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Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes March 23rd 2010 DuPage County Conference Room

Members Present: Consuella Brown, Bill Browne, Grant Davis, JoAnn Eckmann, John Greuling, Rand Haas, Judith Kossy, John Schneider, Ed Sitar, Dennis Marino, Dr Robert Gleeson, Angie Powell.

Members Absent: Thomas Gary, Gary Skoog, Steven Anderson, Ivan Baker, Lori Clark, Harry Pestine

Staff Present: Annie Byrne, Bob Dean, Bola Delano, and Jon Hallas

Others Present: Rachel Addis, Michael..., Jason Lee

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

2.0 Welcome and Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

3.0 Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by JoAnne Eckmann and seconded by Grant Davis.

4.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

Announcement

1. John Schneider reported that the Community Economic Development strategy (CEDS) report has been approved by the Cook County board. The report covers Northeastern Illinois as identified by DCEO (10 counties). Cook County representatives will be talking with EDA in the future to discuss details and potential programs. The plan is focused on objectives rather than specific projects. An EDAP board has been set up which meets on a quarterly basis and Ed Sitar a member of this committee is on the board. The report will be made available on the Cook County website and the CMAP website later this month.
2. Rand Haas informed members of a Small Business Resource Fair to be held at Northern Illinois University, Hoffman Estates campus on Tuesday April 6, 2010.

5.0 Staff Report

Staff reported that CMAP in partnership with UIC will host a Grants Academy workshop at the ComEd facility in Oakbrook on Thursday April 15th 2010.10.00am-4.00pm.

6.0 Chairman Report

Following up on the discussion about innovation at the last meeting, the chairman informed members that Will County CED has engaged a consultant to conduct some research of competing companies and organizations around the nation. In the research they are finding a huge emphasis is being placed on innovation in business operations, talent pools with special expertise on the practices. He urged members to recognize that the region has an opportunity to push its agenda in the right way particularly in marketing innovative opportunities here and identifying who's doing what.

7.0 GOTO 2040 Update

7.1 Staff gave a brief overview on Major capital projects. Bob Dean referred to a memo which was distributed earlier and went through the process, concluding that that this was a federal requirement for the long range plan. His detailed explanation gave clarity about the different projects and how they were divided into fiscally constrained and unconstrained projects. The focus of this process for choosing capital projects was mainly about adding to major transportation systems and rail, arterial routes and bus lanes were not considered capital in this process. Fiscally constrained projects were identified as projects where the money was available and unconstrained would be implemented if money were available. He highlighted that it was estimated that \$385b would be available by 2040 but that the first set of projects identified in the memo amount to \$10.5b. He went on further to explain that all the modeling in developing these priority projects were consistent with the regional scenario, individual evaluations, economic and revenue impacts as well as congestion reductions. He requested input from the group so that their comments could be included in the final report that will be presented to the board at the May/June meeting.

The discussion focused on aspects of the process with specific concern about how capital projects were developed. Bill Browne referred to the unconstrained list and said that most of the projects are considered priorities in the region and demonstrate the need for public private partnerships. It was suggested by Angie Powell that a third set of projects should be identified, defined as necessary projects and these should be prioritized as money becomes available. In response Bob Dean explained that being in the unconstrained list does not mean that the project is not important but that there are various phases that projects have to follow. If a project is in phase 1 for an engineering study and it is on the unconstrained list it can receive funds for design from federal government. Members spoke in detail about the assumptions that dictate growth and investments in the region, and in conclusion it was acknowledged that CMAP's role is to ensure that they conduct a credible process was important but at the same time CMAP

needs to consider the value added by other groups to close in on the gaps/silos created by funding constraints. Staff was asked to think about how they can bring the private sector to the table to discuss these projects as well. Judith Kossy asked a question about performance benchmarks. Bob Dean identified a few that have been used, some of which included, gross number of hours in travel reduced, congestion reduction etc but he also informed members that most of the benchmarks are difficult to define and understand.

8.0 Innovation

There was a brief discussion about the role of CMAP in Innovation. Staff was asked for an update on the partnership meetings being scheduled across the region. Members suggested that the freight industry would be a good industry to assess. CMAP staff was asked to continue to schedule meetings as it was crucial to the focus of the group, but most importantly incorporating innovation in the plan is essential to promoting the culture of innovation across the region. Although Brian was absent, Tracey Bosman asked for a one page recap with up to date information on meetings scheduled to be presented at the next meeting.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 am. Motion made by Consuella Brown and seconded by Dr Robert Gleeson

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee will be held on **Tuesday, April 27 2010 at 9:00am** in the CMAP offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Rademacher
Staff Liaison

04-19-10