



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) STP Project Selection Committee Meeting Minutes

September 5, 2019

- Committee Members Present:** Dan Burke – CDOT, John Donovan – FHWA, Jesse Elam – CMAP, Lorri Newson – RTA, Kevin O’Malley – CDOT, Chad Riddle – IDOT, Jeffery Schielke – Council of Mayors, Chris Snyder – Counties, Jeffrey Sriver – CDOT, Eugene Williams – Council of Mayors
- Others Present:** David Bennett, Elaine Bottomley, Stephanie Brown, Len Cannata, Steve Chirico, Mike Connelly, Jack Cruikshank, Karen Darch, Emily Daucher, Grant Davis, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Mike Einhorn, Jackie Forbes, Mike Fricano, Randall Jessen, Kendra Johnson, Emily Karry, Josh Klingenstein, Mike Klemens, Daniel Knickelbein, Doug Krieger, Jennifer Louden, Tara Orbon, Dan Persky, Allen Persons, Ryan Peterson, Leslie Phemister, David Seglin, Troy Simpson (via phone), Kyle Whitehead
- Staff Present:** Erin Aleman, Aidan Dixon, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Austen Edwards, Doug Ferguson, Lindsay Hollander, Stephanie Levine, Jen Maddux, Tim McMahon, Martin Menninger, Russell Pietrowiak, Todd Schmidt, Jeff Schnobrich, Gordon Smith, Matthew Stern, Tung Truong
- 1.0 Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by Chairman Elam.
- 2.0 Agenda Changes**
There were no agenda changes or announcements.
- 3.0 Approval of Minutes**
A motion by Mayor Schielke to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2019 meeting, as presented, seconded by Mr. O’Malley, carried.

4.0 Public Comment Summary and Recommended FFY 2020 – 2024 Active and Contingency Programs

Ms. Dobbs provided a summary of the over 500 public comments received. She stated that staff recommends approval of the active program of projects, as presented for public comment and recommends that all projects that are not included in the active program, but meet all eligibility criteria, be added to the contingency program. She explained that a TIP amendment encompassing the approved program would be prepared for CMAP Transportation Committee and MPO Policy Committee, and that upon final approval of the TIP Amendment, official notification of the status of projects would be sent to applicants.

Mr. Snyder requested confirmation that projects recommended for phase 1 engineering funding only would have to reapply for later phases in the future. Ms. Dobbs confirmed. Mr. Snyder asked if projects that were included in the contingency program that were recommended for CMAQ or TAP-L funding would remain in the contingency program. Ms. Dobbs stated that once the CMAQ and TAP-L programs were approved, those projects would be removed from the STP – Shared Fund contingency program. Mr. Sriver asked if projects in the contingency program could receive partial funding. Ms. Dobbs explained that if funds became available in the current federal fiscal year for contingency program projects, the available funds would be offered to each contingency project, in rank order, with the understanding that the project must be ready to obligate those funds as close to immediately as practical, before the end of the current FFY. If the highest ranked project was not in a position to obligate the available funds, those funds would then be offered to the next project in the program, until they could be used. Mr. Snyder asked if funds became available at different times, could those funds continue to be added to a single contingency project. Ms. Dobbs stated that if the project had not moved to obligation, it would probably make sense to add any additional funds that became available, however if the sponsor had already obligated the project, it may make more sense to fund the next project. Decisions such as these would be made by the project selection committee.

Mayor Schielke thanked staff for their efforts to develop a program of projects and stated he is proud of the program being considered. He noted that fine tuning of the process is expected, but stated that the process in place will help the region spend the funds that are allocated to us.

Mayor Schielke made a motion, seconded by Mayor Williams, to approve the staff recommendation.

Mr. O'Malley stated that this process is a step in the right direction and that he is a proponent of performance based programming. However, he noted that there are gaps in the process that will need to be addressed. Mr. Burke added that, with the third-highest ranked project not being funded for a reason that was not clearly stated in the

application materials, it is hard for Chicago to see the proposed program as equitable, however he understands the need to move forward.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Elam called for a roll call vote. All members present voted in favor of the motion to approve the staff recommendation, and the motion carried.

5.0 Evaluating the Lessons Learned

Ms. Dobbs provided a summary of the memo contained in the agenda packet and reviewed the proposed schedule for committee discussions of lessons learned throughout the program development process. She highlighted the need to discuss the overall goals of the program, rolling focus, and phase 1 completion in the near-term to give applicants ample time to prepare for the next call for projects.

Mr. Riddle noted that the schedule for project implementation in the first year of the program should be clarified and documented for the next call for projects. He stated that based on the timeline for TIP amendment approvals and IDOT reviews, it is likely that the first opportunity for letting any project selected for construction funding in the first year of the program would be in June. Mr. Snyder noted that for most projects, a June letting would mean that although federal funds would be obligated in that federal fiscal year, actual construction likely wouldn't begin until the following year.

Mr. Elam stated that staff would proceed with the schedule laid out in the memo.

6.0 Local Program Performance-Based Distribution Formula

Ms. Dobbs provided an update on the collection of performance data to be used to calculate the distribution of funds for the local programs. She stated that once the relative need is calculated, the percentages will be applied to the total funds available for the local programs to determine each council's and CDOT's programming marks for the upcoming local calls for projects. She noted that, as called for in the agreement between the Councils and CDOT, the calculations will be adjusted so that no Council receives less than \$3 million in any year, and that no council experiences a change in their programming mark that is larger than 10% higher or lower than their FFY 2017 mark for the first year, and no larger than 20% higher or lower in the second year. She stated the marks will be provided to the Council of Mayors Executive Committee at their October meeting, and to this committee at their next meeting.

Ms. Dobbs continued by reporting that, per the agreement, the relative need percentages used in the distribution formula remain in effect for five years and that after that time, the need will be re-calibrated based on updated performance data. The agreement also calls for consideration of an improvement factor as part of the first re-calibration. The method for applying this factor must be approved by the project selection committee by December 31, 2019. She stated that staff has some ideas for the committee to consider,

but would like discuss those with the planning liaisons and CDOT staff before the next project selection committee meeting. At that next meeting, staff will present options for the committee's consideration. Mr. Elam noted that later on the agenda, staff is proposing adding an additional committee meeting in November in order to allow ample discussion of the formula changes in October, for approval consideration in November.

Mayor Schielke made a motion, seconded by Mayor Williams, to revise the committee's meeting schedule to include meetings on both October 31, 2019 and November 21, 2019. The motion carried.

Mr. Davis asked if structure condition was one of the factors. Ms. Dobbs stated that it is. Ms. DeLaurentiis asked if the performance factors would be updated, or just the data. Mr. Elam clarified that the factors are laid out in the agreement, with the data required to be updated at least every five years, but that any improvement factors are yet to be determined, and those will be the topic of discussion at the meetings just approved.

7.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

8.0 Public Comment

Mike Connelly, CTA, stated that he applauds the committee for passing this program for the region. He stated that we all work together and will fail or succeed together. This is a good program that reflects a regional attitude.

Mayor Schielke recalled the evolution from a local focus to regional cooperation that began under Mayor Daley with the formation of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus focusing on the commonality of purpose across the region.

9.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 31, 2019.

10.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by Mayor Rockingham, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.