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MPO Policy Committee Agenda October 8, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.

**Cook County Conference Room
CMAP Offices
Chicago, Illinois**

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions 10:00 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

3.0 Approval of Minutes – June 10, 2009
ACTION REQUESTED: Approval

4.0 Agency Reports

- 4.1 Council of Mayors' Report
- 4.2 CMAP Report

5.0 Approval of RTP/TIP Conformity and TIP Amendments

The public comment period for the semiannual RTP/TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendments closed August 30, 2009. No comments were received. The Transportation Committee recommends that the MPO Policy Committee approve the RTP/TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendments. In addition, Metra has requested approval of a TIP amendment to include an ARRA-funded project. The project (TIP ID18-09-9110) programs \$6.3 million for operating assistance in FFY 2010.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of the TIP/RTP Conformity Determination and TIP Amendments

6.0 Approval of multi-year FFY 2010-2011 CMAQ Program and MYB list

The public comment period for the proposed FFY 2010-2011 CMAQ Multi-Year program has ended. The Transportation Committee has concurred with the staff responses to the comments received has recommended MPO Policy Committee approval of the proposed program and MYB list. The proposed multi-year CMAQ program with an explanatory

cover memo and the MYB list are attached. A link to the comments and responses is included in the cover memo.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of multi-year FFY 2010-2011 CMAQ Program and MYB list

7.0 Naming of Transportation Committee Chair and Vice Chair

The Policy Committee bylaws state that the committee will appoint one of its members or alternates as the Chair and one of its members or alternates as the Vice-Chair of the CMAP Transportation Committee.

ACTION REQUESTED: Appoint Chair and Vice-Chair of the Transportation Committee for calendar year 2010

8.0 Nominating Committee for the office of MPO Policy Committee 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.

ACTION REQUESTED: Election of a Vice-chairman

9.0 GO TO 2040 Update

Work has continued on schedule developing the region's long-range comprehensive plan, *GO TO 2040*, which will include the federally required transportation plan. The Transportation Committee, along with numerous other committees, has been closely involved in this effort. Items currently being worked on include developing the list of capital transportation projects that will be tested within the preferred scenario, finalizing the financial plan which is necessary to constrain the list of capital projects supporting the preferred scenario, the development of the preferred scenario itself, and a significant public engagement process.

The final plan is due to be considered by the Policy Committee at its October 2010 meeting. Staff will brief the committee on the timeline for this last year of the plan development process indicating key input points for Transportation and Policy Committee member agencies. Staff will also describe the results of the public engagement process that was conducted during summer 2009 and recently completed. The timeline and a draft report on the public engagement process are attached.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion

10.0 Legislative Outlook

A number of legislative initiatives are being discussed at the national level that would have an impact on transportation planning and programming. The current transportation authorization legislation, SAFETEA-LU will expire on September 30th. It is now clear that new authorizing legislation will not be enacted before SAFETEA-LU expires. At this time, more than one course of action is being considered by Congress to keep the transportation program operating. A transportation policy brief including the policy goals endorsed by the CMAP Board is attached.

In the area of environmental concerns, Congress' approach to dealing with climate change and USEPA's decision to review the ozone standard could also have a significant impact on transportation. Staff will update the committee on the latest developments in legislative activity.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion

11.0 Rescissions

Despite last minute efforts Congress failed to pass legislation that would have repealed the end of SAFETEA-LU rescission of \$8.708 billion. The rescission took effect October 1. Attached is a table listing the amount rescinded from each program category along with a document from FHWA answering frequently asked questions about the rescission.

Of particular note to northeastern Illinois is the \$83.6 million to be rescinded from the CMAQ program, \$25.5 million rescinded from the Enhancement program, \$20.3 million from the local STP program, and \$37.0 million from the Highway Safety Improvement program. The Policy Committee will need to determine exactly how these rescissions should be applied to the STP and CMAQ programs.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion and direction to staff on dealing with the rescission

12.0 ARRA Update

12.1 ARRA Formula Programs - Transportation

The Council of Mayors Executive Committee approved a policy to ensure that all available ARRA funds are used by the mandated deadline. The Council's Executive Committee also approved revised ARRA marks at its September meeting. The policy and revised marks are attached. Staff will update the Policy Committee on the status of the ARRA formula programs.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of revised ARRA marks and discussion

12.2 ARRA Discretionary Programs - Transportation

Submittal deadlines have passed for a number of ARRA discretionary programs including the TIGER Program and several tracks of the High Speed rail program. Staff will update the Committee on the status of state and local applications. A summary of the high speed rail applications and an overview of the TIGER applications received by USDOT are attached.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion

12.3 ARRA Formula Programs – Non -Transportation

A report on the implementation of the various ARRA initiatives outside of direct transportation programs will be provided. A summary report is attached.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion

13.0 Greenways and Trails Plan

The Transportation Committee has recommended approval of the 2009 Update to the region's Greenways and Trails Plan. Subsequent to the meeting, issues raised by the Regional Transportation Authority at the Programming Coordinating Committee were successfully addressed with new draft text developed by the Transportation Committee Chairman and the RTA. Concerned stakeholders have agreed to the revised text. Staff is presenting the plan as passed by the Transportation Committee along with a recommendation to insert the clarifying language. The Executive Summary of the plan, the recommended text revision, and process documentation are included in the mailing. The maps and plan as recommended by the Transportation Committee are posted here: <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/greenwaysandtrails.aspx>

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval, with the change recommended by staff, of the Northeastern Illinois Regional Greenways and Trails Plan - 2009 Update

14.0 Other Business

15.0 Public Comment

This is an opportunity for comments from members of the audience. The amount of time available to speak will be at the chair's discretion. The exact time for the public comment period will immediately follow the last item on the agenda.

15.0 Next Meeting – January 14, 2010

16.0 Adjournment

MPO Policy Committee Members:

	Martin G. Buehler		R. A. Kwasneski		Richard Rodriguez
	Tom Cuculich		John McCarthy		Steve Schlickman
	Bob Davidson		Karen McConnaughay		Jeffery Schielke
	Joseph Deal		Joseph Moreno		Marisol Simon
	Gary Hannig		Philip A. Pagano		Norman R. Stoner
	Elliott Hartstein		Michael Payette		Larry Walsh
	Kenneth Koehler		Thomas Powers		Rocco Zuccherro