



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## **MPO Policy Committee Meeting Minutes June 10, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Cook County Conference Room  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800  
Chicago, Illinois**

### **MPO Policy Committee Members Present:**

John Beisel – Cook County (Representing Joseph Moreno), Marty Buehler – Lake County, Tom Cuculich – DuPage County, Joe Deal - Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Jack Groner - Metra, Luann Hamilton – Chicago Department of Transportation (Representing Bobby Ware), Robert Hann - Private Transportation Providers (Representing John McCarthy), Gary Hannig – Illinois Department of Transportation, Larry Keller – Council of Mayors (Representing Jeff Schielke), Joseph Korpalski – McHenry County (Representing Kenneth Koehler), Jamy Lyne – Will County (Representing Lawrence Walsh), Michael Payette – Class I Railroads, Tom Rickert - Kane County (Representing Karen McConnaughay), Richard Rodriguez – Chicago Transit Authority, T.J. Ross - Pace (Representing R. Kwasneski), Steve Schlickman – Regional Transportation Authority, Norman Stoner – Federal Highway Administration, David Werner – Federal Transit Administration (Representing Marisol Simon), Rocco Zucchero – Illinois Tollway

### **Absent:**

Bob Davidson - Kendall County, Elliott Hartstein - Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

### **Staff Present:**

Randy Blankenhorn, Janet Bright, Bob Dean, Teri Dixon, Doug Ferguson, George Johnson, Don Kopec, Jill Leary, Matt Maloney, Tom Murtha, Holly Ostdick, Ross Patronsky, Russell Pietrowiak, Joy Schaad, Todd Schmidt

### **Others Present:**

Reginald Arkeel – Federal Transit Administration, Len Cannata – West Central Municipal Conference, Chalen Daigle - McHenry County Council of Mayors, Kama Dobbs – DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, John Donovan – Federal Highway Administration, Bud Fleming – South Suburban Mayors and Managers Conference, Bona Heinsohn – Cook County, Charles Ingersoll – Illinois Department of Transportation, Jon-Paul Kohler – Federal Highway Administration, Jim LaBelle, - Chicago Metropolis 2020, Wes Lujan – Union Pacific Railroad, Vida Morkunas – Regional Transportation Authority, Leanne Redden – Regional Transportation Authority, David Seglin – Chicago Department of Transportation, Susan Stitt –

Illinois Department of Transportation, Mike Walczyk – Northwest Municipal Conference,  
Tammy Wierciak – West Central Municipal Conference

### **1.0 Call to Order and Introductions**

At 10:10 a.m., Chairman Hannig called the meeting to order. Introductions of those present for the meeting were made.

### **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no changes or announcements.

### **3.0 Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2010**

On a motion by Mr. Buehler, seconded by Ms. Hamilton, the minutes of the March 11, 2010 meeting of the Policy Committee were approved.

### **4.0 Agency Reports**

#### **4.1 Council of Mayors' Report**

Mayor Keller reported that the Councils have met their goals in programming funds available from both the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The Councils have been engaged in discussions on *GO TO 2040* for the past three years and have worked with local officials to provide communication between the mayors and CMAP.

The next meeting Council of Mayors Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for June 29th.

#### **4.2 CMAP Board Report**

Mr. Schlickman reported that the CMAP Board has met three times since the last Policy Committee meeting, the most recent being yesterday when they approved the FY 2001 budget. He noted that the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund was not funded by the state, but that there was a \$3.5 million appropriation in state transportation funds that would be used to fund MPOs throughout the state. The Board also approved the release of *GO TO 2040* for public comment and they approved the FY 2011 Unified Work Program.

#### **4.3 CMAP Report**

Mr. Kopec followed up on Mr. Schlickman's mention of the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund and why although funded, it is not in the manner that would have been preferred by CMAP. He also reported on the status of federal legislation that would mean the loss of \$120 million to Illinois. It appears that Senator Durbin has worked out a compromise with Congressman Oberstar that would prevent this loss of funding.

Mr. Kopec then noted that Illinois EPA has submitted a redesignation request and maintenance SIP for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard. This means that the Chicago region is achieving the national air quality standard. However, USEPA is finalizing a new, stricter standard that will put us out of compliance. The new standard will affect many more

regions in Illinois. However, he noted that the region is making progress in cleaning up the air.

Finally, he noted that *Transport Chicago* celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Among the highlights was a panel including IHDA, IDOT and IEPA discussing the implementation of the new federal partnership for the sustainable communities program. Keith Sherman represented IDOT on this panel.

#### **5.0 FTA Subarea Allocation between Indiana-Illinois and Wisconsin-Illinois and Designated Recipient of Section 5307 and Section 5340 Funds**

Teri Dixon reminded the committee that Resolutions 10-03, 10-04 and 10-05 were approved last March and designated Metra, Pace and the CTA as recipients of Section 5307 and 5340 funding. Because USDOT was operating under a continuing resolution of Congress, the amounts only covered a five month period. Complete funding for FY 2010 has now been established. The resolutions have been updated to reflect those changes. On a motion by Mr. Groner, seconded by Mr. Rickert, the updated resolutions were approved.

#### **6.0 GO TO 2040 Draft Plan**

Mr. Kopec began by thanking the Policy Committee members and their staff for all their help in putting together the draft of the *GO TO 2040* plan. He then reviewed the work of the past three years including the goal setting, technical research, unprecedented public outreach and the development of shared priorities.

He then described the layout of the plan document and the intentions for a final product. Meetings will be set up over the next few weeks with each of the Policy Committee members to get their input about the plan. He then described the timeline leading up to consideration of the final plan by the Board and Policy Committee in October.

Mr. Groner stated Metra's concerns: that there is not enough funding allocated to expansion projects; that a number of projects included in the 2030 plan have simply disappeared without any explanation; and, that there is a disparity between highway and transit projects regarding what it takes to enter preliminary or phase I engineering.

Mr. Kopec noted that staff will be including a list and description of all the projects on the fiscally unconstrained list. Regarding the preliminary engineering issue, he did not think that any resolution could be expected soon since this would require federal action.

Mr. Schlickman remarked that he is less concerned about expansion projects than he is about bringing the transit system up to a state of good repair. He did express some concern regarding how projects were selected for the fiscally constrained list.

Members then discussed the content and timing of a final report. There was a desire for more graphics and possibly a short version that members could distribute.

The issue of the fiscally constrained list of projects versus the unconstrained projects then dominated the discussion. Ultimately, it was agreed that the rather short list of fiscally

constrained projects showed the significant need for additional funding. Mr. Schlickman then suggested that the SAFETEA-LU Committee meet to discuss the fiscally constrained projects and how much funding has been allocated to capital projects. Mr. Blankenhorn closed the discussion by urging the committee to consider the entire plan. It is much more than just major transportation projects. There are twelve focus areas with recommendations. Transportation needs to be considered within this broader context.

#### **7.0 Proposed Federal Fiscal Year 2010-2015 Transportation Improvement Program**

Patricia Berry first thanked all the implementers for their help in getting the proposed FY 2010-2015 TIP out for comment. She noted that the program contains over 2,000 projects. The TIP document, besides the list of projects, discusses its relation to *GO TO 2040*, talks about how the program is developed, contains a financial plan and details how all federal requirements have been satisfied.

#### **8.0 Conformity Analysis**

Patricia Berry explained that the results of the federally required conformity analysis will be released for a public comment period at the same time as the *GO TO 2040* plan and TIP. She reported that the conformity document shows that the region's transportation projects and programs meet air quality requirements. VOC emissions decrease from roughly 93 tons/day now to 63 in 2040 and NO<sub>x</sub> is reduced from 218 tons per day (tpd) to under 53 tpd. Also PM is reduced from 1,660 tpd to 1038 tpd. Most of the improvement is due to cleaner vehicles, especially diesel trucks.

She emphasized that the region is moving toward improved air with a redesignation for ozone submitted last year and a redesignation for PM targeted for submittal in the fall of this year. However, updated standards will affect future attainment status.

#### **9.0 Summer Outreach for *GO TO 2040* Draft Plan**

Erin Aleman directed the committee members to a memo that was distributed at their places. She explained the release of the plan for public comment and the outreach events that will be held during the comment period. In addition to ten public open house meetings, there will be presentations to the councils of government, county boards, council of mayors groups and numerous advocacy groups. If any group desires a presentation, they should contact her to set up a date.

#### **10.0 Nominating Committee for Office of Vice Chairman**

Mr. Kopec announced the members of the Nominating Committee for Secretary Hannig. They are Mayor Schielke, Mr. Buehler, Jack Groner, Joe Deal and Tom Cuculich. This group will discuss and present a nomination for Vice-Chair at the October meeting.

#### **11.0 Fiscal Year 2011 Unified Work Program**

Mr. Maloney informed the committee that the FY 2001 Unified Work Program has been developed received the recommendation for approval from the Transportation Committee. The program totals nearly \$20 million with nearly \$16 million in federal funds and the balance the local match. A public comment period was held from April 22 to May 7 and no comments were received. An Executive Summary of the program was included in the

committee's mailing. On a motion by Mr. Buehler, seconded by Mr. Korpalski, the FY 2011 Unified Work Program was approved.

### **12.0 Legislative Update**

Mr. Smith reviewed several pieces of legislation with the committee. He noted that HB859 which contains the state funding for CMAP and other MPOs across the state, has been sent to the Governor for his signature. The Governor will more than likely sign this legislation. The Governor has already signed SB3659 which provides for a public-private partnership to construct and operate the Illiana Expressway. This action is consistent with the innovative financing supported by *GO TO 2040*.

Ms. Hamilton inquired about legislation that would require vehicles to stop for pedestrians rather than yield to them. She felt this would be a significant effort to implement. The Governor has not yet signed that legislation. IDOT indicated that they are reviewing the legislation and would ensure state facilities comply with its requirements.

### **13.0 Other Business**

Mr. Kopec requested that the committee agree to a special meeting in September to provide a final review of the *GO TO 2040* plan. This had been proposed at the March meeting, but no final action was taken. The committee agreed to meet on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. for that purpose. It was also noted that the October meeting would be a joint affair with the CMAP Board. It will be held on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

### **14.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment from the meeting attendees.

### **15.0 Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.**

There will be a special meeting of the Policy Committee on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

### **16.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Korpalski, seconded by Mr. Groner.