



**Environment and Natural Resources Committee**

**DRAFT Minutes**

April 3, 2013 —9:30 a.m.

**Members Present:** Patty Werner – Lake County SMC, Martha Dooley – Village of Schaumburg, Sean Wiedel – Chicago Department of Transportation, Marty Jaffe – University of Illinois at Chicago, Jack Darin – Illinois Sierra Club, John Grosshans – US Environmental Protection Agency, Deb Stone – Cook County Department of Environmental Control, Mike Sullivan – Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors, Stacy Meyers – Openlands, Anne McKibben – CNT Energy

**Staff Present:** Jesse Elam, Dawn Thompson, Jason Navota, Tim Loftus

**Others Present:** Kyle Smith – Center for Neighborhood Technology, Jacky Grimshaw – Center for Neighborhood Technology, Bruce Carmitchel – IDOT, Chris Schmidt – IDOT, Mike Klemens - Will County Governmental League

**1.0 Call to Order**

Jesse called the meeting to order at 9:35 and introduced Sean Wiedel as the new co-chair of the committee, replacing Lenore Beyer-Clow from Openlands.

**2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

None.

**3.0 Approval of Minutes from March 3, 2013**

The minutes were approved with no changes.

**4.0 Coordinating Committees Update**

Mike Sullivan gave the report for the Regional Coordinating Committee meeting, indicating that the two main items on the agenda were freight policy and regional green infrastructure protection.

**5.0 Priority Development Areas Proposal**

Jesse introduced Kyle Smith of CNT, explaining that CNT would be visiting all the CMAP working committees to discuss its Priority Development Areas proposal. Jesse asked the committee to provide feedback on the PDA concept. Kyle gave a presentation based on a PowerPoint. He presented data supporting the idea that the amount of

transit-oriented development occurring in the Chicago area had been less than in other metros over the past few years and also showed results of a survey of developers suggesting that they felt opportunities in transit-oriented development were lower in the Chicago area than elsewhere. Kyle said that one approach to stimulating development that would permit more reliance on alternative modes of transportation would be to focus infrastructure funding into PDAs. He discussed two metros (Atlanta, San Francisco) and one state (Maryland) where this is done. CNT's research suggested that the PDA criteria should be very simple. CNT's initial proposal was to use transit frequency of service, household density, and job density to demarcate PDAs. He suggested that various funding programs could be targeted partly to PDAs, including potentially CMAQ, STP-L, and other funds.

Questions from the committee included whether Councils of Mayors would determine where the PDAs would be within their borders. Kyle was suggested that CMAP could handle mapping PDAs but that the Councils would make the funding allocations within their areas. A member suggested that the PDA program would create winners and losers. It was also asked whether Councils of Mayors / Councils of Government would be expected to set aside STP funds for PDAs or to build a preference for investing in PDAs into their selection methodology. A number of members made outreach suggestions. It was also suggested that GHG emissions reductions could be a part of the selection criteria.

#### **6.1 Illinois DNR Water Loss Evaluation Project**

Tim Loftus gave an overview of the project he is leading in the Local Technical Assistance program to reduce water loss from Lake Michigan users with chronically high loss rates. He would be examining water loss information from 2007 to 2011, meeting with perhaps a half dozen communities to understand the reasons for their loss rates, conduct an online survey to find out more about their water conservation efforts, and carrying out several other tasks. The committee briefly discussed IDNR's proposed rule change regarding water loss accounting.

#### **6.2 Local Food Projects in Lake County**

Jason Navota gave an overview of the local food projects he is supervising for the LTA program, referring to a PowerPoint presentation. He indicated that a great deal of the economic output associated with farming is leaving the state and that producing food for local consumption would stem some of that flow. Members asked specific questions about how to reconcile restoration objectives for forest preserve land with use for local farming. He noted that one of the biggest outstanding needs is buttressing the distribution system for local foods.

#### **7.0 Other Business**

None.

#### **8.0 Public Comment**

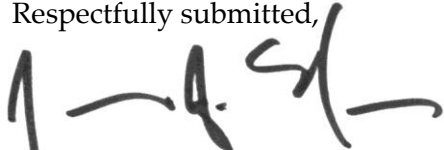
None.

#### **9.0 Next Meeting**

May 1, 2013

**10.0 Adjournment.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jesse Elam, CMAP staff liaison