



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Agenda Item No. 3.0

233 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 800  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

312 454 0400  
www.cmap.illinois.gov

## Freight Committee

Minutes

February 3, 2014

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
DuPage County Conference Room  
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

**Members Present:** Adrian Guerrero, Randy Thomas, Herbert Smith, Joe Alonzo, David Chandler, Chalen Daigle (via phone), Kevin Donahue, Reggie Greenwood, Adam Rod, Kazuya Kawamura, John Yonan, Alicia Hanlon, Jim LaBelle, Dean Mentjes, Libby Ogard, and Deanna Smith (via phone)

**Staff Present:** Alex Beata, Tom Murtha, Emily Plagman, Jacki Murdock, Matt Maloney

**Others Present:** Mike Sullivan (Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors), Mike Klemens (Will County Governmental League), Elaine McKenzie (Cambridge Systematics), Brian Rademacher (IDOT), Laurence Rohter (IIT), Jim Messmore (Hanson Professional Services)

### 1.0 Call to Order

Freight Committee, Adrian Guerrero, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

### 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes. Mr. Beata introduced himself as acting staff liaison to the Freight Committee.

### 3.0 Draft Primary Freight Network

Mr. Murtha provided an overview of CMAP's comments to the draft Primary Freight Network (PFN) released by FHWA in November 2013. He provided an overview of the PFN as provided in MAP-21, an overview of the draft PFN released by FHWA, and an overview of CMAP staff's approach to commenting on the PFN, which resulted in the development of two scenarios. Mr. Murtha answered questions from the Committee about specific routes, "first and last mile" issues, and the relationship between the PFN and the National Freight Network also established by MAP-21. The committee also discussed the PFN from the perspective of the rail industry.

### 4.0 Major MPO Coordination Efforts

Mr. Beata provided an overview of CMAP staff's efforts to coordinate with other major metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) on freight policy topics. Specifically, staff

have worked with the major MPOs to develop a (1) joint comment letter on the draft PFN and (2) freight policy principles in anticipation of federal transportation reauthorization.

The joint comment letter on the PFN echoes many of the policy concerns included in CMAP staff's comment on the PFN, including the need for local consultation in developing a PFN, the need to take a more comprehensive and multimodal approach, and the eventual goal of tying an improved PFN to funding decisions.

The reauthorization principles include three components: (1) integrate metropolitan regions into the freight investment decision-making process, (2) dedicate a range of funding sources for freight improvements, and (3) redefine the national freight network to comprise a multimodal transportation system.

Mr. Beata answered questions from the Committee about interregional planning and state freight advisory committees.

#### **5.0 Regional Freight Leadership Task Force**

Mr. Beata provided a status update on the ongoing Regional Freight Leadership Task Force. He first provided background on the origin of the Task Force, its scope, and its membership. He then provided a summary of each of the Task Force's three meetings to date, which have focused on the economic importance of freight to metropolitan Chicago, case studies of regional freight governance in other parts of the country, and potential institutional models.

#### **6.0 Other Business**

Committee members mentioned other topics. Ms. Ogard mentioned the Multistate Corridor Operations and Management (MCOM) program, which focuses on a corridor approach to freight issues generally along the I-90 corridor, and noted the lack of participation from Illinois agencies. Mr. LaBelle noted the NAFTA NEXT conference will be held in Chicago in late April 2014, and also noted the establishment of the Supply-chain Innovation Network of Chicago (SINC), a business-led group that will operate as a non-profit and focus on freight issues in the region. Mr. Smith noted a recent article in a regional business journal that highlighted the complexity of the goods movement process and focused on the operations of one of the Freight Committee member's organizations. The Committee also discussed the implementation of the Brownfields Redevelopment and Intermodal Promotion Act, which was passed by the Illinois General Assembly in 2013.

#### **7.0 Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

#### **8.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on call.

#### **9.0 Adjournment**

The Task Force adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Beata, CMAP Staff