

MEETING OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

to be held at the

CHICAGO METROPOLITAN AGENCY FOR PLANNING
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois

Cook County Conference Room

Thursday, October 11, 2007
10:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. OLD BUSINESS

**A. Approval of Minutes for
June 14, 2007**

The minutes were previously distributed.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval by Policy Committee

B. Council of Mayors' Report

C. Executive Director's Report

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of FY08 multi-year CMAQ program

A proposed CMAQ program has been developed, consisting of 71 projects that will begin in FY 2008, and extend in some cases to FY 2012. \$54,846,471 will be programmed in FY 2008, \$28,025,631 in FY 2009, \$17,310,800 in FY 2010, \$9,975,000 in FY 2011, and \$2,553,600 in FY 2012 as a result of these projects.

The public comment period on the proposed program concluded August 28. Staff prepared responses to the comments received, which were accepted by the CMAQ Project Selection Committee and the Transportation Committee. The documentation is available at http://chicagoareaplanning.org/mpo_policy/min-mpo_policy.asp. The Transportation Committee and Programming Committee recommend approval of the proposed program.

B. Metra New Starts

ACTION REQUESTED

Endorse locally preferred alternatives

Metra has completed the Alternatives Analysis for their Union Pacific Northwest and West Lines. Staff from Metra will present the results of those analyses which support a locally preferred alternative. While the rail enhancement alternative is included in the region's current long range transportation plan, Metra will be seeking committee endorsement of the selected alternative for each.

C. Regional Comprehensive Plan

Work continues on the development of the region's comprehensive plan which will contain the federally required long range transportation plan. The most recent event in this process was an exercise designed to solicit input on a vision of the future for the region. Over 160 people attended a half day workshop at the Illinois Institute of Technology on September 12th. Staff will update the committee on the status of the plan development process, focusing on the vision development.

D. Legislative Activities

Senate Bill 1201 was passed by both houses of the legislature and sent to the Governor for his signature. The Governor subsequently line item vetoed the section creating a Wastewater Committee to replace the NIPC Water Resources Committee. This committee was to be

responsible for making recommendations on changes to Facility Planning Areas (FPAs) to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. As a result, until the legislature either agrees to the line item veto or overrides the veto the changes anticipated from the legislation will not take effect. Also Senate Bill 572 includes regional revenue sources to help pay for transit, significant reforms to the CTA pension and retiree health care system, recommendations to improve the RTA's authority and downstate transit funding. Finally, recent discussions in Springfield have included proposals for a capital program. Staff will update the Committee on the status of legislation.

**E. Amendment to the
Transportation Improvement
Program**

ACTION REQUESTED

***Approval of conformity finding
and TIP amendment***

A TIP amendment revising the I-355 from I-55 to I-80 project to a six-lane cross section from a four-lane cross section has been recommended for approval by the Transportation Committee. Rapid population and employment growth will bring the planned four-lane cross section to capacity sooner than anticipated. Rather than add the third lane later under traffic, it is beneficial to complete these improvements now while the road is traffic-free and contractors are mobilized on-site. The project includes adding lanes on portions of selected arterials with entrance/exit ramps to I-355. These projects are regionally significant and non-exempt, and thus require a TIP amendment with a conformity analysis. The results of the analysis indicate that the TIP with the proposed amendment conforms to the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The comment period on the proposed TIP amendment for I-355 and associated projects ended on September 23rd. No comments were received.

**F. Nominating Committee for the
office of Vice-chairman**

ACTION REQUESTED

Election of a Vice-chairman

The report from the Nominating Committee appointed at the last meeting will be given and an election of a Vice-chairman will be conducted.

**G. Composition of the
Transportation Committee**

ACTION REQUESTED

*Approve the change in
membership of the
Transportation Committee*

The memorandum of agreement between the CMAP board and the Policy Committee specifies that they will jointly agree to the membership of the Transportation Committee. The current membership includes the Chicagoland Transportation and Air Quality Commission (CTAQC). Staff representing the CTAQC has requested that the membership be changed to the Center for Neighborhood Technology.

**H. Human Services
Transportation Plan**

ACTION REQUESTED

*Endorsement of the Human
Services Transportation Plan for
northeastern Illinois*

The Regional Transportation Authority has completed the development of the region's Human Services Transportation Plan. Per federal regulations, all projects for the Job Access and Reverse Commute program and the New Freedom program will come from this plan. RTA staff will present the plan and seek endorsement from the committee.

I. Unified Work Program

Direction on development of the 2009 Unified Work Program (UWP) will be sought.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

V. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 10, 2008.