort.

#### **6.0 Developments of Regional Importance**

Don Kopec discussed SB 1201 and the concept of Developments of Regional Importance (DRI) and read several sentences of the legislation describing DRIs and CMAP's obligation. The key points include: CMAP's role is advisory in nature; it must be a value-add process; the process should encourage inter-governmental coordination and promote overall economic well being of the region.

One of the first tasks will be to define what constitutes regional importance and under what criteria projects will be measured. These definitions and criteria should be consistent with local, regional, and state planning. The evaluation should include measurement of all impacts, including infrastructure related, economic impacts and possibly impacts on housing and education, among others. While there is a sound starting point with other criteria from the transportation and land use projects, the goal is to broaden the perspective. The Board and working committees will play a significant role as will an inclusive group of others, including project practitioners and implementers. This group needs to be brought together to ensure all perspectives and expertise are incorporated into what can be a controversial topic. Don Kopec will send a list of potential professions to be considered as a starting point; others' suggestions and recommendations should follow to build the list. Potential challenges include differing opinions on positive and negative impacts as well as CMAP being unaware of projects, particularly in the early stages. Other cities do a similar process, including Atlanta; Don Kopec will send out a powerpoint presentation of Ron Thomas describing their process. These can be used to get ideas but we will need to tailor the criteria to our regional vision. It was noted that criteria should probably not be based on size as much as impact.

It is anticipated that the development of this process will take up to a year to complete.

**7.0 Other Business**

There was no other business for the Committee

**8.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**9.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2007.

**10.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am on a motion by Jack Groner, seconded by Marilyn Micheline.

Respectfully submitted,



Staff Liaison

/dk

*Approved as presented by unanimous vote, September 12, 2007*