

233 South Wacker Drive Suite 800 Chicago, Illinois 60606

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# **Economic Development Committee**

Minutes Monday, September 28, 2015, 9:30 a.m.

DuPage County Conference Room 233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800 Chicago, Illinois

Committee members present: Christine Sobek (chair, Waubonsee Community College),
Lindsay Broughel (World Business Chicago), Peter Creticos (Institute for Work and the
Economy), John Grueling (Will County Center for Economic Development), Emily
Harris (Harris Strategies), Jason Keller (Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago), Kevin Kramer
(Village of Hoffman Estates), Kelly O'Brian (Alliance for Regional Development), Kurtis
Pozsgay (Berwyn Development Corporation), Lance Pressl (Institute for Work and the
Economy), Ayom Siengo (United Way of Metropolitan Chicago)

*By Phone:* Katie Fitzpatrick (Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce), Gretchen Kosarko (RW Ventures), Carrie Thomas (Chicago Jobs Council)

**Others present:** Elaine Bottomley (Will County Governmental League), Bill Testa (Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago), Kurt Vannucci (Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership)

**Staff present:** David Clark, Lindsay Hollander, Kristin Ihnchak, Kara Komp, Tom Kotarac, Brian Peterson, Elizabeth Schuh, Joe Szabo, Simone Weil

#### 1.0 Call to Order/Introductions

Committee chair Christine Sobek called the meeting to order at 9:36am.

## 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

None.

#### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2015 meeting was made and seconded, with all in favor, the motion carried and minutes were approved.

## 4.0 Manufacturing Perspectives

Bill Testa, Vice President and Director of Regional Research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago provided a presentation on trends in manufacturing industries and the impact on the region's economy. Mr. Testa discussed historical policy changes, such as

China entering the World Trade Organization, and trends such as advances in transportation systems and logistics that have profoundly changed what and how goods are produced in the Chicago region. The presentation also included several data points that indicate substantial changes in employment in the sector. Economists have observed declines in the number of workers required to produce goods and increases in subcontracting services rather than employing a broad based workforce to complete numerous non-manufacturing tasks. Although workforces have reduced in size, productivity and output has increased over the same period of time. Finally, Mr. Testa discussed exporting trends and the policy environment that shapes different manufacturers' abilities to compete. Committee members reflected on changes in economic impact, patterns in outsourcing, and shifts in supply chain management.

5.0 Next Comprehensive Regional Plan: Regional Economy and Clusters Snapshot
Brian Peterson introduced one of the next plan's existing conditions reports, a snapshot
combining CMAP's regional economy research and recent cluster analysis methodology.
The snapshot will excerpt the indicators published on CMAP's regional economy
microsite to discuss economic output and workforce trends. The snapshot will also
describe different types of clusters, the region's strengths, going into depth about the
globally traded cluster. The presentation concluded with questions for the committee
potential modifications to the snapshot. Committee members discussed examining
policy changes in the region and connecting the cluster analysis to work that CMAP's
partners have underway.

# 6.0 Next Comprehensive Regional Plan: Socioeconomic Forecasting

David Clark provided an overview of the upcoming socioeconomic forecasting exercise. A federally-required component of the long-range transportation plan, CMAP uses the information for transportation policy and programming, local technical assistant, water planning and other purposes. Additionally, stakeholders throughout the region use the data to prepare for changes on sub-regional and local levels. The presentation described background research conducted into national best practices among other large metropolitan planning organizations and what will be included in CMAP's socioeconomic forecasting. Building off of GO TO 2040 and lessons learned through the plan update in 2014, CMAP has developed a process to develop the socioeconomic forecasting, with the first deliverable due out in mid-2016. Committee members asked about the how CMAP forecasts will account for different development patterns across the region and what existing conditions and economic factors will be considered.

#### 7.0 Meeting CMAP's new Executive Director

Joe Szabo began his tenure as CMAP's executive director in June 2015. He introduced himself to the committee, sharing his prior experience at the Federal Railroad Administration and as an elected official in Riverdale. Szabo thanked the committee for its efforts and ongoing engagement to inform the agency's work.

#### 8.0 Other Business

Kelly O'Brian provided an update on an upcoming forum to be hosted at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and encouraged committee members to attend the event. Peter Creticos shared that the Institute for Work and the Economy had recently completed its asset mapping project and will be presenting at the committee's October meeting. Simone Weil shared that the November committee meeting would be cancelled and that at its October meeting the committee will review a proposal for 2016 meeting dates.

#### 9.0 Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

## 10.0 Next meeting

The Economic Development Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, October 26 at 9:30am.

# 11.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Simone Weil