



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Agenda Item No. 3.0

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) DRAFT Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes August 2, 2019

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

- Members Present:** Chris Snyder – DuPage County, Chair, Brian Carlson – IDOT D1, Kevin Carrier- Lake County, Mike Connelly – CTA, John Donovan – FHWA, Jesse Elam – CMAP, Jackie Forbes – Kane County, Tony Greep – FTA, Jessica Hector-Hsu – RTA, Scott Hennings – McHenry County, Chris Hiebert – SEWRPC, Elizabeth Irvin – CNT, Tom Kelso – IDOT OP&P, Christina Kupkowski – Will County, Aimee Lee – Illinois Tollway, Tara Orbon – Cook County, Jason Osborn – Metra, Ryan Peterson – Kendall County, Leon Rockingham – Council of Mayors, Dave Seglin – CDOT, Lorraine Snorden – Pace, P.S. Sriraj – Academic & Research, Audrey Wennink – MPC
- Staff Present:** Erin Aleman, Sarah Buchhorn, Anthony Cefali, Aidan Dixon, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Lindsay Hollander, Kristen Ihnchak, Leroy Kos, Stephanie Levine, Patty Mangano, Tim McMahon, Tom Murtha, Art Nicholas, Katie Piotrowska, Todd Schmidt, Jeff Schnobrich, Liz Schuh, Gordon Smith, Tung Truong, Ian Warren, Simone Weil, Barbara Zubek
- Others Present:** Garland Armstrong, Heather Armstrong, Adam Ballard, Philip Banea, Baird Bream, Stephanie Brown, Elaine Bottomley, Jack Cruikshank, Emily Daucher, Angela Davis, Nellyka Dennis, Melissa Fuller, Emily Karry, Mike Klemens, Josh Klingenstein, Leah Mooney, Kelsey Mulhausen, Andrew Parker, Dan Persky, Chad Riddle, Suzen Riley, Donna Shaw, Troy Simpson

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by chair Snyder.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Chair Snyder welcomed Erin Aleman, the new CMAP executive director. Ms. Aleman thanked the committee for the welcome and said she is looking forward to working with the Transportation Committee.

Ms. Dobbs announced that the CMAQ Project Selection Committee and STP Project Selection Committee released draft programs of projects for public comment for CMAQ, TAP, and the STP-Shared Fund. Comments will be accepted through August 16. Mr. Connelly congratulated the STP Project Selection Committee on the program and stated that he is pleased that the CTA has a project that made it through the evaluation process. He thanked CMAP staff and the STP Project Selection Committee for having a strong evaluation process that was performance based.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2019 meeting, made by Mr. Seglin, and seconded by Mayor Rockingham, carried.

4.0 Committee Reports

Ms. Inhchak provided a report about the June 19 and July 17, 2019 Coordinating Committee meetings. A written summary of recent CMAP committee activities was included in the meeting materials.

5.0 FFY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

5.1 Amendments and Administrative Modifications

Mr. Kos reported that formal amendment 19-07 was published to the eTIP website on July 26, 2019 for committee review and public comment. Administrative amendments 19-07.1 and 19-07.2 were posted for information. A memo summarizing the formal TIP amendment 19-07 and administrative amendments 19-07.1 and 19.07.2 was included in the packet. A motion to approve formal TIP amendment 19-07, made by Mr. Connelly and seconded by Ms. Lee carried.

5.2 Semi-Annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment

Mr. Kos reported that the ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP amendment was prepared for public comment. A motion to approve the release of the semi-annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity analysis and TIP amendment 19-09 for a 30-day public comment period made by Ms. Snorden and seconded by Mr. Seglin, carried.

6.0 IDOT Safety Targets

Mr. Schmidt gave an update on the state's safety performance targets for 2020 and provided the timeline for setting the regional targets. Mr. Seglin suggested that in addition to RTOC, safety targets should be discussed with the Bicycle/Pedestrian Task Force. Ms. Wennink stated that the trends are alarming and setting performance targets is not enough. She stated that a proven approach in other regions is to establish a multi-disciplined team, including education, enforcement, and engineering. Mr. Schmidt stated CMAP is currently working on a local safety analysis project and participates in several committees throughout the region, including CDOT's Vision Zero and Lake County. Mr. Carlson stated IDOT has and continues to add safety components to routine maintenance projects. Ms. Orbon stated that safety is a part of all projects and the challenge is having a way to measure it that is not cumbersome.

7.0 Will County Division of Transportation (DOT) Budget and Capital Program

Ms. Kupkowski presented an overview of “Build Will”, the department’s budget and capital program. Mr. Snyder noted that the budget was approved prior to the passing of the state Capital Bill, and asked if the DOT anticipates going back to the County Board for supplemental appropriations. Ms. Kupkowski stated that the County Board is aware of the additional revenues, although there is no plan to adopt a revised budget. The County Board is also having discussions about county option gas tax.

8.0 Grade Crossing Prioritization Studies

Mr. Murtha presented an update regarding ongoing grade crossing delay and prioritization studies. Ms. Irvin stated that given the video Mr. Murtha showed, pedestrian safety is a major concern and asked if CMAP had considered how to collect delay information for non-motorized users. Mr. Murtha stated that has been considered, and noted that Canal Street is included in the priority list because of the high volume of pedestrians at the crossing. Mr. Sriraj stated that UIC has partnered with SSMMA on an Invest in Cook project in Riverdale and Dolton and has found 52 minutes of delay at 10 crossings in a mile and a half radius. He stated that jobs and fire stations are located on one side, and schools are on the other and that there are two train yards in the vicinity that affect several crossings at a time.

Mr. Seglin stated that Chicago has designated crossings as “9-1-1- Critical Crossings” on streets that provide access to hospitals and similar facilities. The railroads must contact 9-1-1 if they are going to block these crossings for more than 10 minutes so that dispatchers can re-route emergency vehicles. Mr. Carlson stated that IDOT has call center documentation of delayed emergency services response times. Mr. Snyder asked if emergency response times were part of the analysis and Mr. Murtha said that the data to conduct the analysis regionwide was not available to CMAP.

Ms. Snorden asked about cooperation from freight railroads. Mr. Murtha stated that data is poor, but cooperation is pretty good. Ideally event recorder data would be useful and the implementation of PTC may provide some useful data if CMAP can access it. In response to a question from Ms. Orbon, Mr. Murtha stated that the delay data is from the ICC, because that is what was available, but noted that local data was used where available. Mr. Osborn stated that the study is great work and said that passenger safety is a top priority for Metra.

9.0 Legislative Update

Mr. Smith stated that staff is preparing a memo for the CMAP Board that will provide an analysis of the State’s operational budget, the budget implementation bill, and the capital bill. The memo will come to the Transportation Committee in September.

10.0 Status of the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program

The LTA program status report was included in the meeting materials.

11.0 Other Business

Ms. Mooney commented that the CTA was pleased to see the recommendation for the Austin Green Line station project in the STP-Shared Fund Active Program. She said it was exciting to see a transit project and an accessibility project recommended. Ms. Irvin announced CNT's 40th anniversary celebration will be held on Thursday September 26 and more information is available on the CNT website.

12.0 Public Comment

Heather Armstrong said she is concerned about the rail crossing at 87th Street, Pulaski, and Southwest Highway because it is a dangerous intersection. She said another dangerous rail crossing is in Des Plaines at Touhy and Mannheim, especially at night when it is dark and dangerous.

Garland Armstrong stated that the rail crossing in Barrington delays ambulances and the rail crossing in Elmhurst is difficult for people with disabilities because there is no elevator for wheelchairs, and no crossing if there is a blocked train. He asked if a representative from the freight committee could attend the next ADA committee meeting.

Suzen Riley stated that the Austin Green Line station project is an important accessibility project. She said it would benefit her, several senior housing buildings, and West Suburban Hospital because it would give people an accessible station.

Adam Ballard of Access Living stated that he also supports the Austin Green Line station project because it is setting a precedent to find various fund sources to make stations accessible. He said the CTA has an ambitious plan for the All Stations Accessibility Program (ASAP) and funding the Austin Green Line Station gets it off to a good start.

Angela Davis, Chair of the CTA ADA Advisory Committee, commented that she supports the Austin Green Line station project and said it is important to the disabled community to have full access to public transportation because full access benefits everyone. She said that ASAP will take 20 years and there will be so many people that will be left out during that time.

Melissa Fuller, Vice-chair of the CTA ADA Advisory Committee, stated that she supports the Austin Green Line project. She added that she has been trying to reach IDOT to discuss the Forest Park Blue Line station in Des Plaines, near I-290 where a turning truck hit a pedestrian. She said there is a small concrete median where pedestrians cross that does not provide enough protection. She said she called IDOT and left a message and never received a call back and requested contact information for the correct staff at IDOT. Mr. Carlson offered to talk with her after the meeting.

13.0 Next Meeting

The next Transportation Committee is scheduled for September 20, 2019.

14.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Osborn, seconded by Mr. Hennings, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B Zubek". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Barbara Zubek