



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Environment and Natural Resources Committee

DRAFT Minutes

April 6, 2011 —9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Patty Werner - Lake County SMC, Sean Weidel – City of Chicago, Joe Schuessler – Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Marty Jaffe – University of Illinois at Chicago, Wally Van Buren – Illinois Association of Wastewater Agencies, Ashley Craig – Environmental Law and Policy Center, Anne McKibbin – Center for Neighborhood Technology, Tina Seaman – Openlands, Mike Sullivan – Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors

Staff Present: Jesse Elam, Ylda Capriccioso, Tim Loftus, Hala Ahmed, Lindsay Banks

1.0 Call to Order

Patty Werner was asked to lead the meeting since the co-chairs were unable to attend the meeting. The meeting was then called to order at 9:35 am. A round of introductions followed.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Hala announced the deadlines for the Community Planning Program, a partnership between CMAP and the Regional Transportation Authority to offer grants to communities for local planning to support regional goals.

3.0 Approval of Minutes from March 2, 2011

The minutes were approved with no changes.

4.0 Coordinating Committees Update

The co-chairs were not present, so Jesse explained that the March meetings of the Planning and the Programming Committees focused on the CMAP Local Technical Assistance program and various regional policy initiatives, respectively.

5.0 Legislative update

Ylda ran through several bills that CMAP is tracking. She said that the stormwater legislation that CNT has been working on looked as if it would be called to the floor. She also noted that the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup bill (discussed at the March ENR meeting) had made its way out of the Illinois Senate. The Illinois Water Inventory Program is in danger of not being funded after July 1, and she passed out information on the program. A member noted that Lobby Day was March 30, and a number of environmental groups participated; YouTube videos of the event are available. Ylda also

described a bill being supported by electric utilities in Illinois, HB 14, which would enable smart grid improvements but also probably lead to rate increases.

6.0 Municipal participation in Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard funding program

Jesse noted that the members who had asked to talk about the issue were not present, but that the gist of it was that the many municipalities who are using Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funds to pay the 25% match required to use EEPS may not continue to seek EEPS funding if EECBG funds are not available. Additional funds are not expected to be appropriated to EECBG. A discussion followed about the need for a more general approach to energy policy, with members suggesting that it would be good to bring the committee up to speed on energy issues and potentially organize regional workshops on energy issues, or more than that, develop a comprehensive energy plan.

7.0 CMAP Program Updates

7.1 Local case study library

Lindsay Banks mentioned that CMAP is developing a case study library for the region that will be available online to help disseminate best practices. She handed out some draft examples of the case studies that will be available.

7.2 Water 2050 implementation and basin separation study update

Tim Loftus began with an update on Water 2050 implementation, saying that some of his work is continuing to introduce the plan to new people through presentations to various groups and organizations. A staff person at CMAP is beginning to serve as the regional water conservation coordinator, as recommended in the plan. CMAP has developed bill inserts about conservation that one company has agreed to include in bills. The water resource economist at CMAP is working on a full cost pricing white paper, working through a committee process. Furthermore, Tim is supporting the Northwest Water Planning Alliance, and staff is working on the Lake Zurich water supply planning project with the Metropolitan Planning Council.

Tim is also representing CMAP on a study by the Great Lakes Cities Initiative and the Great Lakes Commission on separating the Mississippi from the Great Lakes basins, which should be finished at the end of 2011. The engineering firm HDR is conducting the work, and the committee meets again in June. Finally, Tim mentioned that CMAP is responding to the decision by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to stop reviewing permits for consistency with FPA boundaries. The Wastewater Committee endorsed the position that IEPA should go back to reviewing FPAs. Wally mentioned that he had talked to IEPA staff directly, but hadn't gotten anything definitive about the agency's intentions.

7.3 Parks and open space implementation update

Jesse gave a brief update on the parks and open space aspect of GO TO 2040, noting that CMAP had been working with Chicago Wilderness to release an RFP to refine the Green Infrastructure Vision. Jesse handed out the scope of services and asked for the committee to give him comments after the meeting.

7.0 Other business

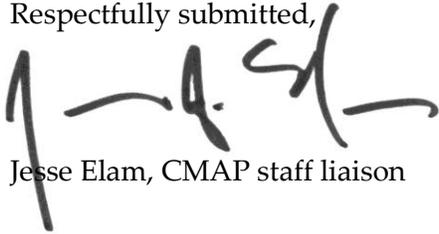
None.

8.0 Public comment

None

9.0 Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jesse Elam', written over the typed name below.

Jesse Elam, CMAP staff liaison