



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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

312-454-0400 (voice)
312-454-0411 (fax)
www.cmap.illinois.gov

Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes **February 23rd – 9:00am** **DuPage County Conference Room**

Members Present: Bill Browne, Lori Clark, Grant Davis, JoAnn Eckmann, John Greuling, Rand Haas, Charles Perkins, Ed Sitar

Members Absent: Ivan Baker, Consuella Brown, Tracey Bosman, Thomas Gary, Robert Gleeson, Robin Kelly, Judith Kossy, Harry Pestine, Angie Powell, John Schneider, Gary Skoog

Staff Present: Brett Baden, Annie Byrne, Bob Dean, Bola Delano, Doug Ferguson, Matthew Maloney and Brian Rademacher

Others Present: Kristen Andersen

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

2.0 Welcome and Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

3.0 Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Grant Davis and seconded by Bill Browne.

4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

5.0 Staff Report

Staff introduced a detailed committee schedule that included a list of topics to be covered over the next five months. Staff reported that CMAP will hold two webinars. The first is Geothermal Energy in Your Community and will be held on February 26 from 9:30 to 11:00. The second webinar will focus on the US Census American Community Survey and how to find economic data for community analysis. It will be held on Wednesday, March 3 from 10:00 to 11:00. Both webinars are free and available to anyone interested. Committee members were encouraged to attend and to pass the information to contacts that may benefit from them. CMAP will host a Grants Academy Workshop which will focus on federal grants and will be an interactive exercise on how to write a successful grant. This is scheduled for April 15th and will be

held at the ComEd Facility in Oakbrook. Information about this event will be made available at the March meeting.

6.0 Chairman Report

The chairman reminded the committee of the innovation working group that met on February 8th. Staff highlighted the amendments and additions made to the innovation recommendations including an emphasis that innovation comes primarily from the private sector and the recommendations will seek ways in which the public sector can help foster innovation. The recommendations will include 1) improvements to the labor market 2) improving technology transfer, 3) increase funding opportunities, 4) support green innovation, 5) remove barriers to innovation, 6) develop a culture of innovation. The implementation component will focus on energy and freight. The committee agreed that these were good sectors to begin an investigation. Lori Clark indicated that there have been recent advances in the healthcare industry and would be worth looking into. Charles Perkins suggested the recommendations consider the impact of foreign direct investment. The Chair introduced a potential work plan for the group to convene small roundtable meetings to learn about innovation. With the three sectors identified the working group agreed to meet and discuss the interview template for the meeting, develop a timeline to meet with companies and review the innovation recommendations one more time. It was agreed to hold the meeting on Monday, March 8th, at 1:00PM at the CMAP offices.

7.0 GOTO 2040 Update

7.1 Staff presented an overview of the State and Local Tax Policy Snapshot and its link with *GO TO 2040*. The presentation outlined key issues and data related to state and local tax policies in the region highlighting property, sales, income, and motor fuel tax. One of the recommendations in the plan is the creation of a Regional Tax Policy Task Force. The group would comprise of government officials, business and civic organizations etc. with a role to coordinate on issues central to state and local fiscal policy, highlighting implications on the regional economy, sustainability, and equality.

The committee appreciated the comprehensive analysis and suggested that the report be distributed to a wider audience in order to address the issues raised in the snapshot. Rand Haas suggested staff look at the potential for success related to state's with aggressive tax policy. How would our region stack up? JoAnn Eckmann suggested the need to identify the implications of tax policy on economic development. Charles Perkins recommended that when changes are made to this report it would be helpful to show how the Chicago Region stacks up against competitors.

7.2 Staff presented an overview on Transportation Finance and recommendations for *GO TO 2040*. The purpose of the paper was to review current mechanisms that fund surface transportation and propose recommendations to the current funding mechanisms to meet the maintenance demands and increased capacity of the current system. A variety of additional financing options are being explored as part of *GO TO 2040*'s approach, some of which include an increase in the Motor Fuel Tax, additional user pricing, and public-private partnerships; other potential funding sources will also be identified but explored in less depth.

The committee thanked staff for the presentation and look forward to future updates as the recommendations and report progress.

8.0 **Legislative Update**

Ylda presented a brief update on CMAP's legislative initiative- the Regional Planning Comprehensive Fund. She stated the CMAP is working to get the fund back into the State budget. She also indicated that staff is tracking bills pertinent to CMAP and the region and asked that any bills related to economic development should be forwarded to her so they can be entered in a tracking system.

9.0 **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee will be held on **Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at 9:00am** in the CMAP offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher
Staff Liaison

03-10-10