



Citizens' Advisory Committee

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

4:00 p.m.

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

Lake County Conference Room

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Members Present: Lulu Blacksmith, Martin Egan (via phone), Kevin Ivers, John Knoelk, Valerie F. Leonard, Ken Nelson (via phone), Stephanie Presseller, Faye Sinnott (via phone), Ulises Zatarain (via phone).

Members Absent: Jeniffer Artis, Thomas Jacobs, Wendy W. Williams.

Staff Present: Erin Aleman, Ricardo Lopez, Kendra Smith.

Others Present: Ed Barry (LDC-LMCC), John Bartman (Illinois Department of Transportation), Ben Brockschmidt (Illinois Chamber of Commerce), Bruce Carmitchel (Illinois Department of Transportation), Mark Copeland (Illinois Department of Transportation), Charles Gallagher (Gallagher Asphalt), Mike Keller (Aldridge Electric) Michael Kleinik (LDC-LMCC), Deb Spencer (Metropolitan Planning Council), Mike Sturino (Illinois Road Transportation Builders Association).

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Meeting started at approximately 4:07 p.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Agenda was amended to place Item 5.0, Proposed Amendment to GO TO 2040 –Illiana Corridor, at beginning of agenda, as Item 3.0, for guests' purposes.

2.1 CMAP is currently seeking [applications](#) for this year's Future Leaders in Planning (FLIP) program. Students who will be sophomores, juniors, or seniors in the 2013-14 school year are eligible. The final deadline for applications is September 23. For more information, contact Ricardo Lopez (rlopez@cmap.illinois.gov or 312-386-8766).

3.0 Proposed Amendment to GO TO 2040 –Illiana Corridor

CMAP received a formal request from IDOT to consider inclusion of the proposed [Illiana Expressway](#) as a fiscally constrained major capital project in the GO TO 2040 comprehensive regional plan. Under federal regulation, this proposed facility must be included in GO TO 2040 in order to complete the upcoming Tier 2 Environmental Impact Statement. The memo describes the status of the project, and details a number of elements and metrics included in the analyses of GO TO 2040. CMAP is currently seeking comment on the [proposed amendment](#) through September 3, 2013.

Committee members discussed a number of items related to the Illiana’s proposed inclusion of GO TO 2040, including: the discrepancy between IDOT’s and CMAP’s cost analysis, the lawsuit, the timing of the proposal, inclusion of alternative modes of transportation, and the structure of the Public-Private Partnership.

4.0 Review of Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Applications

CMAP received 67 applications during the 2014 call for projects, which ended June 26, 2013. This year, CMAP held a joint call for projects with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). Presently, staff is following up with each applicant to better understand project proposals. Final recommendations will be brought to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee in October.

Committee members discussed the importance of selecting multijurisdictional projects. It was also suggested that CMAP may want to coordinate with IDOT’s state-wide bicycle planning efforts, given the number of bicycle and pedestrian plans that were submitted to the LTA program. The committee was encouraged to visit www.cmap.illinois.gov/Ita/call-for-projects for a [summary](#) of applications.

5.0 CMAP Fair Housing & Equity Assessment (FHEA)

CMAP staff provided an overview of the Regional Fair Housing & Equity Assessment (FHEA), a requirement of the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant (which funds the LTA program). CMAP contracted with the Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance (CAFHA) for this work and has been underway for one year.

While the document is required by HUD, its primary audience is local officials. The purpose of the report is to make the case that affirmatively furthering fair housing is an important goal that will improve economic prosperity and quality of life in our region. To achieve this goal, it will require collaboration between local governments, fair housing advocacy organizations, and regional agencies like CMAP.

Committee members raised concerns about affordable housing being the solution to creating more inclusive communities. Members were also interested in the process for distribution of final report to key housing groups. Staff described the report not as a solution to fair housing but rather an assessment of the region. It is a first step for having a coordinated process with many of the normal players engaged as CAFHA board

members. CMAP staff will continue to reach each individual member once final report is complete.

Click [here](#) to view the draft report.

6.0 Potential Agenda Items for November 12, 2013

CMAP staff proposed an overview presentation of the draft Immigrant Integration Toolkit, which should be ready for review at the November 12th committee meeting.

7.0 Member Updates

Faye Sinnot participated in a webinar that talked about a sustainable infrastructure rating system tool that could be of use to CMAP. Faye will follow up with more information on this sustainable tool, and other best practices in the California metro areas.

John Knoelk described current ongoing work with implementation of the Fairmont Comprehensive Plan. These include an ongoing bid process for the construction of a 500 ft. long sidewalk, and a community garden project being led by a group of seniors.

8.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

9.0 Public Comment

Ben Brockschmidt, Illinois Chamber of Commerce: The Illiana Corridor is the best thing for the State of Illinois moving forward. Particularly, the impact it will have on freight traffic coming from Wisconsin, Iowa, and the closer regions of the state.

Bruce Carmitchel, IDOT: Encourages CAC members to visit the project website (www.illiana.org) for more information on the project. The funding is cloudy at the moment because this is something Illinois is doing for the first time. Indiana has already been doing Public-Private Partnerships but Illinois has not. This is a major reason why they need to keep a lot of things confidential. It is unique to us, and across the country there has been success and failures that are being looked at. The website highlights best practices.

Charles Gallagher, Gallagher Asphalt: Strongly encourages the proposed amendment to include the Illiana Corridor project in GO TO 2040. The region desperately needs the jobs and access. Public-Private Partnership is very different than what Illinois is used to. It would not be much of a push on other projects. Mr. Gallagher provided a letter of public comment on the Illiana to CMAP at the meeting.

Mike Sturino, ILRTBA: They do not support any project that does not make any sense to people of the community and the economy. The CMAP build scenario numbers seem low for a major corridor. The gross regional product seems on the low side given the freight logistics, hotel, housing, and restaurants that will come with the construction. The freight

trail analysis highlights tremendous advantages. It is truly welcome by the trucking community. It will alleviate congestion from surrounding roads and increase their lifespan. MAP 21 was put in place to streamline many things. It is a great time to get more projects like this one. This will be a much needed, logical freight corridor. Millions of people will benefit from the project. Listen to actual concerns and take another look. ILRTBA will submit comments.

10.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CMAP Citizens' Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lake County Room at CMAP.

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.