



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Human Services Committee Minutes from Monday November 19th, 2007

In Attendance:

Members:

Phil Smith	DuPage County Community Services
Candace King	Dupage Federation of Human Services
Bob Gleeson	Northern Illinois University
Tammy Wierciak	Metropolitan Mayors Caucus/Council of Mayors
Laurie Dittman	MOPD, City of Chicago
Jim Lewis	Chicago Community Trust
Lorrie Lynn	United Way of Metro Chicago

Guest:

Ted Byers	United Way of Lake County
Erin Willrett	Kane County Council of Mayors
Lorrie Lynn	United Way of Metro Chicago
Joan Frankel	MCIC
Beb Jans	CDT
Pat Hayden	Age Options

CMAP Staff:

Russell Pietrowiak	CMAP Staff
Bob Dean	CMAP Staff
Shana Alford	CMAP Staff
Andrew Williams-Clark	CMAP Staff

The Human Services Committee meeting commenced at 10:06am.

1.0 Introductions

The meeting began with those in attendance introducing themselves to one another.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes.

The minutes from the October 15th meeting were approved.

3.0 Comments from the Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chairman expressed the need for more clarity on Developments of Regional Importance (DRI). Clarity would include definition, explanation of relevant processes and examples from other regions. Bob Dean explained CMAP is early in the process of defining but that CMAP staff work would at minimum describe regional impacts of DRIs.

4.0 Comprehensive Regional Plan:

4.1 Regional Vision Development

Bob Dean gave a brief presentation placing vision development within the context of workflow of the overall RCP, inviting the committee to give feedback via email as well as at meetings. The Vice Chair began a discussion about the use of “disabled status” in vision language, but Laurie Dittman said that the disabled community would rather CMAP continue to use the term. Sheri Cohen suggested that language should be changed to express that the region will have met vision goals by 2040. For example “strengthening” should be changed to “strong.” The committee also discussed adding “healthcare access” to the vision statements. Bob Dean and Russell Pietrowiak offered to conduct a visioning exercise to help facilitate committee revisions to the vision statements at the next meeting. An email would be sent out after the meeting soliciting topics for the visioning exercise.

4.2 Strategic Analysis

Bob Dean discussed strategy research within the context of the overall development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The strategies are step three in the development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Bob Dean and Russell Pietrowiak asked for input on which Human Services strategies would be worthy of research. It was mentioned that issues such as law enforcement, healthcare, education, etc. are important and could be potential strategies. It was also mentioned that Human Services capacity could be a strategy. Another potential strategy that was suggested dealt with the coordination of services and the ease of which clients may be referred for or receive services. Strategies to create a more coordinated, responsive and efficient system may be worth considering. Some suggestions were to look into 311 systems, the system that is in place in Rochester Minnesota, etc. There was also some discussion regarding the need to develop strategies that can build human capital. Home ownership training, education and job training, etc. were discussed. The notion that schools could play a larger role as being a place either to provide Human Services (such as during non-school hours) or to disseminate information so that people know what type of services are available in the community was also discussed. The committee suggested that CMAP should research completing a human services infrastructure, capacity building, collaboration, agency coordination, support systems to build up individuals, removing administrative barriers to collaboration, creating an intake information referral system, hunger reduction, homelessness reduction, human services capital improvement and using schools as service providers among other things. It was also decided that this topic needed further exploration so that the appropriate strategies could be clearly identified. A list of indicators that each strategy would be evaluated with to determine what if any impacts they would have was disseminated and discussed. The

impacts would be something akin to either there is an impact (positive or negative) or there isn't an impact on a specific indicator.

4.3 Update on Aging and Ethnicity Snapshot Report

The update was tabled

5.0 Human Services Committee Information:

5.1 Define Human Services

Candace King shared a definition with the committee, which focused on services that are in support of vulnerable populations. The committee discussed using Candace's definition as a baseline. Jim Lewis added that he would include the following language "wellbeing of the general population with a focus on those most vulnerable" and "quality of life." Russell Pietrowiak explained that CMAP considers the purview of the Human Services committee to go beyond the traditional definition of Human Services and deal not just with vulnerable or disadvantaged populations but also with areas that affect the general public as well. Education, healthcare, law enforcement, etc. were given as examples. Jim Lewis then posed a question as to what is excluded from human services. It was noted that the definition of human services may not ultimately drive the work of the committee.

Russell Pietrowiak asked committee members to submit their ideas about defining human services to him before the next meeting so that this topic could be discussed at the next meeting. It was also agreed that the definition that Candace provided could serve as a starting point to begin this discussion.

5.2 Baseline data discussion.

The discussion was tabled due to lack of time.

5.0 Other:

A brief discussion regarding committee membership and makeup took place. It was decided that the committee membership would like to have name plates produced for the next meeting.

6.0 Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for December 10th at 10:00am at CMAP.

8.0 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:50