



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

433 West Van Buren Street
Suite 450
Chicago, IL 60607

312-454-0400
cmap.illinois.gov

Human and Community Development Committee

Draft Minutes

Tuesday, February 9, 2020

Via GoToMeeting

Members Present: Alicia Bunton (Illinois Institute of Technology), Sheri Cohen (Chair, Chicago Department of Public Health), Fluturi Demirovsk (Regional Transportation Authority), Laurie Dittman (Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, City of Chicago) Jackie Forbes (Kane County Division of Transportation), Joan Fox (DuPage County), Kendra Freeman (Metropolitan Planning Council), Melody Geraci (Active Transportation Alliance), Jacky Grimshaw (Center for Neighborhood Technology), Gretchen Knowlton (AgeGuide Northeastern Illinois), Greg Polman (Chicago Lighthouse), Enrique Salgado (WellCare Health Plans, Inc. / Harmony) Raj Shah, (Rush Medical Center / Center for Community Health Equity), Janna Simon (Illinois Public Health Institute), William Towns (Benefit Chicago), Cheryl Wilson (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)

CMAP Staff Present: Michael Brown, Enrique Castillo, Teri Dixon, Caitlin Goodspeed, Briana Gipson, Victoria Jacobsen, Timi Koyejo, Tony Manno, Lily Neppl

Public Members Present: Garland Armstrong, Heather Armstrong

1.0 Call to Order

Chair, Sheri Cohen, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Presentation on *New Embedded Staff Program* (Agenda Item 7) was moved up to Agenda Item 6. Agenda Item 6 (*Overview of New LTA Project*) replaced Agenda Item 7.

3.0 Approval of Minutes— [December 8, 2020](#)

Committee member Melody Geraci motioned to approve the December 8, 2020 meeting minutes. Committee member Laurie Dittman seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

4.0 CMAP Board Meeting Updates

Staff provided key updates from CMAP Board:

- CMAP's 2021 deadline for the [surface transportation call for projects](#) was March 5th. Applicants can receive assistance on a variety of transportation needs such as road construction improvements and alternative fuel sources investments.
- CMAP ended 2021 Call for local technical assistance projects on Wednesday, February 3, 2021. Applicants were able to apply for safety-related assistance (i.e. design studies that address transportation challenges and ADA compliance).
- CMAP developed a safety resource group to create a regional safety action agenda. Committee will receive updates as work progresses.

5.0 Selected Committee Member Updates

Alicia Bunton of Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and Gretchen Knowlton of AgeGuide Northeastern Illinois described how their organizations are responding to current events: including health equity, racial & economic justice, and disability rights, among other topics.

- IIT has developed a scholarship program for middle school students in the Bronzeville neighborhood and the neighborhood's surrounding community. This scholarship program employs four tactics to create meaningful pathways for students to enter the tech community.
- IIT is offering tech trainings to advance the careers of tech professionals as a part of the [TechReady Illinois](#) initiative. Trainings are being offered for free or at a reduced price for individuals at any grade level.
- IIT launched its Socially Responsible Modeling, Computation, and Design ([SoReMo](#)) initiative. SoReMo is a network of faculty and professors training students on social responsibility and inclusion in research practices. SoReMo participants will take three courses, complete projects, and attend a tech and social justice series.
- [AgeGuide of Northeastern Illinois](#) (AgeGuide) is an agency focused on aging communities in Northeastern Illinois' eight collar counties. Knowlton shared that social isolation and high death rates have been among the challenges for aging communities during the pandemic.
- AgeGuide has been addressing these challenges by conducting check-ins, delivering meals, and supporting COVID-19 vaccine distribution efforts. Knowlton recommended committee members look at AgeGuide's COVID-19 [resource page](#) and shared that vaccine distribution practices vary by county.

Committee Chair, Sheri Cohen, encouraged committee members to reach out to Enrique Castillo and Timi Koyejo (committee liaisons) when they want to share the committee's updates. Cohen also shared that Koyejo can share contact information for committee members who want to connect. Committee member Laurie Dittman wrote, "it would be great to get one-pagers from the presenters with an overview [of their presented updates] and contact information."

6.0 New Embedded Staff Planner Program

The [2021 LTA Call for Projects](#) is focused on supporting municipalities of high and very high need. Staff gave an overview of the 2021 Call offerings, which included three new programs launched under the Embedded Staff Planner (ESP) Program.

A call was initiated in response to COVID-19 with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). Assistance provided included capital improvement programming, safety planning, developer discussion panels, active mobility, and curb management plans, zoning code updates, and special funding districting. ESP programs provided included the *NEXT Program* (local plan implementation program), *Resource, Opportunity, Impact* ((ROI), grant readiness program), and *Consortium on Public Space Innovations* (multi-year collaboration plan). CMAP and RTA received 40 applications from high-need communities, with some communities applying for more than one type of assistance. CMAP's 2021 Call for Projects application pool consisted of: 7 developer discussion panel applications; 9 ROI applications; 3 *Consortium on Public Space Innovations* applications; 11 capital improvement applications; and five safety planning applications.

Staff also summarized recent activities of the ESP supported by the MacArthur Foundation. CMAP will be concluding its first round of ESP work in Calumet Park and Sauk Village this year. It will begin its *NEXT Program* with the Villages of Robbins, Round Lake Beach, and Matteson. The *ROI Program* is being piloted in the City of Harvey and Villages of University Park and Dolton. The *Consortium on Public Space Innovations* will also address housing and municipal finance in addition to public space innovations.

Chair, Sheri Cohen, asked if CMAP's and RTA's developer discussion panels will consider equity, health, and community vitality. Tony Manno, CMAP Senior Planner, informed Cohen that CMAP would consider these topics and topics such as equity, inclusive growth, and accessibility. CMAP will also work with communities to scope out the topics of discussion panels.

7.0 Overview of New LTA Projects

Staff gave a brief status update of the newest underway LTA projects. Fourteen LTA projects were selected in CMAP's 2019 Call. Due to the pandemic, six of fourteen LTA projects are currently in progress, with seven deferred until communities across CMAP's cohorts are ready to move forward. Projects underway include comprehensive plans, corridor studies, and a planning priorities report.

Chair, Sheri Cohen, encouraged the use of health equity impact assessments and the incorporation of a public health framework in neighborhood plans. Jacky Grimshaw

requested clarification on CMAP's designated [Community Cohorts](#). CMAP also shared that the expansion of the 2021 Call for Assistance for Community Cohorts was possible by the MacArthur Foundation.

8.0 2021 Committee Work Plan

Staff reviewed committee goals and presented the committee work plan for the 2021 calendar year. The 2021 work plan will aim to provide committee members with the opportunity to provide feedback on projects in the beginning stages. Potential projects to be featured include projects on disinvestment in northeastern Illinois; equity in transportation fees, fines, and fares; and the Hegewish Neighborhood Plan. The committee will also receive ON TO 2050 updates, and revisit workplan and discuss leadership changes in December 2021.

Committee members reported interest in the following topics for the 2021 year:

- *Digital divide and accessibility*
- *Green impacts of transportation policy*
- *Health equity*
- *Safety planning*
- *Updates on past LTA projects that were completed in vulnerable communities with high needs*
- *Workforce and transportation access*
- *Pandemic's impact on the economy, healthcare access, and major industries and institutions*
- *Broadband access*
- *Inclusive risk and vulnerability frameworks*
- *Traffic patterns in economic disconnected areas/[occupational mobility](#)*

9.0 Agency Announcements

10.0 Other Business

There was no further business.

11.0 Public Comment

Heather and Garland Armstrong asked about the committee's efforts to connect to the disability community. Gretchen Knowlton of AgeGuide Northeastern Illinois responded.

12.0 Next Meeting

The committee is scheduled to meet next on **Tuesday, April 13, 2021**, from 10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.

13.0 Adjournment

At 11:34 am, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Human and Community Development Committee Members:

- ___ Sheri Cohen (Chair), Chicago Department of Public Health
- ___ Alicia Bunton, Illinois Institute of Technology
- ___ Fluturi Demirovski, Regional Transportation Authority
- ___ Laurie Dittman, Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, City of Chicago
- ___ Jackie Forbes, Kane County Division of Transportation
- ___ Joan Fox, DuPage County
- ___ Kendra Freeman, Metropolitan Planning Council
- ___ Melody Geraci, Active Transportation Alliance
- ___ Jacky Grimshaw, Center for Neighborhood Technology
- ___ Hanna Kite, Cook County Department of Public Health
- ___ Gretchen Knowlton, AgeGuide Northeastern Illinois
- ___ Tiffany McDowell, Chicagoland Equity Network
- ___ Greg Polman, Chicago Lighthouse
- ___ Olatunji Oboi Reed, Equiticity
- ___ Enrique Salgado, Jr., WellCare Health Plans, Inc. / Harmony
- ___ Raj Shah, Rush Medical Center / Center for Community Health Equity
- ___ Rosalie Shemmer, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- ___ Darnell Shields, Austin Coming Together
- ___ Janna Simon, Illinois Public Health Institute
- ___ Dominic Tocci, Cook County Bureau of Economic Development
- ___ William Towns, Benefit Chicago