



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Minutes
Thursday, September 7, 2017**

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Lake County Conference Room
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present: Keary Cragan – U.S. EPA, Jack Darin – Illinois Sierra Club, Jackie Forbes – Kane County Division of Transportation, Danielle Gallet – Metropolitan Planning Council, David Leopold – UI Labs, Stacy Meyers – Openlands, Mike Prusilla – Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Deb Stone – Cook County Department of Environmental Control, Mike Sullivan – IDOT, Sean Wiedel – Chicago Department of Transportation, Nancy Williamson – IDNR, Moira Zellner – University of Illinois-Chicago

Members Absent: Ed Collins – McHenry County Conservation District, Martha Dooley – Village of Schaumburg, Joe Schuessler – MWRD, Kim Wasserman-Nieto – Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

Staff Present: Nora Beck, Enrique Castillo, Anthony Cefali, Kate Evasic, Tony Manno, Liz Schuh,

Others Present: none

1.0 Call to Order

Jack Darin called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

- The order of the agenda items was changed.
- [ON TO 2050 Bimonthly Update](#) is available.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 7 meeting, with a correction that Nancy Williamson was in attendance, was made by Sean Wiedel, seconded by Jackie Forbes. The motion carried with all in favor.

4.0 Midlothian 147th Street Corridor Plan – Tony Manno, CMAP staff

The Village of Midlothian, in partnership with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), Active Transportation Alliance, and Center for Neighborhood

Technology (CNT), completed a plan of action for [147th Street](#) between Cicero Avenue and Kedzie Avenue to identify potential stormwater management and pedestrian improvements. Green infrastructure concepts were developed and pedestrian improvements were identified for specific locations along the corridor. Using a [presentation](#), Tony summarized the planning process and presented the final concepts to the ENR Committee. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions and discussed the following points:

- Discussion of complete streets and stormwater management goals on IDOT facilities.
- Long-term maintenance and landscaping requirements. The Village has agreed to maintenance and project identifies cost estimates for three years of maintenance as well as a planting list.
- MWRD improvements to Natalie Creek which is anticipated to provide protection for the 25-year storm; right now at 2-year storm.
- Executive summary. Committee members requested the executive summary for the project when it is available.

5.0 ON TO 2050: Preview Report Draft – Liz Schuh, CMAP staff

The ON TO 2050 Preview Report, which was available for public comment from June 19th – August 3rd, introduces the three proposed cross-cutting principles for ON TO 2050 as well as its preliminary major recommendations. Staff will review [the recommendations and changes](#) made due to public and committee comment. All CMAP committees will receive final presentations on the Preview Report throughout September. The CMAP Board and MPO will vote on this item in October. Using a [presentation](#), Liz provided an overview of the preview report with the highlighted changes. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions and discussed the following points:

- Regional Freight Direction. Committee members requested a copy.
- Framing of resilience. This should include a positive element; both/and. It should include the concept that the actions will be adding back what we have damaged and increasing resource function and benefits.
- Importance of connecting comprehensive plans with constrained resources.
- Discussion about educational attainment. Growth is influenced by schools, which is a subject that is not easily addressed through CMAP activities beyond tax policy recommendations.
- Race, inclusive growth and statistically significant differences in that geography? Yes, Moira Zellner was aware of studies that showed this.
- Discussion about the role of race across the series of recommendations related to inclusive growth. Committee members encouraged CMAP to consider the structural racism at play. Consider disproportionate **inputs** in addition to impacts. Also a discussion about benefits; noting there is a difference in planning to minimize negative impacts versus maximize benefits.
- Discussion about transportation and demand side management. How do you address low-demand from the input side. What are the solutions for areas that need transit service but are poorly served now due to low demand.
- Discussion about being cautious about public private partnerships. CMAP policy is to evaluate them case by case and that any public private partnerships need to expose governments to minimal risk.

- Coordination with IDOT during their own long term transportation planning efforts as well as with Will County during their freight planning work. CMAP has been in coordination with IDOT along the way.
- CMAP should be the enabling data steward. Building on transportation and water experience, CMAP should be sharing data in an accessible, user-friendly, realtime way. With new tech firms, data collection and processing is complicated and they often have to do it themselves, making it hard to handle public private partnership. CMAP is currently exploring a pavement data collection system via this [request for informational presentation](#).
- Discussion about incentivizing people to live close to work via tax incentives. Some employers are already using strategies at their disposal.
- Discussion about Airbnb and its current and future impact on affordable housing. Important to not only view emerging technology from the transportation sector.

6.0 Richton Park Stormwater Master Plan – Kate Evasic, CMAP staff

The Village of Richton Park and CMAP, with assistance from Conservation Design Forum and Geosyntec, are developing a [master plan](#) for the west side of the community that integrates development with natural resource protection and stormwater management. The study area extends along Sauk Trail from I-57 to the east and Ridgeland Avenue to the west. Using a [presentation](#), Kate provided an overview of project and shared the concept plan for near- and long-term development that delineates the green infrastructure network and proposed development areas. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions and discussed the following points:

- Floodplain remapping. Consultants estimated that the previous floodplain boundaries were inaccurate for this headwater portion of Hickory Creek. The committee members discussed the value of remapping efforts, the specific circumstances of this area, and raised concerns that the mapping efforts may not be fully accounting for conditions and could be placing future development in harm's way.
- Revenue goals. The committee discussed the village's motivations for developing this portion of their community and CMAP's role in the process. The village approved a Walmart for this sub-area, which has already been constructed. Other efforts, such as long term infrastructure cost assessments, tax policy changes, reinvestment strategies, and transfer of benefit programs, may point out to the community that it would be better not to develop this area. Discussion about CMAP's role and the level of changes that can be achieved in a single project. Project consulted with potential third parties to acquire / manage portions of the area but this site is a lower priority for them.
- Discussion of potential benefits stemming from the project. Local land use goals are focused on development. With this stormwater management in place, development has the opportunity to lead to restoration of the floodplain areas and improvement of wetland areas that have been impacted by farming.
- Discussion on how communities may lack the data to prepare for development, improved information about floodplain boundaries, existing wetland assets, and a plan with criteria can level the playing field between the community and potential developers.

- Openlands has developed guidelines for conservation design developments that set up structures for long-term maintenance.
- Discussion about the continued expansion of the developed portions of the region and how incremental changes can lead to further development.

7.0 Other Business.

None.

8.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9.0 Next Meeting

The ENR Committee is scheduled to next meet on Thursday, October 5, 2017.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nora Beck (ENR Committee Liaison)
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