Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

Board Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2020

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

Board Members Present:
Gerald Bennett, Chair-representing southwest Cook County, Rita Athas-representing the City of Chicago, Frank Beal-representing the City of Chicago, Matt Brolley-representing Kane/Kendall Counties, Karen Darch-representing northwest Cook County, Jim Healy-representing DuPage County, Mike Montgomery-representing the City of Chicago, John Noak-representing Will County, Rick Reinbold-representing south suburban Cook County (via tele-conference), Nancy Rotering, representing Lake County, Carolyn Schofield-representing McHenry County, Anne Sheahan-representing the City of Chicago (via teleconference), Matthew Walsh-representing west central Cook County (via tele-conference), and Diane Williams-representing Cook County

Absent:
Maurice Cox-representing the City of Chicago and non-voting member
Leanne Redden-representing the MPO Policy Committee

Staff Present:
Erin Aleman, Amy McEwan, Angela Manning-Hardimon, Kathy Lane, Jesse Elam, Laura Wilkison, Stephane Phifer, Gordon Smith, Tina Fassett Smith, Tony Manno, Russell Pietrowiak, and Sherry Kane

Others Present:

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions
CMAP Board Chair Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at approximately 9:34 a.m., and asked members to introduce themselves.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements
There were no Agenda changes.
3.0 Approval of Minutes
A motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2020, meeting as presented was made by Carolyn Schofield, seconded by Mike Montgomery, and with all in favor carried.

4.0 Executive Director’s Report
Executive Director Erin Aleman’s report included: an introduction of the FY 2021, draft budget and work plan—that aligns with our existing work to advance transportation, climate, and regional economy— and thanked the staff for preparing the document sooner than usual to meet IDOT guidelines; an update on the local dues program that is now at about 83% collected; an update on the Surface Transportation Program (STP), about 4 years ago, CMAP with the Councils of Mayors and the City of Chicago developed a new funding formula, as well as a shared fund for regionally significant projects, Councils spent about 3 years of programming in just over 2 years, CMAP is actively managing the program and will allocate funds as they become available; presented to a number of county boards throughout the region last month and started to meet with the Executive Directors of the Councils of Governments meetings and invited Board members to attend; a recap of the CAGTC Board meeting; City Club event on March 16, on how CMAP is continuing to implement ON TO 2050.

Chairman also acknowledged that Erin Aleman had been named Woman of the Year by the Women’s Transportation Seminar.

5.0 Committee Reports
Chair of the Coordinating Committee, Frank Beal reported that the committee had met earlier in the morning, and had considered CMAP’s Guide on Local Incentives for Economic Development which would include sales tax rebates, property tax abatements, tax increment financing in view communities could use some assistance understanding the fiscal effects of those incentive systems. Another topic considered at the early morning meeting was re-examination of state revenue sharing to local governments.

6.0 DRAFT FY 2021 Budget and Workplan
Chief of Staff Amy McEwan and Director of Innovation and Strategic Alignment, Tina Fassett Smith presented CMAP’s Draft FY 2021 Budget and Workplan for discussion. McEwan explained the budget and workplan is coming before the board 2 months earlier, and thanked all the staff that had made that happen. All the work comes from the ON TO 2050 plan or is part of our core responsibilities as the MPO. Following today’s UWP committee meeting and their approval of the FY 2021 funding, CMAP will confer with IDOT, and the budget will be brought back to the board for additional review. Fassett Smith reviewed FY 2020 highlights (the fiscal year ends June 30)—new executive director, core values development, strategic visioning workshops, and agency recognition for ON TO 2050 and 2 of our local plans—and presented a few highlights from the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program. Also highlighted were the various program areas: transportation, civic coordination and engagement, research and innovation, and policy development, followed by FY 2021 highlights that are directly aligned with ON TO 2050 in the priority areas of: transportation, regional economic competitiveness, and climate resilience.
7.0 FY 2021 Local Technical Assistance (LTA)
Deputy Executive Director of Planning Stephane Phifer, and Senior Planner Tony Manno presented the recommended FY 2021 Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program for approval. Phifer gave a reporting of the history of the decade-old program, gave details of this year’s call for projects conducted jointly with the RTA, the corresponding review and evaluation of the proposals and introduced the publication showcasing the twenty-eight projects recommended for approval.

A motion by Mayor John Noak, was seconded by Mayor Karen Darch to approve the FY 2021 Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program as presented. All in favor, the motion carried.

8.0 Semi-Annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment
Transportation analyst Russell Pietrowiak presented the Semi-Annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment 20-03, explained why the analysis is necessary, the projects in the regional air quality analysis that were either new or saw changes, and were subject to a 30 day public comment period, during which time CMAP did not receive any comments. The analysis demonstrated that the Semi-Annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP amendments were found to conform to the motor vehicle emissions budget for our region.

A motion by Diane Williams to approve the conformity analysis and TIP amendment as presented and recommended by staff was seconded by Mayor Karen Darch. All in favor, the motion carried.

9.0 ON TO 2050 Plan Amendments
Deputy Executive Director for Programming Jesse Elam reporting on the two ON TO 2050 Plan Amendments, explained the process for amending the ON TO 2050 Plan, defined the threshold for identifying a regionally significant project, introduced the plan sponsor (IDOT) to outline the benefits of the projects, explained next steps that would include a staff analysis, a public comment period and based upon the analysis and public comment, staff would make a recommendation on the amendment request that would be considered by the CMAP Board and the MPO Policy Committee at the June meetings.

IDOT District 1 engineer, Steve Schilke, presented the two plan amendments—(1) improvements to I-55 at Airport-Lockport Road and IL 126 that involves reconstructing and reconfiguring the interchange at IL 126, constructing a new interchange at Airport-Lockport Road, and making ancillary improvements, and (2) improvements to I-55 from I-80 to UD 52 and US 52 from River Road to Houbolt Road involves expanding an interchange at IL 59 and adding lanes to I-55 along with adding lanes and making ancillary improvements to US 52—covering project history, the improvements, the project costs, and the project benefits.

10.0 State Legislative Update
Director of Governmental Affairs, Gordon Smith, delivered a very brief State Legislative Update: the Governor gave his budget address ($42 billion spending plan) that includes funding from IDOT for regional planning that we have historically received; a bill in the House would advance the Governor’s spending initiatives; staff continues its review and
analysis of bills and expects to report additional activity next month (notwithstanding the primary and spring break); and staff is planning a CMAP day in Springfield, sometime in April.

11.0 Other Business
There was no other business before the Board.

12.0 Next Meeting
Given the current atmosphere, Chairman Bennett suggested that while the CMAP Board is scheduled to meet next on April 8, 2020, it may not be able to do so and we’ll be looking at Open Meetings Act to determine how the board would be able to meet perhaps via teleconference.

13.0 Public Comment
Garland Armstrong-Access Living, addressed the board regarding a Jefferson Park crosswalk (at the Blue Line and Milwaukee Avenue) that has no flashing signals, and the O’Hare Kiss-n-Park related to Pace and Metra transfer.

14.0 Adjournment
At approximately 11:03 a.m., a motion to adjourn by Jim Healy, seconded by Mayor Rick Reinbold, and with all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Kane, EA

03-30-2020
/stk

Approved as presented by unanimous vote April 8, 2020