



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

## Agenda Item No. 4.0

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Chicago, Illinois 60606

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## MPO Policy Committee

### Minutes

June 13, 2019

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

#### **Policy Committee Members Present:**

IDOT Acting Secretary Omer Osman-MPO Policy Committee Chair, José Alvarez- representing the Illinois Tollway, Matthew Brolley- representing the CMAP Board, Dorval Carter- representing the CTA, Tom Cuculich- representing DuPage County, Jim Derwinski- representing Metra, Richard Kwasneski- representing Pace, Kevin O'Malley- representing CDOT, Leanne Redden- representing the RTA, Tom Rickert- representing Kane County, Shane Schneider- representing Lake County, Jeffrey Schielke- representing the Council of Mayors, John Yonan- representing Cook County, and non-voting members Arlene Kocher- representing the FHWA, Tony Greep- representing the FTA, and Erik Varela- representing Class 1 Railroads

#### **Staff Present:**

Joe Szabo, Melissa Porter, Angela Manning-Hardimon, Jesse Elam, Gordon Smith, Teri Dixon, Jane Grover, and Sherry Kane

#### **Others Present:**

Garland Armstrong- Access Living, Joseph Breinig- DMMC, Stephane Brown- Lake County Council, Jack Cruikshank- WCGL, Emily Daucher- McHenry Council, John Donovan- FHWA, Jackie Forbes- Kane Kendall Council, Jessica Hector Hsu- RTA, Mike Klemens- Lake County Council, Josh Klingenstein- NWMC, Jon-Paul Kohler- FHWA, David Kralik- Metra, Jill Leary- RTA, David Seglin- CDOT, and Rocco Zuccherro- Illinois Tollway.

### **1.0 Call to Order and Introductions**

MPO Policy Committee Chair, Omer Osman called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m., and asked members to introduce themselves. Secretary welcomed this new opportunity and continuing the strong relationship with CMAP, implementing ON TO 2050, and working collaboratively on all modes of transportation. Osman also touched briefly on the capital bill--truly multi-modal--and at \$45 billion is the largest in state history.

### **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes. Secretary took a moment to welcome Arlene Kocher, Division Administrator at Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Illinois Tollway

Executive Director José Alvarez, recognized the contribution of Tom Cuculich, DuPage County Administrator for his many years of service to the MPO Policy Committee and congratulated him on his new position, and thanked Joe Szabo for his service to CMAP and the region and wished him the best.

### **3.0 Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2019, meeting of the MPO Policy Committee was made by Mayor Jeffery Schielke and seconded by Tom Cuculich. All in favor, the motion carried.

### **4.0 Agency Reports**

4.1 CMAP Executive Director Joe Szabo welcomed CMAP's Deputy Executive Director for Communications and Outreach, Kathy Lane, and reported on the following topics: a recent trip to D.C. for the annual Coalition of America's Gateways & Trade Corridors (CAGTC); end of session meetings with leadership in the General Assembly; the FAST Act rescissions that happen in July 2020 that are based on program balances at the end of this federal fiscal year, September 30. Szabo went on to say that this would be his final meeting and that it had been a privilege and an honor to serve.

4.2 For the CMAP Board, Leanne Redden reported that the board had met in April, had considered and approved the FY 2020 Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program and staff gave presentations on the Embedded Staff Planner (ESP) Program, and the Bridgeport/ Canaryville Planning Priorities report. Redden went on to say that the board had also met in May, and considered its FY 2020 Budget and Work Plan, reviewed the revisions to the CMAP-MPO Policy Committee Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), discussed the ON TO 2050 Plan Update schedule, and staff gave a presentation on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that had obligated \$1,601,275,670 in programming in 2018. The June Board meeting, Redden reported, had been postponed to June 19 to accommodate the hiring schedule of a new Executive Director.

4.3 Mayor Jeffrey Schielke reported that the Council of Mayors Executive Committee met in May, heard a briefing on the STP-shared fund applications, as well as updates on the current STP expenditures and IDOT Local Roads letting. The Unified Work Program (UWP), the status of pavement condition data collection and management plans, as well as a report on the responses to the 2018 Municipal Survey were presented. The Committee considered and unanimously agreed on a letter to the Illinois General Assembly regarding the need for sustainable and adequate transportation funding for Illinois. The committee is scheduled to meet next in August. Mayor also acknowledged the work and leadership of CMAP, IDOT, and the Illinois Tollway, as well as the RTA over the years that just could not have come at a better time.

### **5.0 Nominating Committee for the Office of Vice Chair**

Policy Committee Chair Omer Osman named the following to serve as a nominating committee to select a Vice Chair: Mayor Schielke-representing the municipalities, Frank Beal-representing the regional planning agency, Leanne Redden-representing the transit agencies, Chairman Scott Gryder-representing the counties, and Kevin O'Malley-

representing highways/roads administration. The committee will meet and report its findings to the Policy Committee at its October meeting.

#### **6.0 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the CMAP Board and the MPO Policy Committee**

Chief of Staff/General Counsel Melissa Porter presented a red-lined version of the CMAP-MPO Policy Committee Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and reviewed the edits largely focused on minimal substantive, grammatical, and stylistic changes. Other highlights included the changes that the CMAP Board had made to the committee structure recently; references to the Policy Committee have been changed to MPO Policy Committee which is consistent with the by-laws; the top level of the committee structure is now referred to as Governing level (versus Policy) to more accurately reflect the responsibilities and functions the two boards; provides descriptions for the working and coordinating committees roles; and clarifies the Transportation Committee as a working committee and its relation to the MPO Policy Committee. A motion by Mayor Jeffery Schielke to approve the changes as were presented, was seconded by Dorval Carter, and with all in favor the motion carried.

#### **7.0 Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Funding Allocations**

CMAP Principal Analyst Teri Dixon described Resolutions for adoption endorsing the FFY 2019 Federal Transit Administration funding splits between Northeastern Illinois/Northwestern Indiana and Northeastern Illinois/Southeastern Wisconsin and the service board. A memo summarizing the splits was included in the meeting materials, Dixon continued, and RTA will be approving the funding splits and the service board allocation at their June 20, 2019 meeting. The MPO Policy Committee is asked to adopt the resolutions, contingent upon RTA approval of the splits and allocations. A motion by Mayor Jeffery Schielke was seconded by John Yonan to approve the subarea allocations between Northwestern Indiana-Northeastern Illinois and Southeastern Wisconsin-Northeastern Illinois, contingent on RTA Board approval. All in favor, the motion carried.

#### **8.0 Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Unified Work Program (UWP)**

Referring to the memo included in the meeting materials, Deputy Executive Director for Finance and Administration Angela Manning-Hardimon presented the FY 2020 Unified Work Program (UWP), reporting the following: in January a call for projects was issued for the Unified Work Program (UWP); 8 proposals for each of the core and competitive funding were received; federal funding is estimated at \$18.1 million representing an increase of about \$190,000 over the previous fiscal year; and including the required match, the UWP budget is estimated at \$22.6 million. Hardimon described both the core and competitive proposals that were presented at the UWP meeting in February, as well as the funding amounts for the recipient agencies (core: CMAP-\$17,253,048; CDOT-\$883,575; Will County-\$300,000); Council of Mayors-\$1,834,158; CTA-\$525,000; Metra-\$450,000; Pace-\$157,500) (competitive: CTA, CDOT-\$375,000; CMAP, RTA-\$541,200; CDOT-\$400,000). The FY 2020 UWP was considered and approved by the UWP Committee, the Transportation Committee, and CMAP's Coordinating Committee. The MPO Policy Committee is asked to approve the program as well.

MPO Policy Committee Chair Osman reported that he and Hardimon had discussed the details and timing of the program and agreed that were the entire package available in May the Department would have ample time to review the program and allocate the necessary funding.

A motion by Leanne Redden to approve the Fiscal Year 2020 Unified Work Program (UWP) as had been presented, was seconded by Mayor Jeffery Schielke, and with all in favor passed.

#### **9.0 Public Participation Plan Update**

CMAP Principal Jane Grover presented the final draft of CMAP's Public Participation Plan for Board review and approval. The federally-required Public Participation Plan is CMAP's documented plan for meaningful, inclusive, proactive, and compliant public engagement to guide development of long-range plans and amendments, as well as the Transportation Improvement Program and other planning initiatives. The draft Plan builds on the 2013 version, includes a lot of regulatory language, was published for 45 days for public comment, was considered by the Citizens' Advisory Committee in March and again last month. One public comment was received related to expansion of bike facilities, the RTA reviewed the plan, and regulatory language was included that allows the RTA to use our public participation plan to satisfy its 5307 regulatory requirement. The final draft was approved by the Transportation Committee in June, and earlier this month by the Citizens' Advisory Committee. MPO Policy Committee approval is requested as well. A motion by Kevin O'Malley was seconded by John Yonan, and with all in favor carried.

#### **10.0 ON TO 2050 Update**

Deputy Executive Director for Policy and Programming Jesse Elam, reported that CMAP's plan development cycle overlaps with the state election cycle (particularly the governor's race). It happened with GO TO 2040, the GO TO 2040 Update, ON TO 2050, and will impact the ON TO 2050 Update in October 2022. Elam asked if: (a) the situation causes a problem, and (b) we would change the plan cycle? Elam covered a number of options based on how the federal law requires an MPO to update its plan: earlier (October 2021 – how timing affects implementation); later (after statewide and city of Chicago mayoral election – the plan might better reflect the initiatives of those elected officials); stay on the current cycle (has the benefit of shaping policy agenda for newly elected statewide officials). Were the plan cycle changed, Elam added, work would likely need to begin with the coming months to prepare to do so. The CMAP Board, following consideration of the options at their last meeting, was not in favor of changing the schedule. The Federal Highway Administration would need to be consulted, Elam continued, as well as CMAP's new Executive Director.

A lengthy discussion followed, with feedback from the members indicating some were in favor of adjusting the schedule, others were not. It was decided that a joint committee of the two bodies should consider the matter and bring it back in October at the joint meeting.

#### **11.0 State Legislative Update**

Director of Government Affairs Gordon Smith reported that the Illinois General Assembly had presented a state budget on time that included a capital program. Staff will be

following up with particulars regarding the capital bill, which has not yet signed is expected with the increase of the gas tax effective July 1. One highlight is that the RTA did see the passing of its working cash notes bill. Overall this was a very good legislative session, Smith concluded.

## **12.0 Federal Update**

Chief of Staff Melissa Porter, regarding the federal update, reported the following: a short-lived \$2 trillion transportation bill between the President and the House and Senate Democratic leaders died because of conflicts between the President and democrats. Porter went on to report the activities of both the House (Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means) and Senate (Environment and Public Works, Commerce, Banking, and Finance) committees. On the appropriations front, Porter continued, it is time for to start moving the Fiscal Year 2020 bills that need to pass before September 30. Last week the House Appropriations Committee marked up its Transportation, Housing and Urban Development bill and is moving it to the House floor. The bill passed on a party line vote, and included the following preliminary highlights: about \$1 billion in build grants (former TIGER program); \$48.9 billion for highways (with a slight decrease in discretionary highway funding programs); \$13.5 billion for public transit (including \$750 million in transit infrastructure grants); and about \$2.7 billion in rail (that includes \$350 million in consolidated rail infrastructure grants). Again, negotiations between the House and Senate would need to occur before the bill could be passed in September, Porter concluded.

## **13.0 Innovation Roundtable**

Two presentations were given under the innovation roundtable agenda item.

- Chicago Department of Transportation Managing Deputy Commissioner Kevin O'Malley presented an overview of the report of the new transportation and mobility task force whose work was completed in March and a copy of the 50-page report was distributed. O'Malley covered background on transit ridership that was seeing decreases due to the various rideshare programs, reported that former U.S. DOT Secretary Jim LaHood had headed up the task force, covered the development of principles going forward and key recommendations (over 50—policy changes, action items, and topics that need additional study) that came from the work. O'Malley also discussed a few of the higher-level recommendations (an increase in the MFT, alternatives for the future, governance, data sharing, improvements to the bus system, scooter-sharing pilot, land-use and zoning, and autonomous vehicles). Two members of the task force, CTA CEO Dorval Carter and CMAP ED Joe Szabo, also weighed in on their experience serving on the task force.
- Pace Suburban Bus Executive Director Rocky Donahue had primarily wanted to check in with the Committee as the new ED and to reinforce that Pace's long-standing, positive relationship with CMAP will continue forward under his leadership. In his 37<sup>th</sup> year with Pace, Donahue gave some background on his career (gov affairs, IT, budgeting, marketing and finance). The capital bill out of Springfield (thanks for making that happen) Donahue continued, is monumental to Pace with the largest infusion of capital money in agency history. Most exciting is the "pay as you go" element that is dedicated, sustainable, and on-going state capital funding. Donahue described two projects that Pace hopes to do with the funding include an I-55 bus on shoulder facility, and

technology improvements to the ADA para-transit system. Pace also needs a strategic plan—Vision 2020 was completed in 2003.

#### 14.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the MPO Policy Committee.

#### 15.0 Public Comment

Garland Armstrong-Pace Chicago Advisory Committee, the CMAP Citizens Advisory Committee and a member of Access Living, offered thanks to all for finally addressing the needs of people with disabilities and those in the disability community, advocated for scooters to pay attention to those with walkers in both power and manual wheel chairs, better sidewalks, safety measures, translating in additional languages, especially for the hard of hearing and the visually impaired.

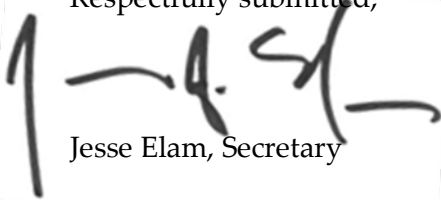
In closing, MPO Policy Committee Chair Omer Osman also reported on two other elements that are contained in the overall capital bill—those are: ports and waterways upgrades (about \$150 million for infrastructure upgrades), and dedicated funding stream for bike and pedestrian facilities (\$50 million to advance infrastructure for that mode of transportation) which is on top of the I-TIP grant with 25% of that goes to communities who have not seen that kind of improvement for years.

#### 16.0 Next Meeting

The MPO Policy Committee is scheduled to meet next with the CMAP Board on Thursday, October 10, 2019.

#### 17.0 Adjournment

At 11:12 a.m., a motion to adjourn by Tom Cuculich was seconded by Mayor Jeffery Schielke. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Jesse Elam, Secretary

09-20-2019  
/stk

*Approved as presented by unanimous vote, October 10, 2019*