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Planning Coordinating Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2007--8:00 a.m.

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

Cook County Conference Room

Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present: Elliott Hartstein, Chair-CMAP Board, Frank Beal-CMAP Board, Gideon

Blustein-Rep. Melissa Bean (alternate for Robin Kelly), Roger Claar-CMAP Board, Zenovia Evans-CMAP Board, Adam Gross-Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), Luann Hamilton-CDOT, Al Larson-CMAP Board, Ed Paesel-South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association, Andre Rice-CMAP Board, Rae Rupp Srch-CMAP Board,

Ingrid Ruttendjie-Fox Waterway Agency

Staff Present: Erin Aleman, Shana Alford, Lindsay Banks, Randy Blankenhorn, Bob

Dean, Jesse Elam, Kristin Heery, Russell Pietrowiak, Andrew Williams-

Clark

Others Present: Hugh O'Hara-WCGL, Mark Pitstick-RTA, Christopher Staron-NWMC,

Joanna Trotter-MPC, Mike Walczak-NWMC, Erin Willrett-KKCOM

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Elliott Hartstein.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting notes from the October 10, 2007 were approved as presented on a motion by Rae Rupp Srch and a second by Al Larson.

4.0 "Images of Northeastern Illinois" Photography Contest

Bob Dean described the regional photography contest and showed the winning entries, stating that many of the photographs will be featured in the Regional Comprehensive Plan or other interim documents.

5.0 Regional Snapshot Report: Sustainability

Mr. Dean stated that the purpose of the Regional Snapshot report series was to establish linkages between CMAP's policy areas, gather background data, and initiate discussions on major regional issues early in the planning process. He described the conclusions of the Regional Snapshot report on sustainability, which defined the concept of sustainability according to four principles: the natural environment, economic growth, human capital, and equity.

Ingrid Ruttendjie asked for more clarity on the treatment of equity in the report, particularly the difference between horizontal and vertical equity. Mr. Dean responded that the report states that these two types of equity both need to be addressed, but agreed that the text focused on vertical equity more than horizontal. Frank Beal expressed concern that the report appeared to seek income equality between individuals, which is beyond CMAP's scope to address, and that fairness in public policy is a more appropriate goal. Zenovia Evans and Ed Paesel noted that addressing horizontal equity would also have the effect of improving vertical equity in the long term, as fairness in opportunities would lead to more equitable outcomes, and several committee members agreed that this was a crucial point.

Luann Hamilton suggested that the report should focus on equity between municipalities, rather than individuals or households, and other committee members agreed.

Adam Gross expressed concern, on behalf of the housing committee, that the sustainability snapshot neglects issues broader than land use and transportation. Andre Rice added that education was an important issue to address in CMAP's work and should receive more focus in the Regional Snapshot report. Other committee members agreed that the focus of the report on infrastructure was too limiting, and additional language should be added to make its treatment of sustainability more comprehensive.

Mr. Gross stated that the term 'snapshot' may not appropriate for this document, because it does not provide much data on current conditions. Mr. Hartstein agreed that the report lacked indicators quantifying current conditions. Several committee members responded that the report clearly states that its purpose is to stimulate discussion, and that the term 'snapshot' seemed appropriate.

Mr. Dean summarized the discussion and the changes or additions that had been requested, including the following: refocusing the equity discussion on local governments, rather than individuals; reducing the focus on vertical equity, with additional discussion of horizontal equity; and improving the treatment of non-infrastructure issues such as education and housing. He stated that a new version of the report would be sent to committee members early the following week. With these changes, Ms. Rupp Srch made a motion to release the report on December 11, with a second by Ms. Ruttendjie, and the motion passed unanimously.

6.0 Planning Strategy Research

Mr. Dean gave a brief presentation on strategy research work that was underway to support the Regional Comprehensive Plan, explaining that strategies would eventually be formed into scenarios, and the selection of a scenario would then be a central part of the planning process. Seeking input from the committee, a list of the strategies that are currently planned to be researched was distributed. Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn added that the purpose of the strategy research was to understand the impacts of potential recommendations before the plan is complete, which is an important step toward implementation. Mayor Hartstein pointed out that the strategy research work should also provide communities with guidance on how to implement strategies, noting that different strategies may be region-wide or geographically specific, and that the plan's recommendations should differentiate between these.

A number of committee members suggested the following additional topics that could be researched: school funding; paratransit; senior housing and other senior services; water supply issues; public-private partnerships (or intergovernmental partnerships); recreation; access to arts and culture; access to jobs; and international marketing of the region. Staff stated that updates on strategy research would be provided at future meetings.

Mr. Rice advised that staff had limited time to conduct this research and should focus on those strategies that were anticipated to have the greatest impacts. Mr. Larson noted that input from elected officials was important, because local elected officials often have effective planning ideas that challenge conventional wisdom.

7.0 Procurements Related to Regional Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Dean described three procurements related to the Regional Comprehensive Plan for which Board approval was being sought. These procurements involved contracts with a research branch of USDOT, a public relations firm, and a number of community-based organizations for assistance in public outreach.

8.0 Staff Updates on Regional Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Dean provided an update on upcoming public engagement activities, including a series of public meetings, online engagement options and a story-writing contest. Ms. Evans and Ms. Rupp Srch suggested targeting the story-writing contest particularly to youth. Mr. Hartstein added that a blog on CMAP's website would also be a useful tool for public involvement.

Mr. Blankenhorn updated the committee on the Developments of Regional Importance (DRI) program, reporting that a subcommittee had been created that would focus its efforts to defining a DRI and also determining how CMAP should address a DRI once it has been identified. Blankenhorn also stated that additional updates would be given as the program is developed. When asked, Blankenhorn responded that CMAP would conduct analysis and provide information concerning the impacts of DRIs, but would not

have a regulatory role and that CMAP's review was intended to take no more than 60 days. Mayor Hartstein added that a series of smaller developments could have cumulative impacts similar to a DRI and advised that this might also be considered. Blankenhorn reported that a pilot DRI analysis was being conducted on the purchase of the EJ&E railroad by CN. Several committee members briefly discussed this purchase and its impacts on CREATE and communities along the rail line.

9.0 Planning Coordinating Committee 2008 Schedule

The tentative schedule for 2008 meetings of the Planning Coordinating Committee was distributed.

10.0 Other Business

No other business was raised.

11.0 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

12.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Planning Coordinating Committee was scheduled for January 9, 2008.

13.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m. on a motion by Luann Hamilton, second by Al Larson.

Respectfully submitted,

Roh Doan Staff Liaion

12-31-07

Approved as presented January 9, 2008.