



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## **Environment and Natural Resources Committee**

### **DRAFT Minutes**

June 6, 2012 —9:30 a.m.

**Members Present:** Sean Weidel – City of Chicago, Marty Jaffe – University of Illinois at Chicago, Lenore Beyer-Clow – Openlands, Deb Stone – Cook County Department of Environmental Control, Mike Prusila – Lake County SMC, Mike Sullivan – Kane/Kendall CoM, Wally van Buren – Illinois Association of Wastewater Agencies, Nancy Williamson – Illinois DNR, Anne McKibben – CNT Energy

**Staff Present:** Jesse Elam, Hala Ahmed, Kristin Ihnchak, Randy DeShazo, Ylda Capriccioso

**Others Present:** Beata Walsh – RTA, John Paul Jones – Developing Communities Project

#### **1.0 Call to Order**

Lenore called the meeting to order at 9:32 am. A round of introductions followed.

#### **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

None.

#### **3.0 Approval of Minutes from May 2, 2012**

The minutes were approved with no changes.

#### **4.0 Coordinating Committees Update**

Mike Sullivan attended the Local Coordinating Committee in May and summarized the meeting. Regional Coordinating Committee would be meeting in June – Jesse gave an overview of the agenda.

#### **5.1 Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Projects: Sustainability**

Kristin Ihnchak gave an overview of two of the sustainability plans she had been working on through the LTA program, referring to a PowerPoint presentation. She presented a rationale for developing sustainability plans and walked the committee through the Park Forest sustainability plan, which was adopted by the village board in May, as well as the initial scoping for a sustainability chapter update to the Lake County Framework Plan. A member commented that CMAP should consider developing a template for all sustainability plans. Kristin responded that that would be time-intensive and that at least one similar product already exists, the STAR index. After some discussion, the committee suggested it could develop a sustainability plan

template or assessment scorecard as a workplan item, but other members felt that local elected officials might not buy into using a template. Using MetroPulse to host the template or scorecard was discussed.

**5.2 Green Infrastructure Vision 2.0**

Nancy gave an overview of the Chicago Wilderness Sustainable Watershed Action Team (SWAT) projects being undertaken. SWAT organizes a group of consultants who agree to work at reduced rates on a natural resources plan for a municipality or other client. SWAT is focusing on green infrastructure and has undertaken a number of local green infrastructure mapping projects in the CMAP region and beyond. Jesse then summarized for the committee the regional green infrastructure project that CMAP had been undertaking with Chicago Wilderness – called “GIV 2.0” because it is an update of a previous planning product -- indicating that the green infrastructure network should be used to help guide development away from sensitive areas as well as to help target funding for open space preservation. The committee then suggested a number of ways that the green infrastructure network could be integrated into conservation decisions, such as using it to help target private foundation funding. The Vital Lands Initiative of the Grand Victoria Foundation is an example. Using the GIV 2.0 in transportation project development, e.g., as part of an EIS, in a Developments of Regional Importance review, or in transmission line siting, were also discussed.

**6.0 Other Business**

None.

**7.0 Public comment**

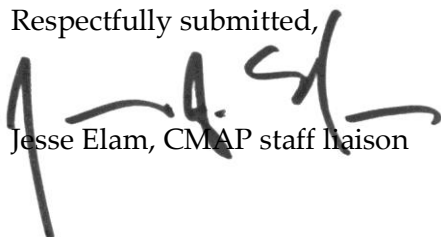
None.

**8.0 Next Meeting**

The July meeting is not being held because it falls on the Independence Day holiday and the committee normally takes August off. The next meeting would be held September 5, 2012.

**9.0 Adjournment.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jesse Elam, CMAP staff liaison