Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800, Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606

312-454-0400 (voice)
312-454-0411 (fax)
www.cmap.illinois.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: CMAQ Project Selection Committee

Date: September 3, 2009

From: Ross Patronsky, Senior Planner
Holly Ostdick, Associate Planner

Re: Public Comments on Proposed FY 2010 – FY 2011 CMAQ Program

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The following is a summary of comments received on the proposed FY 2010 – FY 2011 CMAQ program and staff notes on those comments. Ten comments were received on specific proposals. Copies of the individual comments are available at: http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/FFY1011PublicComment.aspx or by selecting the links within the memo.

Sixteen Diesel Emission Reduction Proposals

Twenty-nine groups and individuals submitted a comment supporting full funding for all sixteen diesel emission reduction proposals that showed benefits.

- Eleven of these proposals are included in the proposed program. The proposed CMAQ funding level submitted for public comment is approximately $27 million. If all sixteen proposals were fully funded, the FY 2010- FY 2011 CMAQ funding level would be $56.7 million. While this funding level could in theory be achieved, many other useful transportation proposals would need to be omitted. Full funding of all sixteen diesel emission reduction proposals is not recommended.

DR01103208 – CTA – Diesel Particulate Filter Retrofit for CTA

The Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago sent a letter supporting the inclusion of this proposal in the program with FY 2011 funding.

- The CTA submitted a revised implementation schedule indicating that they would begin to be ready to use the funds in FY2011. Since the first year of funding in the application was for $800,000 (federal) for engineering, that amount is proposed for FY 2011. The remaining $11,120,000 (federal) was split between FY 2012 and FY 2013.

OT13103354 – IDOT –I-55 from Naperville Rd to Lorenzo Rd Expansion of Congestion Monitoring, Incidence Detection and Traveler Information

IDOT requested that funding proposed for the four intersection improvement proposals be used instead to fund the I-55 proposal and the federal amount be increased to $5,000,000. They requested that the remaining $2,240,000 and the intersection improvements be add to the MYB list.

- The funding has been changed in the proposed program. IDOT has indicated that the lower level of funding ($2,760,000 federal over two years versus $5,000,000 in the initial request) will allow work to begin on the project.

DR13103221 – IEPA – Norfolk Southern Railway Co Switchyard Diesel Locomotive Retrofit Project

IEPA and the Respiratory Health Association submitted a comment urging funding for this proposal.

- This proposal was also considered for ARRA funding by US EPA, but was not selected. The remaining unprogrammed amount for FY 2011 would allow for four locomotives to be repowered out of the ten requested, at a cost of $3,380,000 (federal). This amount is proposed. The remaining six locomotives ($5,070,000 federal) will be included on the MYB List.

BP06103323 – Worth – Southwest Highway/IL 7 Sidewalks – 76th Ave to IL43/Harlem Ave

The proposed federal amount was incorrectly submitted as 70%; the sponsor asked that it be increased to 80% or $275,000.

- The federal amount has been changed in the proposed program.

BE11103225 – McHenry County Department of Transportation – Walkup Rd/Crystal Lake Rd from south of Bull Valley Rd to Crystal Springs Rd

The sponsor requested that the proposal be included in the proposed program.

- The project was evaluated to have no benefit.

OT01103351 – Chicago Department of the Environment – I-GO Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles Project

The sponsor submitted a revised proposal, requesting that it be considered for funding.

- It is too late in the process to prepare a revised benefit evaluation, re-rank the proposals, and evaluate whether the revised proposal merits funding. It should be noted that I-GO received $1,000,000 (federal) in funding in FY 2009 to expand the service to suburbs. This funding includes vehicle acquisition; no scope change would be required for some of those vehicles to be plug-in hybrids.

OT13103355 – Chicago Department of the Environment – Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Idling

Twenty-three groups and individuals submitted comments supporting funding of this proposal.

- The project is included in the proposed program.

SI09103383 – City of Aurora – Farnsworth Ave from Molitor/Diehl Rd to E. New York St

The sponsor has requested that $80,000 of the $1,076,000 (FFY11) construction funding be place in 2010 for design engineering.

- The funding was adjusted in the revised program.

BP08103297 – Village of Carol Stream - Fair Oaks Rd Sidepath from St Charles Rd to Oxford St

The sponsor has requested the project be reconsidered for funding.

- Due to the funding constraints of the CMAQ program this project was not funded. Not only does staff review Kilograms of VOC eliminated per dollar, but also regional priorities and unobligated funds are taken into account. The project has been included on the proposed MYB list.

Northwest Municipal Conference – Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Idling; City of Chicago - Lakefront Trail – Navy Pier Flyover

The conference stated their support for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Idling project. Additionally the conference stated they feel that given the limited funding available this year it is not wise to give nearly 33% to the Lakefront Trail – Navy Pier Flyover.

- The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Idling project is fully funded within the program. The Lakefront Trail – Navy Pier Flyover is an important regional project that has prior CMAQ funding programmed to it. The sponsor has confirmed that no additional CMAQ funds will be required to accomplish this project.