



Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
DRAFT
Joint Economic Development and
Environment and Natural Resources Committees
Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2021

Hosted virtually via GoToMeeting

Economic Development Committee

Members Present: Jason Keller (chair, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago), Dionne Baux (National Main Street Center), Mari Castaldi (Chicago Jobs Council), Lisa Castillo Richmond (Partnership for College Completion), Kevin Considine (Lake County Partners), Peter Creticos (Institute for Work and the Economy), Kristi Delaurentiis (South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association), Xochitl Flores (Cook County Bureau for Economic Development), Jonathon Furr (NIU-Education Systems Center), Bryan Gay (Invest Aurora), Michael Horsting (Regional Transportation Authority), Kevin Kramer (Village of Hoffman Estates), Marisa Lewis (Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership), Tony Lucenko (Elgin Development Group), Henry Pierce (ComEd), Doug Pryor (Will County Center for Economic Development)

Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Members Present: Lindsay Birt (Xylem), Keary Cragan (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), Jack Darin (Illinois Sierra Club), Martha Dooley (Village of Schaumburg), Aaron Durnbaugh (Loyola University Chicago), Elena Grossman (BRACE-Illinois at UIC), Andrew Hawkins (Forest Preserve District of Will County), Paul May (Northwest Suburban Joint Action Water Agency), Stacy Meyers (Openlands), Ted Penesis (Illinois Department of Natural Resources), Tom Rickert (Kane County), Vanessa Ruiz (Illinois Department of Transportation), Deborah Stone (Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability), Sean Wiedel (Chicago Department of Transportation)

Staff Present: Claire Bozic, Sarah Buchhorn, Anthony Cefali, Brian Daly, Teri Dixon, Austen Edwards, Jaemi Jackson, Timi Koyejo, Stephanie Levine, Tony Manno, Tim McMahon, Jason Navota, Jared Patton, Kelsey Pudlock, Elizabeth Scott, Matthew Stern, Ryan Thompto, Simone Weil, Laura Wilkison

Others Present: Randal Bernthal, Elaine Bottomley, Sean Connelly, Nicholas Crite, John Donovan, Margaret FitzPatrick, Adam Flickinger, Megan Lewis, Kelly McGourty, Irene Sherr, Dr. Janet Smith

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Economic Development Committee chair Jason Keller.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

As permitted in the Governor's Disaster Declaration from January 8, 2021, the determination has been made that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent for this committee. To ensure as transparent and open a meeting as possible, staff posted the meeting materials one week in advance, will provide a recording of this meeting linked on the CMAP website, and will take all votes by roll call.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous Environment and Natural Resources Committee meeting, from January 7, 2021, were approved as presented.

The minutes of the previous Economic Development Committee meeting, from January 25, 2021, were approved as presented.

4.0 CMAP Board Updates

Brian Daly provided key updates from the CMAP Board meeting. He announced that the Board approved CMAP's equitable engagement program and proposal to advance work on equity. He also stated that CMAP recently held a joint call for projects in partnership with RTA plan assistance that had a focus on distressed communities. Of 27 applications from high need and very high need communities, CMAP will be providing support to 22 communities. CMAP recently updated its regional transportation analysis with data from January shows that traffic is still lower since the start of the pandemic but there has been significant a rebound. Lastly, CMAP's Fees, Fines, and Fares project is developing a report, which is expected to be completed in mid-April, on how fees, fines, and fares for the transportation system adversely affect people.

5.0 CMAP Legislative Agenda

Anthony Cefali and Tim McMahon provided an overview of the agency's priorities for implementing ON TO 2050 recommendations through legislative action. The agenda has been adapted to reflect the constrained resources and tools needed for communities to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Greater funding options and data requirements will support new initiatives around travel safety, mobility recovery, and reforms to tax policies to strengthen communities. Federally, CMAP is closely following surface

transportation reauthorization as well as recommended actions on improving data transparency and funding on the environment, economic development, and workforce.

Members inquired about CMAP's work on tax policy and potential shifts in how state revenues are shared with local governments as well as pilot projects of a road usage charge. CMAP staff are following these discussions in a general way and wish to connect with communities to hear what they need. The committee also discussed potential federal legislation on storm water and wastewater management, lead line replacement, and other related pieces. Members also shared that the Defense Manufacturing Community Support program is coming up for reauthorization, and Cook County is participating in efforts with the American Manufacturing Community Collaborative to secure additional funding for the program. Finally, it was remarked that state and federal conversations often treat related priorities – such as climate change, biodiversity, and water infrastructure – as separate issues and that CMAP should about the built environment in a way that spurs more comprehensive action.

6.0 Presentation: UIC EDA University Center: Calumet Regional Mapping Tool

Dr. Janet Smith, Co-Director, and Sean Connelly, Research Specialist, from UIC's EDA University Center discussed the [Calumet Regional Mapping Tool](#). The tool was developed in collaboration with the Calumet Collaborative's Brownfield Working Group to create a baseline of the area's brownfield and underutilized sites as well as to help plan for their best future use. The tool provides users to overlay a number of other datasets such as economic development incentive zones or social vulnerability index data. These data help to show how these brownfield sites interact with other land uses, nearby assets, and resources for remediation and redevelopment. They also discussed efforts to provide information on the skills and education needed for green jobs, along with salaries and projected growth. This work is intended to help local workers consider and plan for careers in the green economy. Key questions focus on the technical and non-technical skills that are required to build the region's talent pool. The team is trying to have conversations on how these skills map into training and education programs, as well as career progression into higher level opportunities.

Members recommended that the team include Prairie State Conservation Coalition's iView in its potential data overlay options. This data source shows public and privately protected natural resources, as well as data layers from a source like the Calumet Open Space Reserve Plan, which show what parcels are planned for certain land use management areas. On workforce development, the committee also discussed potential partnerships that could help to provide information on improving access to opportunities in the clean energy economy. The NIU-Education Systems Center is in the process of mapping career pathways in Architecture, Construction, and Energy on behalf of the Illinois Community College Board. The Chicago Jobs Council also recently wrote a brief report about clean energy workforce recommendations.

7.0 Presentation: Puget Sound Regional Council

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Seattle region. Kelly McGourty, PSRC's Director of Transportation Planning, presented on PSRC's work on climate change, including their Four-Part Greenhouse Gas Strategy. PSRC's climate change work includes VISION 2050 (the Seattle region's plan for growth), the regional transportation plan, ongoing analyses into project-level greenhouse gas emissions, and partnerships on issues like alternative fueled vehicles and climate

preparedness. VISION 2050 sets out a bold goal of reducing emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050 and commits to the development of a “climate wedge analysis.” The Four-Part Greenhouse Gas Strategy takes a comprehensive approach to addressing the ways transportation contributes to climate change by discouraging single-occupancy vehicle trends through land use decisions, user fees, technology, and mode choice decisions. PSRC is continuing to develop local agency guidance on related work.

8.0 Summary of COVID-19’s economic impacts in northeastern Illinois

The COVID-19 pandemic created public health and economic crises for communities across northeastern Illinois and highlighted the critical drivers of long-term vitality. Austen Edward reviewed key [economic indicators](#) and signs of initial recovery, as the region approaches the anniversary of widespread layoffs and closures.

9.0 Other Business

No other business was presented.

10.0 Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

11.0 Next Meeting

The Economic Development Committee is scheduled to meet next on Monday, March 22, 2021 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Environment and Natural Resources Committee is scheduled to meet next on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

12.0 Adjournment

At 11:25 a.m., a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Austen Edwards, Staff Liaison