



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606
312 454 0400
www.cmap.illinois.gov

Economic Development Committee Draft Minutes July 26, 2011

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

Committee Members

Present: Lance Pressl (Chair), Jerry Weber, Bret Johnson, Carrie Thomas, Consuella Brown, Dennis Marino, Gretchen Kosarko, JoAnn Eckmann, Joanna Greene, Judith Kossy, Mary Beth Marshall, Terri Simmons (alternate for Ed Sitar).

Staff Present: Matt Maloney, Brett Baden, Ylda Capriccioso, Michael Mennelli, Liz Schuh, and Annie Byrne

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Chair, Lance Pressl, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – June 28

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 28 meeting, as presented was made and seconded and with all in favor, carried.

4.0 Legislative Update: Ylda Capriccioso, CMAA

As requested by the committee, staff described CMAA's rationale behind the agency's neutral stance on the recent Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act. Overall, CMAA supports modernization, but would like to see additional language in the bill, especially in regard to the rates. The committee asked to have a presentation from ComEd to better understand the details of this bill.

5.0 Illinois Technology Association Presentation: Fred Hoch, Illinois Technology Association

Fred Hoch, president of the Illinois Technology Association (ITA), presented on the technology industry in Illinois and how the ITA is working to help support and grow the

industry. While awareness on the technology industry is growing, as is investment from venture capital firms, Mr. Hoch described several actions that we must pursue to ensure the technology industry continues to thrive and expand: 1) increase collaboration 2) raise awareness nationally 3) attract talent and 4) increase investment from local lenders. The presentation will be posted to the committee's webpage with the July meeting materials (accessible [here](#)). Mr. Hoch answered several questions, including the role of government, which he believes is to help the transportation of ideas between sectors.

6.0 Freight Cluster Drill-Down Report: Brett Baden, CMAP and Marisa Lewis, CWIC
CMAP staff provided an overview of the analyses completed to date for the Freight Cluster Drill-Down. Staff described the preliminary findings from the economic analyses, including how industries have been performing compared to national trends, the economic impact and linkages between industries, and which industries are significant exporters. Marisa Lewis from CWIC presented the analyses and preliminary findings from the occupational analyses. She described statistics on industry size and growth, occupations and wages, and workforce demographics. Committee members provided feedback and asked questions, including how staff will use the analyses to make conclusions and develop recommendations. Staff explained we will look at what can be influenced locally and where there stands to be a significant impact.

7.0 Other Business

The committee discussed future meeting presentations. Suggestions included presentations on the Northern Illinois Workforce Coalition, demographics of the workforce, and impact of tax policy and tax subsidies on employment.

Jerry Weber informed the committee that the innovation workshop with Gravity Tank is tentatively scheduled to be on the date of the October committee meeting.

Lance Pressl suggested the committee share stories on local companies that demonstrate successes and challenges. He shared a story about an aquaponic tilapia farm. Currently, the company is challenged with a local ordinance that prohibits indoor livestock.

8.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

9.0 Next Meeting

The Economic Development Committee will meet next on September 27 (August meeting is cancelled).

10.0 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,



Annie Byrne
Committee Liaison

09-20-2011