



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Agenda Item No. 3.0

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

November 15, 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, Vice-Chair – DuPage County, Darwin Burkhart – Illinois EPA (via phone), Mike Connelly – CTA, Carrie Cooper – IDOT OIPI, John Donovan – FHWA, Doug Ferguson – CMAP, Jackie Forbes – Kendall County, Jessica Hector-Hsu – RTA, Scott Hennings – McHenry County, Elizabeth Irvin – CNT, Emily Karry – Lake County, Tom Kelso – IDOT OP&P, David Kralik – Metra, Christina Kupkowski – Will County, Aimee Lee – Illinois Tollway, Tara Orbon – Cook County, Jessica Ortega – Bike/Ped Task Force, Tom Rickert – Kane County, Leon Rockingham – Council of Mayors, Joe Schofer – Academics and Research (via phone), Dave Seglin – CDOT, Dave Tomzik – Pace, Scott Weber – NIRPC, Audrey Wennink – MPC

Staff Present: Erin Aleman, Sarah Buchhorn, Anthony Cefali, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Jesse Elam, Parry Frank, Jane Grover, Leroy Kos, Kathy Lane, Stephanie Levine, Jen Maddux, Tony Manno, Amy McEwan, Martin Menninger, Stephane Phifer, Todd Schmidt, Greta Ritzenthaler, Liz Schuh, Simone Weil

Others Present: Garland Armstrong, Heather Armstrong, Elaine Bottomley, Baird Bream, Jack Cruikshank, Dominick Cuomo, Emily Daucher, Ryan Huel, Kendra Johnson, Mike Klemens, Daniel Knickelbein, Wayne Miczek, Ryan Peterson, Leslie Phemister, Adam Rod, Jeffrey Schielke (via phone), Kristian Skogsbakken, Troy Simpson

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

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

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Mr. Snyder welcomed new committee members, Carrie Cooper and Scott Weber.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2019 meeting, made by Mayor Rockingham and seconded by Mr. Rickert, carried.

4.0 Committee Reports

Ms. Phifer provided a report about the November 13, 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 End of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2019

Mr. Kos reported that following the close of FFY 2019 and start of FFY 2020 the region's programmers reviewed every active project included in the eTIP database and carried projects which remain active forward from the 19-00 TIP, as amended throughout the year, to the 20-00 TIP. Administrative updates made in conjunction with this action are included in TIP adoption 20-00 and a summary memo was included in the packet.

5.2 Amendments and Administrative Modifications

Mr. Kos reported that formal amendment 20-01 was published to the eTIP website on November 8, 2019 for committee review and public comment. Administrative amendments 20-01.1 and 20-01.2 were posted for information. A memo summarizing the formal TIP amendment 20-01 and administrative amendments 20-01.1 and 20-01.2 was included in the packet. A motion to approve formal TIP amendment 20-01, made by Ms. Karry and seconded by Mr. Seglin, carried.

6.0 2020 CMAP Highway Safety Targets

Mr. Schmidt summarized the proposed action on the 2020 highway safety targets, that is to support the targets set by the state, as described in the memo included in the packet. Under MAP-21 and the FAST Act, state departments of transportation (DOTs) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) are given separate responsibility for establishing safety performance targets each year. For the past two years, the MPO Policy Committee supported the targets set by the state.

Ms. Wennink stated that traffic safety is the most important thing we do. She said that our region plays a huge role in the state's numbers and the committee needs to do more than set targets. She proposed forming a working group to research the issue in depth as well as propose studies and actions to turn the steadily increasing numbers around.

Mr. Seglin stated that safety should be everyone's top priority. He asked whether a 2% improvement is enough and agreed that the committee or a working group should discuss safety further. Mr. Seglin also suggested the group look at the state's complete streets policy.

Mr. Connelly stated that safety is the number one job for all operating agencies in the region every day. He agreed that safety should be looked into further and reminded the committee that the transit agencies will be setting safety targets with CMAP next year.

Mr. Rickert stated that everyone is focused on safety, and Kane County is currently completing a safety plan. He noted that CMAP's Regional Transportation Operations Coalition (RTOC) deals with safety issues on an operations level, and the county's safety staff are a part of that group. Mr. Rickert stated that accident numbers have gone down over the last 20 years for many reasons, but that the committee should study the trends to understand all the dynamics. He stated that IDOT recently held a pedestrian safety peer exchange, and the region should do more studies and exchanges of best practices.

Mr. Tomzik stated that all Pace passengers are pedestrians at some point, and the lack of safe pedestrian infrastructure in the suburbs along with road widening and land use inform pedestrian movement and should be a part of the safety conversation.

Ms. Orbon stated that IDOT also recently held a traffic safety summit that was a huge success and beyond engineering, the safety issue includes planning and policy among many other factors. She agreed that the topic should be explored further.

Ms. Irvin encouraged the committee to consider the impacts to low income populations and people of color as solutions are discussed.

Mr. Snyder stated that DuPage County was selected as one of eight locations in the country to conduct a local roads safety plan with FHWA. The project recently kicked off and will be informative to CMAP and this safety discussion.

A motion to recommend approval of the 2020 highway safety targets to the MPO Policy Committee, made by Mr. Rickert and seconded by Mr. Connelly, carried.

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

Mr. Hennings provided an overview of the McHenry County transportation network, and the Division of Transportation's (DOT) budget and five year capital program development process based on the county's long-range plan.

8.0 Pace Capital Program

Mr. Cuomo provided an overview of Pace's budget structure and process. He reported that Pace's board approved the budgets with no fare increases or service reductions this year.

Mr. Skogbakken provided an overview of the agency's approved five year capital program development process. He highlighted the large amount of state funding due to the recent capital bill.

Mr. Snyder asked if Pace will be expanding last mile service, similar to what's currently operating in Downers Grove. Mr. Tomzik stated that Pace is always looking at partnerships for mobility enhancements and last mile connections.

Mr. Snyder asked whether Pace is looking at the I-294 corridor for land acquisition and storage facilities in anticipation of bus service. Mr. Skogsbakken stated that bus supportive infrastructure on I-294 is one of Pace's top priorities.

Ms. Lee asked why Pace is pursuing compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles and facilities, as opposed to electric. Mr. Skogsbakken stated that Pace has a CNG facility in use that's working well and noted that another is already in design. Pace unsuccessfully applied for a federal grant to fund an electric bus pilot and will be further exploring electric vehicle technology in the future.

9.0 Sidewalk Inventory

Ms. Levine provided an overview of CMAP's recently completed sidewalk inventory, indicating where roads in the region have sidewalks on one or both sides or none at all. ON TO 2050 calls for walkable communities, placemaking and making transit more competitive, and a critical part of each means safety for pedestrians traveling to their bus stops and rail stations. Ms. Levine highlighted opportunities for sidewalk investment near Metra and CTA rail stations, based on population and employment densities within one half mile. Ms. Levine provided a brief demonstration of the spatial data, available on CMAP's website.

Ms. Wennink stated that MPC analyzed sidewalk accessibility near every bus stop in the region that could be helpful for further analysis.

Mr. Kralik thanked CMAP staff and interns for the good work and asked how the data was collected from aerial photography for areas under bridges and viaducts. Ms. Levine responded that she would follow up on the documented methodology to answer the question. Subsequent to the meeting, Ms. Levine reported that Google Street View was used to inventory facilities in these locations.

10.0 Legislative Updates

Mr. Cefali stated that state Senate President John Cullerton retired, and there was no significant legislative activity. He reported that CMAP is developing a legislative agenda to be approved by the CMAP Board in January 2020. Mayor Rockingham stated that the police and fire pension consolidation was passed in the last veto session and will have significant impacts on municipalities.

Mr. Elam provided an update on the federal rescission that is part of the FAST Act, which will go into effect in July 2020 and is based on program balances as of September 30, 2019. Illinois will shoulder a share significantly higher than staff originally anticipated. Approximately \$452 million is expected to be rescinded from Illinois, the third highest amount in the nation and about one third of the state's annual federal funds. This figure accounts for about 6% of the nationwide rescission, although Illinois typically only receives 3.6% of federal funding nationally. Mr. Elam stated that FHWA has not yet published the

amounts to be rescinded from each program, noting that the local STP program is exempt from the rescission. He stated that the CMAQ program has been almost entirely obligated due to the efforts of committee members and CMAP staff. He also stated that the TAP program, both locally programmed and state programmed, will likely take a significant hit. Mr. Elam stated that many organizations are advocating for a legislative repeal of the rescission, and asked the committee to work with their elected officials.

Mr. Snyder stated that DuPage County is developing their legislative package for the upcoming year and asked that staff provide a memo regarding the rescission and desire for repeal.

Mr. Seglin noted that if Illinois is getting hit so hard, they must have a large unobligated balance of federal funds and asked which programs have high unobligated balances. Mr. Elam responded that specific numbers have not yet been made official but NHPP carries a large balance. Mr. Seglin asked if the rescission will impact the STP-Shared Fund and Mr. Elam replied that it will not.

11.0 Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program

Mr. Manno provided an overview of the applications received in the recent call for projects and briefly described the evaluation criteria in selecting projects. He reported that the project applications are currently under evaluation, and staff expects to have a recommended list of projects available for committee feedback in the new year.

Mr. Snyder asked whether safety projects are considered for LTA. Mr. Manno replied that CMAP encouraged safety plans during the call and received one application during this round, but that safety is always considered in LTA plans. Mr. Kralik encouraged CMAP to look at projects that deal with electric vehicles and infrastructure. Mr. Connelly commended staff for the streamlined and simplified application process, which removed potential barriers for applicants.

12.0 2020 Transportation Committee Meetings

Staff received no comments regarding the proposed meeting dates for calendar year 2020. A motion to approve the 2020 meeting dates, made by Mr. Rickert and seconded by Mr. Connelly, carried.

13.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the committee.

14.0 Public Comment

Mr. Armstrong commented that vehicle operators do not stop for buses or pedestrians near the Cumberland Circle in Des Plaines.

Ms. Armstrong commented that the construction near Rand Rd and River Rd in Des Plaines has been going on for too long.

15.0 Next meeting

The next Transportation Committee meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2020.

16.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Orbon, seconded by Mr. Hennings, the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Maddux