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# **Planning Coordinating Meeting Minutes**

May 9, 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: Michael Smith-CMAP Board, Frank Beal-CMAP Board, Zenovia Evans-

Southern Cook County, Adam Gross-Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), Luann Hamilton-CDOT, Elliott Hartstein-CMAP Board, Al Larson-CMAP Board, Ed Paesel- NIPC, Andre Rice-CMAP Board, Ingrid Ruttendjie-Environment & Natural Resources Committee, Rae Rupp Srch-CMAP Board, Phil Smith-Human Services

Committee

**Staff Present:** Randy Blankenhorn, Bob Dean, Jon Hallas, Tim Loftus, Joy Schaad, Ty

Warner

Others Present: Rick Curneal-DMMC, Chelan Hunter-NWMC, Andrew Plummer-RTA,

Leanne Redden-RTA, Cristina Siepel-TRP, Vicky Smith-SWCOM,

Jonathan Tremper-RTA, Erin Willrett-Kane/Kendall COM

#### 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m

# 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

# 3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting notes from the March 14, 2007 meeting were approved as presented.

### 4.0 SAFETEA-LU Compliant 2030 RTP Update

Ms. Schaad explained that work was nearly complete toward bringing the 2030 RTP Update into compliance with SAFETEA-LU regulations. She went on to say that the 2030 RTP Update is on track to be approved by June 30, 2007. Ms. Schaad briefly reviewed documents leading up to the 2030 RTP Update including approval of the original 2030 RTP in 2003, approval of NIPC's 2040 Regional Framework Plan in September 2005, and

approval of the Capital Element and Strategic Systems Element (Chapter 2) of the 2030 RTP in October 2006.

Ms. Schaad stated the Draft 2030 RTP Update was released to the public for comment on March 25, 2007. Ten thousand mailings and 1,000 e-mail messages were sent drawing attention to its release and availability. The public event for public comments was held on April 2, 2007 here at CMAP offices. Ms. Schaad added that written comments were received from several municipal agencies, working committees, IDOT, RTA and FHWA, and were taken into account in the 2030 RTP Update. Ms. Schaad said the RTP committee met on May 7, 2007, and reviewed the disposition of all comments received, made minor changes, then approved the document for further consideration. Ms. Schaad stated the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee would be forwarded to all groups still involved in reviewing the document as it moves forward in the approval process.

## 5.0 Framework Implementation and Regional Consensus-building

Mr. Warner summarized the public outreach efforts undertaken to promote implementing the 2040 Regional Framework Plan and preparing the new Regional Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Warner then highlighted CMAP's issue identification workshop held in Kendall County on April 26. The workshop was offered to Kendall County leaders because they are relatively new members of the region. Those attending were enthusiastic and positive about the evening's activities. The next step will be to introduce the Centers element of the project to Kendall County later this summer or this fall.

Mr. Warner drew attention to the schedule for meetings to be held in the region through June of this coming summer and identified three objectives for each meeting. The objectives are to (1)introduce CMAP as the agency involved in comprehensive planning [CMAP had not yet existed during the Common Ground process], (2) use the Centers Toolkit to both help community members implement the concept of Centers as explained in the Framework Plan and to help obtain feedback from community leaders on their level of commitment toward enhancing Centers, and (3) engage participants for their impressions on what is working and what could be improved in the planning process as CMAPs undertakes the creation of a Regional Comprehensive Plan, combining regional land use and transportation planning.

Ms. Hamilton noted that the schedule of workshops does not include dates and locations for the City of Chicago and wanted to know if help was needed in making these arrangements. Mr. Warner replied that he would follow up with her on this matter. A question was raised about the role committee members could play at the meetings. Mr. Warner responded it would be helpful for committee members to welcome participants and offer introductory comments. Mr. Warner encouraged committee members to let him know in advance if they would be attending to ensure a place on the agenda.

Mr. Warner stated that staff would attempt to be sensitive to events or issues in the respective areas and be responsive to them. In this regard, he asked committee members to help make staff aware of any issues or concerns in these areas.

## 6.0 Regional Comprehensive Plan Development

Mr. Warner stated that efforts have been expanded in a number of major work areas. Related to vision development, Mr. Warner mentioned that the process has been going on in the working committees for some time, and drew attention to the matrix titled "DRAFT – Goals for Initial Discussion", that contains the original 52 goals of the original Framework Plan plus three additional goals that did not overlap from Regional Transportation Plan. He further explained that each committee has been reviewing the matrix to identify goals that are coded as either 'central' or 'related' to the committee's core area of effort. The next step will be to provide the results to all committees and to decide how committees can work most effectively on 'central' or 'relevant' goals that are commonly shared. Committees will then be asked to identify key themes and issues emanating from 'central' and 'relevant' goals as part of the basis of a new vision for the region.

Ms. Rupp Srch asked how the 'central' and 'relevant' categories were being used. Mr. Warner responded that when a goal has been coded 'central' by more than one committee joint meetings between committees may be needed to discuss the goal. It has not been clearly decided how to follow up with goals that are consistently coded relevant by more than one committee, but a goal that has been coded as relevant to all committees will need to be given special attention.

Mr. Warner pointed out that a regional photographic assessment would soon begin. A photography contest will be held to promote this effort with entries accepted for photos exhibiting what people like best about the region, or photos portraying issues confronting the region. Images collected in the contest will be used in the overall regional comprehensive planning effort. Mr. M. Smith asked who could submit photos for the contest. Mr. Warner replied that while details have yet to be decided, almost any source for photos would be accepted.

Mr. Warner announced that a visioning event involving this committee, the CMAP Board, the MPO, and the Policy Committee would be held this coming fall. The purpose of the event will be to produce an initial visioning narrative including themes drawn from the goals. The themes will be worked on at various times throughout the year with and endorsement of the vision targeted for spring 2008.

Mr. Warner shifted his focus to the next major work area, a series of regional snapshots. The first Regional Snapshot was published and distributed this past winter, and provided an overview of the region. CMAP has already begun preparing a series of Snapshot reports directly related to the Comprehensive Regional Plan. Topics for the next three Snapshots include Sustainability, Jobs/Housing Balance, and Demographics.

Mr. Warner mentioned that work will also soon begin on Strategy Analysis. He reminded the committee that both the Framework Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan included a number of implementation strategies. Moving to the next level will involve evaluating the effectiveness of those strategies and refining them in the Comprehensive Regional Plan. After refinement, the implementation strategies will be folded into an

overall scenario analysis resulting in a preferred scenario for the Comprehensive Regional Plan containing more robust recommendations for the region.

Mr. Paesel asked about the status of the combined set of models that will used to create recommendations for the Comprehensive Regional Plan. Mr. Paesel was interested in whether development of the model is on track and asked for clarification on when the model would be used in the proposed flow chart under discussion. Mr. Dean responded that the transportation model is ready for use. CMAP is working with the University of Illinois on developing a stand alone macroeconomic model region and a separate land use model. A more specific update will be available at a future committee meeting. Mr. Dean clarified that there would not be one model, but would instead be a series of models that will be used with other analytical tools that will be capable of interacting with each other. Mr. Paesel asked if an update could be provided at the next committee meeting and Mr. Warner responded that it would be provided at the next committee meeting. At Mr. Paesel's suggestion, Mr. Warner also agreed to provide an explanation and update on models for the Land Use Committee at the meeting after next.

Mr. Warner then asked committee members to look at the sheet titled "Schedule of major decision points and activities for Planning Coordinating Committee, Draft – May 2, 2007". The list of actions relate to development of the Comprehensive Regional Plan. Mr. Warner then discussed each action. Cluster Workshops will be conducted during May and June of this year. Mr. Warner asked committee members to attend the Cluster Workshop as their schedules allow. Mr. M. Smith also encouraged committee members to attend in order to provide greater credibility to the workshop, to represent CMAP, and to respond to questions that participants may have about our new agency.

Mr. Warner noted that the visioning event tentatively scheduled for August 2007 would involve all committees including the CMAP Board, and asked for feedback on whether August would be a good time for the event. Mr. Larson suggested that holding the event in August might pose problems because it is such a busy month for many people. It was suggested that many people would be available to participate during mid-September or October. Mr. Dean suggested the event would involve either one half day or a full day, but that a decision has not yet been recommended.

# 7.0 CMAP Regional Water Supply Study

Mr. M. Smith introduced Mr. Loftus who stated he would focus his comments on what has been accomplished to date and on the direction of the project in the near term. Mr. Loftus explained that the Regional Water Supply Planning Group (RWSPG) has met four times since inception. After weeks of debate, a mission statement for the group was approved during the last meeting. During the May meeting, the group expects to approve operational guidelines and begin discussion of goals and principles. Mr. Loftus explained that although many meetings will be held here at CMAP, he expects that by the time the project is completed meetings will have been held in each of the eleven counties in the region.

Mr. Loftus mentioned there are currently three vacancies on the RWSPG with representatives needed for Cook County government, Grundy County government, and

Kankakee/Boone/Grundy county governments. When Mr. M. Smith asked what qualifications are needed for representatives Mr. Loftus replied that for county government representatives the committee is looking for either county board chairs or county board members. Municipal government representatives are being selected through the Councils of Governments (COGs) and they include mostly mayors but also some technicians. Representative of non-elected groups are selected by their peer organizations making up the caucus group.

One of CMAP's key obligations during the three-year planning process is to generate water demand scenarios for the planning horizon of 2050. A faculty member from the University of Southern Illinois is working on the methodology for generating the scenarios and will share his progress at the upcoming meeting of the group in June. Demand scenarios are due during April of 2008. Mr. Loftus explained that work continues with the State Surveys and the IDNR Lake Michigan Management Section on re-evaluations of reallocation schemes.

Mr. Lotus shifted his comments to CMAP's obligation to provide education and outreach to other decision makers in the region and the general public. He expects that a listing of existing channels of communication, such as newsletters, will be available at RWSPG's June meeting. The purpose of engaging others in the outreach effort is to let people know the RWPSG exists and that the planning process is underway. Mr. Loftus drew attention to the pamphlet that introduces the RWSPG and its purpose. The pamphlet was created by CMAP.

A question was asked whether attempts had been made to coordinate efforts with groups representing a larger geographic area, such as the Great Lakes Coordinating Council, or whether efforts will be primarily with local groups. Mr. Loftus responded that any group involved in groundwater management in the Great Lakes basin could be connected to what the RWSPG is doing. Efforts with state, regional, and sub regional groups are coordinated avoid planning in isolation.

A question was asked whether the RWSPG is a stand alone group or whether it reports to any CMAP committee. Mr. Loftus replied that the group is independent, and is acting at the behest of Gov. Blagojevich through an executive order. As such, RWSPG has no official reporting obligation to CMAP. Even so, Mr. Loftus declared he does have a reporting obligation to CMAP.

A question was raised about using county fairs and local festivals along the lakefront such as the Taste of Chicago to publicize the group and it planning efforts. Mr. Loftus agreed that this could be done. He also mentioned that the group was publicized at the Greenfest held recently at McCormick Place. He continued by saying these kinds of informal efforts need to be teamed with more structured publicity, outreach, and distribution efforts.

A question was asked about whether publicity would be distributed only to groups listed as participants. Mr. Loftus explained that representatives of stakeholder groups would be asked to keep the stakeholders informed on progress, activities, and events.

Mr. M. Smith asked if the committee could be given a list of existing RWSPG members and vacancies in the hope of possibly making recommendations for filling the vacancies. Mr. Loftus agreed that he could provide such a list and mentioned the CMAP Regional Water-Supply Study website as a source where the listing of current members can be found.

Ms. Hamilton asked which model was being used related to the issue of global climate change. Mr. Loftus stated that modeling was in the hands of the State Surveys. Mr. Larson mentioned that the Governor's Task Force on Global Warming is looking at the impact of global warming and will be rendering a report this summer shortly. Mr. Larson is a member of the task force representing mayors across the state. Mr. Loftus agreed to touch base with the Task Force on the matter of coordinated modeling, expecting to find that they are also using models from the State Surveys. Mr. Loftus also mentioned that State Surveys are basing models on data from the International Panel on Climate Change, so many groups are using the same data from the same source.

#### 8.0 Other Business

Mr. M. Smith stated that legislation for funding CMAP is being discussed in Springfield. He asked Mr. Blankenhorn what programs would be effected and how they would be effected, if funding was not provided in this legislative session. Mr. Blankenhorn responded that transportation funding will continue to be available and work on transportation projects would not change. Work on other projects, however, may need to be scaled back. The Water Supply project is funded completely by IDNR so it would not be impacted by funding to CMAP. Mr. Blankenhorn asserted that other environmental programs, housing programs, policy development and the comprehensive plan could not be done in the manner that he thinks CMAP committees would expect.

Mr. M. Smith noted that work on the 2040 Framework Plan was slowed down considerably because of funding problems. He encouraged committee members to keep the importance of funding in mind because committee members can provide input to members of the General Assembly and can help ensure that funding is addressed in this legislative session. Mr. Blankenhorn stated that a way needs to be found to fund non-transportation issues in a way that's acceptable to CMAP Board and Committee members.

Mr. M. Smith suggested citing examples of what coordinated planning (involving land use and transportation, for example,) provides for municipalities and local officials, and contrast that with results of planning that is not coordinated. He continued that when planning is not coordinated, funds are spent needlessly and money is wasted.

Mr. Hartstein noted that a basic purpose of the agency is to engage the entire region and ensure buy-in at the local level for coordinated planning efforts and projects. He encouraged the committee to reach out to public and private sector groups for their input as to how planning efforts would be valued and used in their communities.

Mr. Larson expressed that a purpose and goal of the agency is to produce an extraordinary, comprehensive vision for the region so powerful and useful that it overcomes political divisiveness as in the past, such as city vs. suburbs, or Cook County vs. collar counties.

Mr. Hartstein also mentioned that planning is often thought of as developing undeveloped land, and the public should know that planning includes creating viable and effective redevelopment and revitalization plans for the entire region.

Ms. Evans suggested that a sound bite about the purpose of the agency and the workshops would be helpful.

Ms. Rupp Srch suggested promoting good planning to school age children.

To Ms. Evans' comment, Mr. Warner drew attention to the handout titled "Summary of Leadership Workshops – May and June, 2007". The second section of the handout identifies four talking points directly related to the upcoming workshops and the regional comprehensive planning implementation. To Ms. Rupp Srch's comment, Mr. Warner indicated that Hubert Morgan has been strategizing how to engage youth with an eye toward curriculum development.

Mr. P. Smith offered that a number of human services related concerns, most notably the explosion of senior age population, will have an increasingly important and dramatic effect on land use and transportation. Unless these kinds of concerns are accounted for, more traditional pieces of the planning process will not be as effective as they otherwise could be. Mr. Blankenhorn responded that even if funding for the agency is not forthcoming, planning for elements such as Human Services will be done, but not done adequately at the level that committee members would prefer.

## 9.0 Public Comment

No comments from the general public were made.

#### 10.0 Next Meeting

Mr. Blankenhorn stated the intention is for the committee to meet when needed, every other month, before the Board meeting. If action is needed before that time, committee members will be notified. The next committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 11, 2007 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

07-11-07