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Policy Committee Meeting Minutes June 12, 2008

The meeting was held at the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Cook County Conference Room, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois. Those present at the meeting were:

Policy Committee Members Present

Larry Walsh (Vice-Chair) Will County

Frank Beal Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

(Representing Rita Athas)

Marty Buehler Lake County

Thomas Byrne Chicago Department of Transportation

Tom Cuculich DuPage County

Paul Fish Chicago Transit Authority

(Representing Ron Huberman)

Jack Groner Metra

(Representing Phil Pagano)

Clayton Harris, III IDOT

(Representing Milton R. Sees)

Ken Koehler McHenry County
John McCarthy Private Providers

Mike Payette Class 1 Railroad Companies

Steve Schlickman Regional Transportation Authority
Norm Stoner Federal Highway Administration

T.J. Ross Pace

(Representing R. Kwasneski)

Rocco Zucchero Illinois Tollway

Policy Committee Members Absent

Bob Davidson Kendall County

Elliott Hartstein CMAP

Karen McConnaughay

Joseph Moreno

Jeffery Schielke

Kane County

Cook County

Council of Mayors

Marisol Simon Federal Transit Administration

Visitors

Aristide Biciunas Public
Janelle Brown RTA
Len Cannata WCMC

Pat Carey City of Chicago

Chalen Daigle McHenry County COM
David Damm-Luhr USDOT/Volpe Center

Chris DiPalma FHWA Kama Dobbs DMMC

John Fortmann IDOT – District 1

Luann Hamilton CDOT Jon-Paul Kohler FHWA

Joe Korpalski McHenry County DOT

Stephen Little CTA

William Lyons USDOT/Volpe Center

Les Nunes IDOT – OP&P

Greg Piland FHWA

Chad Riddle IDOT – District 1

David Seglin CDOT Chris Staron NWMC

Betsy Tracy IDOT – OP&P

Joe Voccia RTA
Mike Walczak NWMC
Tammy Wierciak WCMC

Staff

Randy Blankenhorn, Jill Leary, Don Kopec, Gordon Smith Patricia Berry, Bob Dean, Teri Dixon, Dolores Dowdle, Tom Garritano, Tom Murtha, Roseann O¢Laughlin, Holly Ostdick, Matthew Stratton, Patricia Tinnelle

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-chairman Walsh called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes for March 13, 2008.

On a motion by Mr. Cuculich, seconded by Mr. Zucchero, the minutes of the meeting on March 13, 2008 were approved.

B. Council of Mayors' Report

Mr. Kopec reported that the Council of Mayors Executive Committee has not met since the last Policy Committee meeting. Their next scheduled meeting will take place on June 24th. He noted that the Councils spent over \$59 million in federal STP funds in State Fiscal Year 2008, one of the highest totals in several years.

C. CMAP Report

Mr. Kopec noted that one of the most significant changes coming from the merger of CATS and NIPC has been in the area of personnel. While each agency had approximately forty staff members each, CMAPø current head count is at ninety-seven. He mentioned a few recent hires: Holly Ostdick who is working primarily in the TIP area; Roseann OøLaughlin who will be working in the area of freight planning; and, Todd Schmidt who will be working on the Congestion Management Process and performance measures for the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Kopec informed the committee that the FY09 CMAQ applications are requesting a total of \$554 million in federal funds, with total project cost of nearly \$800 million.

Finally, he noted that staff has been working quite a bit on the 2016 Olympic bid. Chicago has been announced as a finalist along with Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro and Madrid. The final selection will be made in October of 2009.

Mr. Schlickman mentioned to the committee that the CMAP board is in the process of developing a method to address their legislated requirement to analyze õDevelopments of Regional Importanceö or DRIs. He and Mr. Kopec explained the proposal currently under discussion and urged members to get involved with the process, as it may have implications for their projects.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. GO TO 2040 - Regional Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement

Mr. Dean described the materials that had been included in the membergs packets. These included the Vision Statement itself, along with a description of the process used to develop the vision. This was a year-long process starting with the goals of the 2030 RTP and NIPC Common Ground plan. It involved the committees of CMAP, stakeholder groups and the general public. He mentioned that the CMAP Board approved the Vision the day before with a change that is described in a memo at the membergs places.

On a motion by Mr. Schlickman, seconded by Mr. Koehler, the Regional Vision Statement was unanimously approved.

B. FY 09 Unified Work Program

Mr. Nunes of IDOT presented the Fiscal Year 2009 Unified Work Program to the Committee for their approval. He noted that the program totals \$19.133 million with \$15.197 coming from FHWA and FTA and \$3.936 in local match. The proposed program was out for a 30-day public comment period and no comments were received. On a motion by Mr. Fish, seconded by Mr. Harris, the FY09 UWP was unanimously approved.

C. JARC/New Freedom Programs

Ms. Dixon explained the requested action before the committee. The RTA established a Selection Review Committee to make a recommendation for the FY 2007 JARC and New Freedom Programs. Because of the timing of various board meetings, the Policy Committee is being asked to endorse the recommended programs and authorize the Transportation Committee to amend the projects into the TIP following approval by the RTA. On a motion by Mr. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Groner, the requested action was approved.

D. 2030 Regional Transportation Plan Update, FY 2007-2012 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments and Air Quality Conformity Determinations

Ms. Berry reviewed the proposed amendment to the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan, along with a corresponding Transportation Improvement Program amendment and conformity finding. The RTP amendment primarily extends the southern terminus for planned additional lanes on I-55 in Will County from Arsenal Road to Coal City Road. The conformity analysis demonstrated that the change would not negatively impact the region plan for attainment of national ambient air quality standards. The proposed changes to the RTP and TIP were submitted to the public for a 30-day comment period beginning on April 25, 2008. No comments were received. On a motion by Mr. Schlickman, seconded by Mr. Fish, the amendments to the plan and program were approved with the accompanying conformity determination.

E. Congestion Reduction Initiative for the CTA and City of Chicago

Mr. Fish of the CTA began this agenda item by describing the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) aspect of the Congestion Reduction Initiative. He described this as a multi-step process beginning with the application that the city filed with the support of the CTA. The CTA is now developing a formal application to the FTA including preliminary engineering, and the first phase of environmental work. Following a NEPA finding by FTA, implementation will begin probably in the spring of next year.

The corridors, which could change based on the engineering and environmental work, were selected on the basis of high ridership, the ability to increase travel speed, generally high trip lengths, and connections to CTA rail or express bus routes. The routes selected are portions of Jeffery, Halsted, 79th Street and Chicago Avenue.

He then described how various forms of BRT operate and how they help to reduce travel times, improve predictability and employ technology for fare collection, information display and signalization.

Ms. Hamilton of the City of Chicago DOT followed Mr. Fish by explaining that the goal of the pricing portion of the demonstration is to reduce the attractiveness of driving downtown by increasing the price of parking. They elected not to pursue cordon pricing in part because it would require state

legislation. The city has the authority to control parking pricing and it is felt that motorists are more sensitive to this since it is a direct out-of-pocket cost.

There are various aspects to the parking pricing element including both on- and off-street. Metered on-street parking will vary by time of day and possibly duration. Off-street parking will have a surcharge to enter or leave during either peak period. There will also be a loading zone fee which now is levied on the property owner. It will become either a metered zone or a õpay and displayö method that will become the responsibility of the delivery firm.

F. GO TO 2040 Outreach Efforts

Mr. Garritano described the branding efforts of CMAP for the *GO TO 2040* Campaign. He emphasized that this is indeed a campaign in that we wish to market this effort to the general public. It is an effort to have people really place or imagine themselves in the year 2040.

He noted that we are making extensive use of a web site that includes surveys, interactive reports and blogs, and encouraged members to visit the site and let others know about it. The website address is http://www.goto2040.org/. A number of media have had stories about the campaign including the Tribune, Crain's, Chicago Tonight and the Capitol Fax.

Mr. Smith then spoke about the outreach efforts going on in support of the plan development process. The outreach effort intends to educate, inform and engage the public. A number of groups are being targeted including local elected officials, congressional members and staff, state legislators and staff, planning partners, members of the Policy Committee, advocacy groups and minority groups to name a few.

He noted that the points in the planning process for engagement included the indicators development, the scenario development and the actual plan construction. There is a great deal of material on the website which everyone is encouraged to visit. They concluded their presentation by showing a video of an engagement event at Whitney Young High School.

Mr. Stoner of FHWA noted that the indicator or performance measure development process was mentioned as a place for people to get involved. He strongly encouraged everyone to do just that, emphasizing the importance of this aspect of the plan. There is a growing interest on the national scene in the use of performance measures which will likely play an increasingly larger role ó along with accountability ó in the planning and programming process.

Mr. Beal mentioned that he attended a portion of the event at Whitney Young High School and remarked on the extraordinary enthusiasm of the students. He cautioned however, that he also noted the students had extremely high expectations for us as leaders to do a good job planning for their future and there seemed to be some skepticism on their part as to whether we can get the job done.

G. Nominating Committee for Office of Vice Chairman

Vice-chairman Walsh asked Mayor Schielke, Rocco Zucchero, Steve Schlickman, Rita Athas and Tom Cuculich to serve on the Nominating Committee for the Office of Vice-Chairman.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Harris of IDOT asked about the committee® position regarding a capital program and the work of the 2016 Olympic Committee. Mr. Kopec noted that the Policy Committee has gone on record in strong support of a capital program but has not addressed the 2016 Olympic effort. Mr. Harris responded that he just wanted to make sure that everyone was on board for these two initiatives and were working as a group. Mr. Blankenhorn mentioned that staff was working closely with the Olympic Committee and offered to provide whatever support was necessary.

V. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2008 in the Sears Tower, 8th Floor, Chicago, Illinois at 10:00 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Beal, seconded by Mr. Fish, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald P. Kopec
Secretary