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Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes October 27 – 9:00am DuPage County Conference Room

Members Present: Ivan Baker, Tracey Bosman, Consuella Brown, Lori Clark, JoAnn Eckmann, Thomas Gary, Robert Gleeson, John Greuling, Rand Haas, Judith Kossy, Charles Perkins, Angie Powell, John Schneider, Gary Skoog, Ed Sitar.

Members Absent: Chris Aiston, Bill Browne, Grant Davis, Robin Kelly Harry Pestine, Mike Scholefield.

Staff Present: Brett Baden, Randy Blankenhorn, Patricia Berry, Annie Byrne, Bob Dean, Bola Delano, Jon Hallas, Brian Rademacher.

Others Present: Kristen Anderson, Paul Heltne.

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 Tracey Bosman and seconded by Consuella Brown.

4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

5.0 Staff Report

5.1 Staff introduced a business and industrial parks map for northeastern Illinois. It was designed to highlight the location of business activity in relation to transportation corridors and other related assets throughout the region. Members were informed that individual County maps identifying each park by name will be available on-line at a later date. Committee members were asked for suggestions to enhance the map and make it effective as a technical assistance tool. Recommendations included highlighting the tech and university-based parks in the region. Committee members commended staff on this effort.

5.2. Staff introduced the development of quarterly on-line reports that would provide a regional outlook look of business activity and focus on the different trends as it relates to regional productivity, workforce, and economic development. The reports which were a suggestion made by committee members in 2006 would complement the indicators project and provide essential data that economic development professionals can use immediately. The committee recommended staff put together a mock-up report for them to review. Committee chair asked for volunteers to participate in reviewing and developing a first draft. Anyone interested was asked to contact Brian Rademacher directly.

6.0 Chairman Report

There was no update from the chairman to the committee.

7.0 GOTO 2040 Update

7.1 As part of a follow-up to the work being done on the strategy reports, Annie Byrne facilitated a discussion where committee members were asked to prioritize the recommendations made in the economic development strategy reports and offer ideas on what CMAP can do to support these recommendations. The discussion focused on the topic of innovation and discussed how CMAP can begin convening key entities to discuss regional innovation, who should participate, and what the focus of meetings should be. The committee agreed that innovation can be successful when it translates into jobs, available capital, and an environment where innovation is celebrated. To that end CMAP could convene several key stakeholders involved in regional innovation -- to discuss what success would look like, what barriers to growth do businesses face in the region, and host a special meeting of current innovators and tech-transfer specialists to highlight and celebrate regional innovations to date. Committee members commented that these forums will be a good place to further define the region's definition of innovation, the region's priorities for innovation and what innovation could look like in the context of the GO TO 2040 plan. The committee requested that staff summarize the discussion and compile a short list of possible next steps that CMAP would like to pursue as a result of this conversation.

7.2 The chairman recommended that the discussion on Preferred Scenario Development be tabled until November. It will be given priority at that time for full discussion.

8.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9.0 Upcoming Regional Events

Gary Skoog reminded committee members of an upcoming event on November 4th at Harper College -- 'Accessing Innovation in a Challenging Economy'. John Greuling reported the 'Midwest Clean Tech 2009' event at the Federal Reserve Bank on November 23 & 24. John Schneider announced the recent release of the Cook County Recovery Zone Facility Bonds.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee will be held on **Tuesday November 17, 2009 at 9:00am** in the CMAP offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher
Staff Liaison

11-02-09