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

Members Present: Tracey Bosman, Consuella Brown, Bill Browne, Lori Clark, Grant Davis, JoAnn Eckmann, Thomas Gary, Robin Kelly, Angie Powell, John Schneider

Members Absent: Chris Aiston, Robert Gleeson, John Greuling, Judith Kossy, Sean McCarthy, Cindy McSherry, Charles Perkins, Harry Pestine, Mike Scholefield, David Young

Staff Present: Annie Byrne, Bob Dean, Bola Delano, Brian Rademacher, Paul Reise,

Others Present: Kristen Andersen, Sheryl Steward-Caldwell, Chalen Dagle, Leah Bradford, Paul Heltne, Phillip Thomas

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 Lori Clark and seconded by Tracey Bosman.

4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Item seven was added to the agenda to discuss the economic stimulus package and CMAP's role.

5.0 Staff Report

Staff reminded the committee of an upcoming workshop, 'Moving Forward Together' to be held on February 9th at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago – Moving Forward Together, is designed to promote awareness and encourage more involvement from minority communities in the *GO TO 2040 (VAMOS AL AÑO 2040)* planning process. Committee members were encouraged to attend.

6.0 **GOTO 2040 Update: Approach to Economic Development in GO TO 2040**

At the last meeting committee members were concerned about their role in the planning process and asked staff to give a general overview with a diagram showing how each committee fits into the whole process. Bob Dean apologized for not being able to show a diagram as it was such a complex process but he gave a detailed overview on the approach to economic development in the *GO TO 2040* plan and the committee's involvement particularly from the vision to development of indicators etc He identified a number of activities underway internally. This work includes: a report on industry clusters; a white paper on economic development incentives, which reviews the provision of economic incentives by government agencies and reviews current incentive programs in the region; a report on business location decisions and finally, evaluation measures are being developed to evaluate transportation project proposals. Some external work which was currently underway included, The Regional Economics Application Laboratory (REAL) has produced reference forecasts of employment, income, and output; RCF, an economic consulting firm, is preparing reports on innovation, telecommunications, green jobs, and export promotion; and some research was being done on education and workforce development by agencies on contract with the Chicago Community Trust. These reports are designed to explain current conditions and make recommendations on how to treat these issues in the plan. Detailed presentations to the committee on the internal and external work will begin in February. Bob Dean thanked members for all their work to date and urged the committee to continue to play a central role in these regional planning efforts.

Robin Kelly began the discussion by asking if the white paper on incentives will make recommendations on their use in the region. Tracey Bosman followed by asking if the paper examines the use of incentives in neighboring states? Staff said the paper does not make specific recommendations and is intended to lay a baseline of information based on literature reviews and expert interviews. Lori Clark asked if CMAP's evaluation of major capital projects factors in the current fiscal constraints and the proposed federal stimulus bill. Bob Dean confirmed that that the evaluation is meant to estimate what the capital projects might cost and identify what revenue the region has and will have. Consuella Brown asked if it were possible to have a graph that shows the flow of each step. She offered to assist in the development of that visual representation of the memo.

7.0 **Other Business**

Staff outlined the three roles CMAP will take to evaluate infrastructure projects eligible for funding through the economic recovery package. The first role is to identify and disseminate current information about the stimulus plan. The second role is to identify the funding process that will be used to communicate to stakeholders and partners. The third is to create evaluation criteria for selected projects to best utilize funds and improve the region's economic activity. Staff highlighted the importance for municipalities to identify areas in their communities that can be targeted for assistance

in the stimulus bill. Committee members will receive periodic updates via a special weekly update and regular updates at committee meetings.

8.0 Public Comment

Paul Heltne appreciated the commitment of the members in the comprehensive planning process but highlighted the notion that CMAP needed to establish a mechanism that will allow all stakeholders to know what each group is doing. The committee agreed that information needs to flow back and forth between committees and stakeholders. Staff agreed that there needs to be more sharing of information and mentioned several efforts that have been implemented to address this issue. However it was emphasized that the scenario evaluation process which will be a series of webinars later this year is also designed to bring members of the different working committees together to discuss these issues. In addition a monthly summary of all work being done in the working committees is prepared for the board and this will be made available to the Economic and Community Development Committee on a regular basis.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15am.

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee will be held on **Tuesday March 24, 2009 at 9:00am** in the CMAP offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher
Staff Liaison

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