

Integration & Innovation Summit II

Integrating Energy, Infrastructure, Land Use, Health & Economic Prosperity with Climate Change Issues

Proposed Date: October, 2007

Summit II Summary

CMAP is developing a 'Climate Change Regional Program Strategy' based on the creation of an educational and outreach program to assist communities in the region with understanding the issues that climate change may bring to their communities, and to connect with the larger great lakes region on issues of broader regional significance that will impact northeastern Illinois. Communities around the region will be looking to protect their standards of living and resources in the face of ever increasing pressures. Issues include energy costs and use; developing alternative energy distribution infrastructure networks; protecting the health of our population, our functional ecosystems and natural resources; and sustaining the economic vitality of our business community.

We see this Summit II as an opportunity to not only provide information to the region on the causes and effects that climate change will have to our way of life and our economy, but to also create a dialogue in the region that will assist CMAP and its partners with developing strategies on how best to serve the region in addressing business and economic impacts and health and infrastructure issues that will begin to be defined by climate change in a way that we have not experienced before.

Some Questions to Answer/ Presentations to be Given:

- How are we as communities impacted by global energy and economic responses, and how can we as communities act to protect our regions wealth and prosperity?
- What would a regional program look like?
- What tools/programs/resources can we as a regional agency provide to communities that most effectively address their needs?
- How can the integration of land use and transportation planning most effectively address these issues?
- How are we using energy, where is it coming from, and how does our infrastructure distribute it?
- If we want to use alternative sources of energy, what are the limits of our current infrastructure and where do we, as a region, need to invest?
- How will global climate change affect our regional access to energy resources in the future?
- How will our water supplies and ecosystems be impacted?
- What is the current state of the research, and what are our data needs?
- What type of activities would be most cost effective and provide the most benefit?
- How will these activities be funded?
- How do the concepts of adaptation and conservation fit together as strategic directions?
- What are our state, our region and other communities doing?

Summit II Steering Committee

We propose setting up a Summit II steering committee to assist with Summit II planning. We anticipate the steering committee to consist of at least one individual from each of the CMAP working committees plus other regional partners such as the Illinois Municipal League, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, non-profit/advocacy organizations, resource agencies, and research institutions.

The steering committee will be responsible for assisting with summit content, subject matter experts for presentations, summit funding and sponsors, collaborative partnerships, and communication strategy for the development of the 'Climate Change Regional Program Strategy' web page incorporating a regional calendar of events and resources, interactive wiki, and blog.

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