



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Human and Community Development Committee

Draft Minutes

Tuesday, April 13th, 2021

Via GoToMeeting

Members Present: Alicia Bunton (Illinois Institute of Technology), Sheri Cohen (Chair, Chicago Department of Public Health), Laurie Dittman (Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, City of Chicago), Jackie Forbes (Kane County Division of Transportation), Joan Fox (DuPage County), Melody Geraci (Active Transportation Alliance), Hanna Kite (Cook County Department of Public Health), 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), Cheryl Wilson (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)

CMAP Staff Present: Erin Aleman, Claire Bozic, Enrique Castillo, Daniel Comeaux, Briana Gipson, Caitlin Goodspeed, Jenna Gonzales, Jane Grover, Lindsay Hollander, Timi Koyejo, Tim McMahon, Annie Parker, Elizabeth Scott

Public Members Present: NA

1.0 Call to Order

Committee Chair Sheri Cohen called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

1.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes. Committee liaison Timi Koyejo announced that he would be leaving CMAP at the end of April. He will join the Chicago Department of Housing as a policy analyst. Committee members and CMAP staff expressed appreciation and well-wishes for Koyejo. CMAP is identifying a new liaison to assist Committee liaison, Enrique Castillo.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – [February 12th, 2021](#)

Committee member Laurie Dittman motioned to approve the February 12th, 2021 meeting minutes. Committee member Jacky Forbes seconded. Motion was approved.

3.0 CMAP Board Meeting Updates

CMAP Executive Director Erin Aleman provided key updates from CMAP and the CMAP Board:

- CMAP's 2021 Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program selected 22 projects. These projects are smaller than traditional LTA projects and will focus on using recovery funds through the American Rescue Plan.
- CMAP Board approved [equitable engagement RFP](#). This RFP was designed to help CMAP design a program that captures more community voices and addresses the diverse needs of stakeholders.
- CMAP is monitoring federal updates on the American Rescue Plan. Aleman shared that the plan contained \$30 billion for transit operators' assistance across the region and \$350 billion for state and local aid. Other funding opportunities include \$500 million for a low-income household water assistance program, \$20 billion for restaurants, and \$50 million for EPA environmental justice grants for underrepresented and low-income communities. CMAP has also been working with Illinois Congressional Delegation on regional earmarks (community projects).
- CMAP published Equity in Fees, Fines, and Fares study this April and received press coverage from City Lab and WBEZ. CMAP will be studying how to partner with local government partners to make sure the region is thinking about equity.
- CMAP staff will come into the office on a voluntary basis over the summer. As the fall approaches, CMAP hopes to have a more solid rotating schedule. This is dependent on numbers. Committee meetings in the office will occur after staff transition.

Committee Chair Sheri Cohen expressed interest in having an ongoing discussion with the engagement consultant to learn more about their work and provide feedback. Cohen also would like to learn the ways the American Rescue Plan funding is being distributed across the region and any best practices related to distributing funds.

Committee member Janna Simon asked if CMAP has any written descriptions of the engagement process or best practices. Aleman shared CMAP [Public Participation Plan](#) and stated that CMAP's LTA projects develop more customized engagement plans relevant to each specific LTA community.

4.0 Selected Committee Member Updates

Committee member Laurie Dittman of Chicago Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) provided background on MOPD and shared updates on their response to current events. MOPD coordinates accessibility services and programs and ensures accessibility compliance. MOPD has its own equity and racial justice committee, and participates in the Mayor's Office labor and economic policy committee and food policy committee. Current MOPD employees are also being trained on equity-related issues.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, MOPD's compliance team ensures that point vaccination areas in Chicago are ADA accessible. They are specifically working to ensure areas have accessible communications (i.e., sign-language interpreters) and physical spaces. MOPD is also working on the Mayor's minimum wage ordinance, which included a provision that would eliminate the disability exemption (14C Certificate). The exemption allows organizations and businesses to pay people with disabilities less than minimum wage. Organizations and businesses have until 2024 to comply with the ordinance. MOPD is currently working with these organizations and businesses to help them comply and connect people with disabilities to employment opportunities.

5.0 Equity in Transportation Fees, Fines, and Fares

ON TO 2050 recommends fully funding the region's transportation system. The plan also recommends that new user fees be implemented carefully to avoid undue burdens on residents with low income, who are disproportionately people of color in metropolitan Chicago. To advance strategies that achieve alignment of transportation revenue and equity objectives, CMAP conducted its first comprehensive analysis on the impacts of transportation fees, fines, and fares on residents and households with low income.

Lindsay Hollander, CMAP Senior Policy Analyst, presented the analysis, findings, and recommendations of CMAP's [Equity in Transportation Fees, Fines, and Fares](#) project. Committee member Enrique Salgado recommended CMAP examine geographic clusters of burden and layer analysis with demographic and walkability assessments, investment patterns, COVID-19 rates, commute times, and essential worker residential patterns. Salgado and Committee Chair Sheri Cohen inquired about the impact of the American Rescue Plan on transportation fees, fines, and fares. Hollander mentioned that it might be able to support mobility options' improvements and an expanded fare program.

6.0 Community Data Snapshot Improvements

CMAP produces annual [Community Data Snapshots](#): data profiles for municipalities and counties in northeastern Illinois and Chicago Community Areas. These snapshots summarize demographics, housing, employment, transportation habits, retail sales, property values, and land use.

Avery Goods, CMAP Assistant Analyst, reviewed the content and purpose of current snapshots and facilitated a discussion about opportunities to improve them in the future, specifically within the context of human and community development. Committee members recommended CMAP include disability data (i.e., employment of people with mobility disabilities vs. deaf and hard of hearing), job clusters, broadband access, and remote work accessibility/job-type.

Community Chair Sheri Cohen asked how CMAP connects with municipalities and county governments on their data processes, snapshots, and dashboards. Committee member Janna Simon shared that there is currently legislation in Illinois General Assembly for a Healthy Illinois Survey. This survey is based on the Healthy Chicago Survey. It would provide granular data on social determinants of health across the state, especially for populous counties that do not have access to zip code-level data. Simon recommended those interested in expanded data availability in the state support Illinois Health Bill 3504.

7.0 Agency Announcements

Committee member Janna Simon of Illinois Public Health Institute and Amy O'Rourke of Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) presented on the state's Active People, Healthy Illinois initiative. Simon and O'Rourke discussed the initiative's built environment program, which focuses on improving walking, biking, and transit systems to increase physical activity in the state. The presentation discussed the initiatives' priority communities, activities such as the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Learning Collaborative, and local implementation successes.

The presentation also highlighted a health and transportation collaboration between Cook County Department of Public Health and the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA). This collaboration led to SSMMA's Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding criteria being updated with health considerations. O'Rourke discussed the updated STP's methodology and outcomes. O'Rourke shared that 19 multi-year transportation projects were approved in SSMMA's recent STP call. O'Rourke also stated that CCDPH would remain involved in SSMMA's technical assistance work and evaluate the impact of including health considerations in transportation funding. Committee Chair Sheri Cohen recommended the inclusion of a survey that measures communities' physical activities in CCDPH's future evaluation work and requested future updates on collaboration.

8.0 Agency Announcements

There were no further announcements.

9.0 Other Business

There was no further business.

10.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11.0 Next Meeting

Committee scheduled to meet **Tuesday, August 9th, 2021**, from 10:00 am to 12 pm.

12.0 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 11:50 am.