



MINUTES

CMAQ Project Selection Committee

Tuesday, October 24, 2013 2:00 p.m.
CMAP Offices

- Committee Members Present:** Ross Patronsky, Chair (CMAP), Bruce Carmitchel (IDOT), Keith Privett (CDOT), Mark Pitstick (RTA), Tom Rickert (Counties), Mike Rogers (IEPA)
- Staff Present:** Patricia Berry, Kama Dobbs, Jesse Elam, Doug Ferguson
- Others Present:** Bruce Christensen, Chalen Daigle (via phone), John Donovan, Terry Heffron, David Johnson, Brian Plum, Christopher Schmidt, Chris Staron, David Tomzik, Tom Vander Woude, Tom Weaver, Tammy Wierciak (via phone), John Yonan, Barbara Zubek
- 1.0 Call to Order**
Committee Chairman Patronsky called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.
- 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**
None
- 3.0 Approval of Minutes—September 10, 2013**
Mr. Patronsky distributed a corrected draft of the minutes. On a motion by Mr. Carmitchel and a second by Mr. Rickert, the minutes of the September 10, 2013 meeting were approved as presented.
- 4.0 Program Monitoring**
- 4.1 Programming Project Status Sheets**
Ms. Dobbs reported that the programming status of active projects and the line item changes since the last meeting of the Project Selection Committee includes changes to projects as a result of the October status updates. She reported that the majority of those changes were to federal fiscal years.
- 4.2 Obligation Goal**
Ms. Dobbs reported that the obligation goals report reflects the status of funds at the end of federal fiscal year 2013. She reported that as shown in the report, the FFY 2013 obligation goal was exceeded by just over \$17 million and noted that the Obligation

Report Brochure illustrates this. She stated that in December, both reports would be reset for FFY 2014 and that previous comments from members regarding additional information, such as the number of project phases obligated would be included at that time.

4.3 Semi-annual project status update

Ms. Dobbs distributed a memo containing more details about the responses to the semi-annual status updates. She provided an overview of the requested updates and the responses received. She concluded that the updates are proving to be a useful tool for the committee, implementers and staff. Mr. Rickert stated that the information requested on the updates is appropriate, that staff does a good job working with implementers to track project status and that the results of the updates along with the line item reports presented earlier give the committee good information that is needed to make programming decisions.

5.0 Project Changes

5.1 Hillside – Butterfield Rd from Wolf Rd to Mannheim Rd (TIP ID 04-12-0002)

Mr. Patronksy clarified the limits of the requested scope change. On a motion by Mr. Privett and a second by Mr. Rickert, the scope change was approved.

5.2 Melrose Park - North Ave Commuter Bicycle Path from Mannheim Rd to Thatcher Ave (TIP ID 04-08-0001)

On a motion by Mr. Carmitchel and a second by Mr. Rogers, the scope change was approved.

5.3 Administrative Modifications

Mr. Patronsky reported that staff made the attached administrative modifications to reinstate \$2,184,000 total (\$1,747,000 federal) to three deferred project phases for FFY 2014.

6.0 FFY 2014-2018 CMAQ Program

Mr. Ferguson reported that the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee adopted the FFY 2014-2018 program. He stated that FHWA is currently reviewing project eligibility and that once the eligibility determination is made, sponsors will be notified of project approval and informed of the mandatory initiation meeting scheduled for December 6, 2013 at IDOT District 1 in Schaumburg. He added that additional meetings for transit and direct emissions reduction sponsors and CDOT would be scheduled in the near future. These meetings will be held downtown Chicago.

7.0 CMAQ Program Process Evaluation and Transformation

Mr. Elam reported that the CMAP Fiscal Year 2014 Comprehensive Budget includes a project to review the CMAQ program process and recommend improvements. He stated that staff would like to conduct individual interviews with committee members to discuss their thoughts on the future programming and management of CMAQ projects. Mr. Rickert expressed concern about the schedule contained in the memo included with the agenda. He stated that with only one committee meeting scheduled in December he was concerned that the review would be entirely staff driven and would impact the way the committee does business. He suggested that the implementers and committee members be involved in the

review. Mr. Elam stated staff intends to discuss how other MPOs program CMAQ and the results of the individual interviews at the committee's December meeting to start the conversation. Mr. Rickert stated that other county staff suggested a peer review of other MPOs and consideration of the role of the GO TO 2040 focus groups, funding allocations to private entities and the analytic techniques used to evaluate project applications to be sure that we don't accidentally create a process that doesn't serve the region. Mr. Elam noted that staff's intention is to provide information to the decision makers, not to make a decision. Mr. Privett stated that several years ago when we compared our process to others', we found that ours was messier but that the end result was a more balanced program. He added that he remembers the days of fighting about the air quality benefits of projects and does not want to return there. In response to a question from Mr. Tomzik, Mr. Elam added that ultimately the end result will prepare a process for the next call for CMAQ projects. Mr. Rogers stated that he agrees with Mr. Privett and Mr. Rickert, and was worried about how the GO TO 2040 Focus Groups would affect the selection of projects that benefit air quality the most, but that the use of separate project categories has worked and resulted in good programs.

7.0 MAP-21

Mr. Donovan had nothing new to report on regulations or guidance related to CMAQ.

8.0 2014 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Patrosky requested that the committee review the tentative meeting dates for calendar year 2014 and work with Ms. Dobbs to identify potential schedule conflicts. Mr. Privett noted that the proposed dates in February, August and December were close to holidays and may be problematic. Mr. Pitstick added that the April date was at the start of spring break for some school districts. Mr. Patrosky stated that the dates are influenced by the IDOT letting schedule and TIP change deadlines for Transportation Committee meetings, but that staff would investigate the identified conflicts.

9.0 Other Business

None.

10.0 Public Comment

None.

11.0 Next Meeting

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

12.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Rogers and a second by Mr. Privett, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.