



## Regional Coordinating Committee

### Minutes

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Cook County Conference Room

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800

Chicago, Illinois

#### Committee Members

##### Present:

Elliott Hartstein, Chair (CMAP Board), Frank Beal (City of Chicago- CMAP Board), Pat Carey (Cook County-Economic Development Cmte.), Michael Connelly (CTA – Transportation Committee), Sheri Cohen (Human & Community Development Committee), Jack Darin (Sierra Club – Environment and Natural Resources Committee), Al Larson (Cook County – CMAP Board), Ed Paesel (South Suburban Mayors & Managers Assoc.-Land Use Cmte.), and Thomas Weisner (Kane/Kendall Counties- CMAP Board, Nancy Firfir (Metropolitan Planning Council – Housing Committee)

##### Members Absent:

Roger Claar (Will County- CMAP Board), Peter Silvestri (Cook County- CMAP Board), Al Larson (Northwest Cook County- CMAP Board), Jack Darin – Sierra Club, Andrew Madigan (City of Chicago- CMAP Board), Leanne Redden (CMAP Board)

##### Others Present:

Chris Staron – Northwest Municipal Conference

##### Staff Present:

Dolores Dowdle, Drew Williams-Clark, Don Kopec, Randy Blankenhorn, Jill Leary, Jesse Elam, Lindsay Hollander, Simone Weil, Gordon Smith, Patricia Berry, Elizabeth Schuh, Alex Beata, Jason Navota, Doug Ferguson, Justine Reisinger

#### 1.0 Call to Order

Elliott Hartstein called the meeting to order at 8:12 am and asked committee members to introduce themselves. Mr. Elam introduced himself as the staff liaison taking over for Matt Maloney, who had relocated to California.

#### 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

### **3.0 Approval of Minutes – March 12, 2014**

It was noted that the Transportation Committee representative at the March meeting was David Kralik from Metra, not Michael Connelly from CTA. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting as amended. All in favor, the motion carried.

### **4.0 Unified Work Program**

Dolores Dowdle briefly summarized the projects to be funded under the FY 15 Unified Work Program (UWP), which lists the planning projects the transportation agencies in the region will undertake with federal funding in the upcoming year. A motion was made to recommend CMAP Board approval of the FY 15 UWP and seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

### **5.0 GO TO 2040 Update**

Drew Williams-Clark provided an update on the GO TO 2040 update, which is required by October under federal law, referencing a PowerPoint presentation. He indicated that the update would consider preferred transportation investments, revisit actions needed to implement the plan, and reevaluate indicators and targets. He noted that a policy supporting congestion pricing had been discussed with CMAP's governing boards and was part of the plan update. Summarizing progress toward meeting the targets, he noted that implementation of CREATE is on track to meet its target. He also discussed the major capital project list, which had not changed beyond the amendment of two projects in 2013 and the completion of three projects since 2010. Under the Livable Communities heading, he indicated that the CMAP partnership with the RTA Community Planning Program continued, and that the Local Technical Assistance program at CMAP would strive to focus more resources on implementation activities. Meeting open space targets continues to be important. Under Human Capital, Mr. Williams-Clark referenced recent CMAP work on economic development incentives and their role in changing business locations. He also noted that CMAP had transitioned some of its broad data offerings in Metropulse to products that are useful to a more tailored audience. During questions, a committee member noted that the update was silent on the question of using congestion pricing to support transit; he suggested that CMAP look into policy recommendation in collaboration with the RTA.

### **6.0 O'Hare Subregional Freight-Manufacturing Drill-Down Report**

Liz Schuh gave an update on the latest in the series of drill-down reports developed by CMAP, this one describing needs and opportunities related to the freight and manufacturing industry clusters around O'Hare airport. She referenced a PowerPoint. She noted that the two main manufacturing areas are in regional processing, such as metal stamping, and in globally traded final goods. She indicated that interviews with stakeholders and CMAP analysis suggested a need for improved truck routes between industrial areas and that on the south side of O'Hare there were flooding issues that stood in the way of business development. Buildings were found to be not as modernized as in other industrial areas. The major recommendations from the study were to support workforce training, coordinate stormwater management efforts, plan

for truck routing, and to prepare a multijurisdictional development plan in support of the area. There were no questions from the committee.

#### **7.0 Preview of Economic Indicators**

Simone Weil gave a preview of a new “microsite” to provide information on economic indicators in the Chicago area, particularly going beyond the few indicators that are widely-cited by the media and policy makers and providing a deeper analysis. The site will focus on four economic themes and will be a forum for ongoing analysis, including staff policy updates and other information. Ms. Weil gave a demonstration of how the site works. A member asked why the microsite would not be connected to MetroPulse. Ms. Weil responded that the two websites would be linked.

#### **8.0 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program**

Jesse Elam gave an update on the results of CMAP’s process review on the CMAQ funding program, referring to a PowerPoint. He indicated that staff was proposing to streamline some of the analysis done through the CMAP focus groups in previous years and use a point system to rank projects on multiple other factors in addition to the traditional air quality measure. A committee member asked about whether Phase I Engineering would be funded. Mr. Elam said the intention was to continue to have applicants complete Phase I Engineering before being eligible for CMAQ. The same member asked whether a middle position could be found for some applicants, particularly municipalities. Another member noted that CMAP had been looking into another fund source for that purpose, and Mr. Elam said CMAP had applied for a TIGER grant to provide funding to applicants specifically to do Phase I Engineering.

#### **9.0 Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **10.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **11.0 Next Meeting**

The Regional Coordinating Committee meets next on October 8, 2014.

#### **12.0 Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn was made and seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

*Approved as presented, October 8, 2014*