



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Planning Coordinating Meeting Minutes

October 10, 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, Roger Claar-CMAP Board, Zenovia Evans-CMAP Board, Adam Gross-Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), Luann Hamilton-CDOT, Robin Kelly-State Treasurer's Office, Al Larson-CMAP Board, Ed Paesel-South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association, Rae Rupp Srch-CMAP Board

**Staff Present:** Erin Aleman, Lindsay Banks, Randy Blankenhorn, Bob Dean, Bola Delano, Joy Schaad, Ty Warner

**Others Present:** Chalen Hunter-McHenry County, Tam Kutzmark-DMMC, Hugh O'Hara-WCGL, Leanne Redden-RTA, Joel Stuaber-CAC, Wally Van Buren-IAWA, 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 Al Larson, who served as the chair until Elliott Hartstein arrived.

### 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

### 3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting notes from the July 11, 2007 meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Rae Rupp Srch and a second by Ed Paesel.

### 4.0 Regional Vision Development

Bob Dean thanked the members of the committee who had attended the visioning event on September 12, and informed the committee that revised vision statements were contained in the meeting materials. He stated that an online and paper survey would be conducted to gather input about these vision statements.

## 5.0 Public Engagement for Regional Comprehensive Plan

(Note: Elliott Hartstein arrived prior to this item and took over the responsibilities of chairing the meeting from Al Larson.) Erin Aleman described the draft public engagement plan for the Regional Comprehensive Plan, which was included in the meeting materials. She stated that this plan was based on CMAP's adopted Public Participation Plan, and focused on the themes of outreach, engagement, and sustaining involvement. Ms. Aleman reviewed the timeline contained in the document and briefly described each step.

Ed Paesel noted that educating residents about planning concepts was an important step for them to be effectively engaged. Elliott Hartstein asked whether participants would be updated as the process moved forward, and Mr. Dean responded that the weekly emails, continual updates to the website, and direct communication to participants would keep interested people involved. Mr. Hartstein encouraged staff to make the public engagement process broad-based, and asked whether any groups have been missing from the process. Mr. Dean stated that CMAP continues to face challenges in reaching low-income and minority populations, and Ms. Aleman added that there are specific plans to engage these groups.

Luann Hamilton asked whether the CAC had offered comments on the public engagement plan, and Ms. Aleman responded that they would review it in November.

## 6.0 Climate Change Summit

Mr. Dean reminded the committee that a regional summit on climate change was scheduled for December 11. Frank Beal, a member of the steering committee for the summit, noted that a major issue was the role of CMAP in addressing climate change, especially in light of the activities underway by many other organizations in the region on the same subject. Al Larson noted that the state was engaged in ongoing efforts to address climate change, and that CMAP's role should not duplicate the activities of these organizations.

Mr. Blankenhorn stated that the state, the City of Chicago, and other groups would be speakers at the summit, and clarified that the purpose of this event was to identify an appropriate role for CMAP. He added that climate change should be explicitly addressed in the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Several committee members agreed that CMAP should have a role in addressing climate change regionally. Mr. Beal emphasized that CMAP should develop ideas and recommendations for an appropriate regional role and then present these for feedback, and Mr. Blankenhorn confirmed that this was the intent. Mr. Hartstein emphasized that CMAP's approach to this issue should build on activities already underway by other groups, such as the state or the City of Chicago.

## 7.0 Snapshot Report: Infill

Lindsay Banks provided the committee with a presentation on the initial findings of staff research on the potential for infill and redevelopment in the region. She stated that staff had conducted research initially on Cook County due to data availability, and had identified vacant and underutilized sites that could be candidates for reuse. She noted

that that analysis did not consider open space, agricultural uses, or parks to be vacant or underutilized.

Luann Hamilton asked what the assumptions were for the reuse of the identified sites, and Ms. Banks stated that this was the next step in the study. Mr. Larson recommended that the comprehensive plans of local governments be used to determine the best use for the identified sites. Mr. Paesel advised that the study should be careful not to identify affordable housing locations as potential sites for reuse, and Ms. Banks responded that this was an important concern and that checking would be done to ensure that this did not occur.

Zenovia Evans stated that the study was effective at identifying potential redevelopment sites, but that outreach to communities would now be necessary to make these results useful. She recommended that CMAP assist communities without comprehensive plans for the reuse of these sites to develop these plans, and Mr. Larson added that this should be a major goal of CMAP. Rae Rupp Srch added that NIPC had done considerable work to collect municipal comprehensive plans from around the region. Ms. Rupp Srch also asked how many of the identified sites were brownfields, and Ms. Banks stated that this had not yet been researched. Ms. Evans stated that this was a major consideration in the reuse of these sites.

Mr. Beal advised that an inventory of vacant and underutilized land was useful, but that it needed to be translated into action, potentially including incentives. Mr. Hartstein added that infill development should be a major focus in this planning process, and that the expansion of the study to the collar counties was important. He also noted that boundary agreements between municipalities could be good sources of information concerning the future use of land in unincorporated areas.

#### **8.0 Community and Technical Assistance Plan**

Bola Delano distributed the FY 08 work plan for the community and technical assistance group to the committee members and described the major activities involved. She stated a website and database of local assistance tools would be developed, assisting community groups with important planning activities.

#### **9.0 Other Business**

Mr. Beal provided a brief update on the Burnham centennial planning activities, noting that CMAP had become a key partner in this work, and that the schedule of the Regional Comprehensive Plan was coordinated with the major activities related to the Burnham centennial.

Ms. Rupp Srch informed the committee that the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) had met recently, with a focus on freight and waterways. She also stated that the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU, which is scheduled to occur in 2009, was discussed.

#### **10.0 Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

#### **11.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Planning Coordinating Committee was scheduled for November 14, 2007, but several committee members noted that they had a conflict on that date.

*(Note: the meeting date was later changed to November 28, 2007.)*

#### **12.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m. on a motion by Rae Rupp Srch, second by Al Larson.

Respectfully submitted,

***Bob Dean***

*Approved as presented, November 28, 2007.*