



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Transportation Committee March 28, 2008

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Cook County Conference Room

Transportation Committee Members Present:

Luann Hamilton, Chairman, CDOT
Thomas Cuculich, Vice-Chairman, DuPage County
Bill Brown, NIRPC
Martin Buehler, Lake County
Lynnette Ciavarella, Metra
Steve Coffinbarger, Kane County
Michael Connelly, CTA
Matt Cuddy, Northwestern University
Chris DiPalma, FHWA, Metro Office
Theodore Georgas, Cook County
Robert Hann, Private Transportation Providers
Don Kopec, CMAP
Christina Kupkawski, Will County
Mayor Arlene Mulder, Council of Mayors
Randy Neufeld, Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
Jason Osborn, McHenry County
Leann Redden, RTA
Thomas Rickert, Kane County
Holly Smith, Kendall County
Jim Stack, IDOT
Rocco Zuccherro, Illinois Tollway

Transportation Committee Members Absent:

Vanessa Adams, FTA, USDOT Chicago Metro Office
Rocky Donahue, Pace
John Fortmann, IDOT District One
Mike McLaughlin, BLT
Mike Rogers, IEPA
Vonu Thakuriah, UIC-UTC
Ken Yunker, SEWRPC
Tom Zapler, Railroad Companies

Others Present

Kyle Anderson
Jacob Aronov
Leonard Cannata
Kama Dobbs
Paul Heltne
Chalen Hunter
Beth McCluskey
Hugh O'Hara

Chad Riddle
Adam Rod
Chris Staron
Mike Walczak
Sid Weseman
Charles Yale

CMAP Staff

Patricia Berry
Claire Bozic
Andrew Williams-Clark
Teri Dixon
Leroy Kos

Roseann O'Laughlin
Tom Murtha
Hubert Morgan
Joy Schaad
Gordon Smith

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Luann Hamilton, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were three changes to the agenda. The Governor's Capital Program Update was included on the agenda after the approval of the minutes. Under other business Hubert Morgan was added to give a brief update of TIP Visualization and Joy Schaad was added to give a brief overview of the upcoming APWA breakfast.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from February 22, 2008 meeting. The minutes were approved on a voice vote.

4.0 Governor's Capital Program Update

Jim Stack introduced Kyle Anderson, assistant to the chief of operation at IDOT. Mr. Anderson gave an overview of the Senate Bill which provides for a \$25.4 billion capital program for schools, roads, transit, environmental and energy projects. He stated that there has been no House action on the bill. The Bill would provide for 700,000 jobs and needed infrastructure improvements. The next step is to advocate for a capital bill in Springfield. There will also be four listening session about this legislation. No listening session for Chicago is scheduled. Many committee members wanted to know if it was possible to have at least one if

not more listening sessions in the Chicago/northeastern IL area since two-thirds of the population is in this part of the state. Mr. Anderson said he would take that suggestion back to the office and he thought something could be arranged. It was also suggested that questions could be e-mailed info@IllinoisWorksCoalition.com or jfilgor@aol.com at the Transportation for Illinois Coalition" (TFIC). Mr. Neufeld asked about confusion in the transportation section of the bill – there was a difference in the numbers that appeared in the appendix and chapters. He wanted to know what the best way to get the correct information and get the document updated.

5.0 Coordinating Committee Reports

Mr. Cuculich stated that there was not a Programming Coordinating Committee meeting. Ms. Hamilton discussed the March 12th Planning Coordinating Committee meeting which introduced the GO TO 2040 brand for the long range comprehensive plan, the quality of life indicators, the regional snapshot about infills and regional vision development with freight being under transportation and economic development.

6.0 RTA Update

Ms. Redden said that RTA is getting a handle on the reforms and implementation issues for the legislation that was passed. The current focus is a minor update to RTA's strategic plan. The supplement will be discussed at the RTA Board meeting in June. At that time, goals and objective will be examined. Performance measure should be available in the next six months. There will be an evaluation for the 2009 program. RTA will keep the Transportation Committee updated on progress.

7.0 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

7.1 TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications(Leroy Kos)

Mr. Kos updated the committee on four new reports - non-exempt projects requiring an amendment, exempt projects requiring an amendment, non-exempt projects with modifications and exempt projects with modifications. He stated that only the amendment reports required committee approval. The modification reports were informational. He also informed the committee that three projects had been removed from the non-exempt amendment report and seven projects have been removed from the non-exempt modification report. Mr. DiPalma stated that he would need to see which projects were no longer in the changes. Ms. Berry said that the requested changes which have conformity implications were

removed and will be brought back to the TC in April to be released for a 30 day public comment and subsequently sent to the MPO Policy Committee and the CMAP Board for approval. The projects for which approval is being requested have zero impact on conformity. The staff will update the current reports and send them out to Mr. DiPalma and the rest of the Transportation Committee.

Mayor Mulder stated that it is important to for programmers to know why projects must be handled differently now so that future mistakes may be avoided. Ms. Berry said that staff is working to simplify guidelines for programmers. Ms. Berry also stated that the ongoing UWP project to enhance the TIP database includes business rules that will give programmers immediate feedback electronically to let them know if their project has inconsistent information or needs Policy Committee approval. Mr. Kopec stated that projects that cross scenario years will trigger conformity analyses and that we would like to avoid doing a conformity analysis for every transportation committee meeting.

Staff will work with the consultation team and implementers to develop a schedule that indicates when amendments requiring conformity analyses will be considered. Programmers need to be aware that changes to projects which result in moving completion years across a scenario year will a trigger conformity analysis and could possible delay a project.

On a motion by Mr. Cuculich and seconded by Mr. Kopec, the motion to approve the non-exempt and exempt TIP amendments was approved.

7.2 Construction coordination updates (Claire Bozic)

Ms. Bozic stated at the March 20th meeting, the Advanced Technology Taskforce (ATTF) expressed disappointment with the lack of a spring construction event telling about the scheduled construction for the year. The ATTF felt that the event was a valuable way to achieve communication with the operations staff, which led to a discussion of the importance of having a regional venue for interagency communication among operations staff. CMAP provides forums for programming and planning staff but doesn't really offer anything from the operations point of view.

The region has attempted to develop an operations group in the past, but it was difficult to get the operations people to participate. Conditions on the ground have changed since that time. The Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee Corridor organization used to provide the opportunity for some of this coordination, but they are reorienting their work exclusively to interstate operations. Whatever opportunities this group provided for operations coordination of non-interstates has evaporated.

The Advanced Technology Task Force discussed 4 alternative responses to the new conditions.

1. Do nothing : Given the need to optimize the performance of the transportation systems, ignoring the coordination issue is not a response the region can take.
2. Press the Advanced Technology Task Force into service: The ATTF is planning focused, and unlikely to get operations staff to attend.
4. Organize a completely independent group: The ATTF desires that the new group maintain a regional focus, and doesn't want to isolate its activities from regional planning and programming efforts.
3. Create a subgroup of the Advanced Technology Task Force – The ATTF agreed that this approach made the most sense in the short run. CMAP can provide organizational support, and the ATTF members can provide the appropriate people to participate. The potential of setting the group loose from the ATTF in the future was not ruled out, if at some point it seemed like a more desirable arrangement.

Mr. Osborn asked if the issue discussed is in relation to day to day operations or seasonal operations. Mr. Murtha stated that a coordinated plan for responses to deal with incidents should definitely be a component. Ms. Hamilton speculated if there could be a press event to highlight the projects in the region that regular meeting with operations people would be difficult. Ms. Bozic stated that irregular meetings are an issue that has been considered. Mayor Mulder wondered if there could be an update like the tollway updates by e-mail or a map of incidents and then publicizes these tools. Mr. Buehler indicated that Lake County does have a press conference about their projects. Mr. Kopec stated that he would check with Mr. Smith about having a press conference but was not sure if it was possible for this year.

Finally, it was also agreed by the ATTF that the issues addressed by the new group would have to be day to day and must be real problems requiring solutions to get operation staff to participate.

8.0 GO TO 2040 plan

8.1 Scenario Construction (Bob Dean)

Mr. Dean reviewed scenario construction. Eventually there will be four or five scenarios which will examine investment possibilities. The scenarios will represent alternative potential futures of the region organized according to explainable themes. Technical work and public input will be used to develop a preferred scenario using pieces of these different alternatives. At the next meeting some potential themes for the scenarios will be presented. Mr. Cuddy asked if other MPOs' themes were researched. Mr. Dean stated that staff is looking at what is going on throughout the nation. Mr. Cuddy also wanted to know if the scenarios will be a set of investment decisions. Mr. Dean replied that the scenarios will be based on investment and policy decisions.

8.2 Development of indicators and performance measures (Andrew Williams-Clark)

Mr. Williams-Clark gave a PowerPoint presentation on the development of indicators and performance measures. This process will be a framework for indicators. The indicators will determine what things are measured against in the development of the GO TO 2040 plan. Mr. Neufeld asked if energy performance (cost including time, emissions and energy use) was included. Mr. Williams-Clark stated that environmental consideration were already included.

A question was raised about freight. Mr. Williams-Clark said that staff is working with the intermodal task force looking at rail reliability and delay. Ms. Hamilton wanted to know where freight was in this picture. She also stated that transportation is the key to economic competitiveness and so it should be included in economic development as well as transportation. Mr. Osborn pointed out that the percentage of total energy consumption, average shipping rate in all modes, percentage of household income spent on transportation and the change in land value due to transportation is a mark of accessibility. Mr. Williams-Clark responded that transportation infrastructure needs are being looked at holistically. Mr. Heltne inquired where other infrastructure types like waste disposal, water supply and the

transmission for electricity fit in. Mr. Johnson stated that the baseline system, miles of roadway and what needs to be improved should also be under consideration.

Ms. Hamilton stated that this process was still in the beginning stages. Mr. Cuddy suggested adding travel times in addition to dollars. Ms. Redden added the indicators should be regional indicators. Transit would be a subset and RTA and CMAP should be complementary to each other, tracking and working together in partnership. Mr. Cuculich asked about the status of the accountability leg that was being pushed with the transit legislation. Ms. Redden responded that the accountability portion of the reform legislation was being included in the performance measures that are being developed. Mayor Mulder commented that we all have to make room for ideas that we do not agree upon and that to think outside of the norm because in the end it could be beneficial to the process.

9.0 Other Business

Mr. Morgan updated the committee on the TIP Visualization progress. The committee will be sent a link to the site; any suggestions may be sent to Ross Patronsky. These suggestions and the suggestions of other working committees will be discussed at the Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting on April 7, 2008.

Ms. Schaad briefly discussed the Chicago Metro chapter APWA &IL city/county Management Association's 2008 Public Works Week Leadership Breakfast

10.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the Cook County Room.

11.0 Adjournment

Transportation Committee Members:

___ Charles Abraham	___ Fran Klaas	___ Mike Rogers
___ Vanessa Adams ***	___ Don Kopec	___ Joe Schofer
___ Thomas Cuculich**	___ Paul Losos	___ Dick Smith
___ Chris DiPalma ***	___ Mike McLaughlin	___ Jeffrey Sriver
___ Rocky Donahue	___ Jan Metzger	___ Steve Strains
___ John Fortmann	___ Arlene Mulder	___ Vonu Thakuriah
___ Bruce Gould	___ Randy Neufeld	___ Paula Trigg
___ Rupert Graham Jr	___ Jason Osborn	___ Mary Wells
___ Jack Groner	___ Leanne Redden	___ Ken Yunker
___ Luann Hamilton*	___ Thomas Rickert	___ Tom Zapler
*Chair	**Vice-Chair	***Non-voting