



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Citizens Advisory Committee

DRAFT Minutes

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

4:00 p.m.

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Lake County Conference Room
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Committee Members

Present:

Kimberly Bares, Lulu Blacksmith (phone), Martin Egan (phone),
Kevin Ivers, Thomas Jacobs, John Knoelk, Stephenie Presseller,
Matthew Prochaska, Faye Sinnott

Staff Present:

Erin Aleman, Hala Ahmed, Emily Plagman, Dan Olson, and
Ricardo Lopez

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Meeting started at approximately 4:08 p.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

3.0 CMAP Program Updates

CMAP staff provided updates on relevant CMAP activities.

3.1 Community Planning program

CMAP Staff Hala Ahmed made a quick announcement about the call for projects CMAP is doing in collaboration with the RTA for the Community Planning Program and the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program. The Community Planning Program provides funding and planning assistance to local municipalities for Transit related projects where the LTA program provides staff assistance and takes on a broad range of planning projects. The deadline for both programs will be August 1st. RTA has other programs other than the community planning available on their [website](#). Eligibility for these planning programs is available to municipalities in the seven-county region.

Committee members asked about what type of projects would stand out, and what are the requirements for non-government organizations who might apply.

CMAP will like to see inter-jurisdictional collaborations where several communities come together for a project idea. For the most part, CMAP is looking for themes that align with GO TO 2040. Project readiness. Engineering specific projects will not be eligible. Organizations submitting a project idea will need a letter of support from the municipality. Same goes for City of Chicago project proposals a recommendation from the City of Chicago's Department of Housing and Economic Development is needed.

3.2 LTA Ideas Exchange Event

The LTA Ideas Exchange event will present eight panel discussions for potential applicants to attend and learn what some of the LTA projects have been. It will be a great opportunity for committee members to network with partners. It will be an opportunity for applicants to talk about their project ideas and what they are looking for. Space is limited.

3.3 Energy Impact Illinois (EI2) Update

CMAP Staff Emily Plagman talked about CMAP's latest venture into the energy world. About a year ago CMAP applied to do energy efficient to the region and the City of Rockford. Dan Olson presented before to the CAC and Emily now presents an update report. Emily's presentation is [available](#) for your review. If you do not wish to download the presentation you could go to energyimpactillinois.org

Committee members provided valuable suggestions for reaching out to a broad population. These included working with faith base organizations by taking the single family approach. Faith base groups have huge networks. They will help get a bigger audience in a bigger space if we get them to host a demonstration. Filling a sanctuary might be better than in a home.

CMAP has talked to the faith networks and definitely would like to do something like that. EI2 needs trusted networks to help with introductions. They are also aiming at folks who are low hanging fruit. They want to meet with the ones who are most engaged because they don't have the funds or resources to go out and find these networks. The loan program is also available to churches. However, it is more competitive as oppose to going to Chase. If there is an open meeting, or if they are already talking green, we would want those people who are most engaged to come. If committee members have those contacts or have a meeting going on please get in touch with Emily (eplagman@cmapp.illinois.gov).

EI2 will be hosting [volunteer trainings](#). The process will be to first do a presentation like this, then a house party to do an assessment.

3.4 Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP) Program

CMAP Staff Ricardo shared the 2012-13 FLIP applications and asked committee members to share the information with their communities. Committee member, Stephenie suggested a theme topic for the upcoming year could be public

transportation. The youth voice carries a big voice. A lot of the feedback she gets from people taking the bus is that it is not safe and clean. Maybe an idea for students could be to bring your mom on the bus day. She will love a campaign that gets rid of the negative stigma of public transportation. All transit is public. If you are walking on a sidewalk you are using public transportation. You ride your car, you are suing public transportation. The airports are publicly funded. She will like to see some campaign around that. Committee members recommended sending Aldermen the FLIP applications to encourage them to get students to apply.

4.0 Public Participation Plan

Based on our last meeting, we changed some of the language. In the outreach phase, we talked about developing a plan for how to develop an engagement process. The engage part talks about who we want to engage, analyzes who our stakeholders in the community are. Key targets are pretty broad, but we try to see who it could be applicable to. The last piece talks about the importance of sustaining the relations, being transparent and accounted for the community.

Committee members agreed a key component is how we sustain the relations once created and suggested adding key items for how to do just that. Another suggestion was to change the language in each heading to action steps rather than having as a narrative. When we think of action steps we think of the present tense, the use of "will." Also, possibly bullet the actual steps versus theory. For instance, you can say it is important to understand the community before outreach work begins: do x, y, and z. Lastly, it will help if you go back, and note what outreach and engagement approach has been done, what has been helpful, and what has worked.

In the next couple weeks, CMAP staff will update the PPP to reflect recommendations given during this discussion. Then it will be sent to the transportation committee meeting in June for formal approval. CMAP staff feels this will be a useful tool for the CAC to use as well.

5.0 Implementation Strategies & Outreach

Anticipating approval of the Public Participation Plan, Committee members will outline next steps to implement GO TO 2040.

6.0 Member Updates

Matthew was recently in Washington DC as part of their annual meetings with Senators Kirk and Durbin offices. One of the big pieces, in addition to health care, was the extension of the transportation bill. They were speaking specifically on behalf of the transportation trails that CMAP funds through the CMAQ program. Twelve of the surface trips are by bicycles and yet those only receive 1% of the funds. One of the things they talked about was advocating for that.

McHenry is working on its first national wildlife refuge. It is a corridor concept where a lot of the land has already been purchased. Potentially have the President and Salazar out in McHenry if it goes forth. Not only covers the green space but the environment and

transportation pieces.

Stephenie - Moraine Community College will be hosting an all-day electrical vehicle forum on May 23rd hosted through the American Lung Association. More information is available on their website.

Faye - Lake County has the green conference with the community colleges. A lot of people from CMAP will be speaking there.

CMAP will be happy to include any upcoming member events on our Weeklys newsletter.

7.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

8.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9.0 Next Meeting

The Citizens' Advisory Committee will meet next on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lake County Conference Room at CMAP.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

08-14-2012