



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Freight Committee

Minutes

September 22, 2014

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

Members Present: Joe Alonzo, David Chandler, Kevin Donahue, Reggie Greenwood, Adrian Guerrero, Alicia Hanlon, Kazuya Kawamura, Mike Klemens, Dean Mentjes, DeAnna Smith, Randy Thomas, Doug Whitley, John Yonan

Staff Present: Alex Beata, Randy Blankenhorn, Tom Murtha, Jacki Murdock, Elizabeth Schuh, Simone Weil

Others Present: Kristen Andersen (Metra), María Choca Urban (Cook County), Carlee Clymer (Parsons Brinckerhoff), Sheena Frève (UIC-UTC), John Loper (DuPage County DOT), Mary Lupa (Parsons Brinckerhoff), Brian Rademacher (IDOT), Brian Umbright (Bowman Barrett)

1.0 Call to Order

Freight Committee Co-Chairman, Randy Thomas, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2014

Ms. Hanlon moved to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Yonan. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

3.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

4.0 New Members

Mr. Beata noted five new members to the Freight Committee: Mr. Brockschmidt, Mr. Burton, Mr. Klemens, Mr. Resendiz, and Mr. Whitley. Mr. Klemens and Mr. Whitley each briefly introduced himself to the committee.

5.0 National Highway System (NHS) Update

Mr. Murtha introduced the history of the NHS, its regulatory requirements and eligibility for federal funds, and its expansion under MAP-21 to include all principal arterials. He also reviewed the change in intermodal facilities in the region over time, noting the consolidation of facilities in the core of the region and the expansion of facilities in the periphery of the region.

Mr. Murtha then briefed the committee on revisions to the NHS intermodal connectors currently under review and noted that final approvals to these revisions are expected in early 2015. Mr. Alonzo asked about the net change to the NHS system and Mr. Murtha responded that the revisions were mainly edits to the enhanced NHS system required by MAP-21. Dr. Kawamura asked about the process for the review, and Mr. Murtha responded that staff has consulted with stakeholders and would be consulting other committees, with CMAP approval by the MPO Policy Committee. Once MPO approval is obtained, the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration must also approve the proposed changes

6.0 Freight Provisions in Federal Reauthorization Proposals

Ms. Murdock briefed the committee on freight provisions included in two federal reauthorization proposals: the Administration's GROW AMERICA Act and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee's MAP-21 Reauthorization Act. The GROW AMERICA Act would provide a funding increase, including \$10 billion for freight improvements, split equally between competitive and formula programs. The MAP-21 Reauthorization Act would create a core funding program for freight, revise the National Freight Network, and continue the PNRS program within the Highway Trust Fund.

7.0 Results of Municipal Survey

Mr. Beata briefed the committee on the results of the four freight-related questions included in the biennial 2014 Municipal Survey. These questions focused on freight challenges, regulation of overnight deliveries, regulation of on-street truck parking, and recent or ongoing freight initiatives. Mr. Beata noted that impacts on pavements and inadequate turning radii were frequently-cited challenges, a range of regulations for overnight deliveries were reported, and municipalities commonly prohibit truck parking on all or some roads. He also noted that respondents identified a wide array of freight initiatives are planned around specific or unspecified capital projects, regulatory and operational issues, land use and development issues, and general concerns.

Mr. Chandler asked why the survey didn't do more to link freight to economic development. Mr. Beata responded that other questions in the survey addressed planning for economic development, and Mr. Murtha added that the four questions were selected to concentrate on issues with greater impact on economic development at the local level.

Dr. Kawamura noted a past study at UIC that surveyed truckers and suggested a combined municipal-industry survey in the future. The Committee expressed an interest in receiving more detailed analysis of the survey results, for example weighted by size, summarized by geographic location, or categorized into municipal "typologies".

8.0 Regional Freight Leadership Task Force

Mr. Beata presented on the proceedings and final recommendations of the Regional Freight Leadership Task Force. In response to GO TO 2040, the CMAP Board convened the Task Force last year to investigate issues of regional governance and funding for the freight system. In its final report, the Task Force called on the region to engage in robust, multimodal freight planning, to develop dedicated regional sources of revenue drawn

from user fees, and to use these revenues to implement projects and programs identified in the regional freight plan.

The Committee asked about next steps regarding freight planning. Mr. Beata responded that staff intended to pursue this recommendation through the Freight Planning Framework.

9.0 Freight Planning Framework

Mr. Murtha provided some background on the growth of freight resources and policy at CMAP over the past several years. He then briefed the Committee on the outlines for developing a regional freight plan over the next three years. In the coming year, staff intends to determine the types of projects and programs to be analyzed, as well as the methodologies to analyze these projects and programs. Staff also intends to better define questions and research methodologies related to funding and programming issues.

The Committee discussed a number of emerging issues to be considered in the upcoming freight planning process. Mr. Greenwood noted the rapid advances in technology and innovative approaches to managing supply chains. A member of the audience asked about CMAP's freight modeling capabilities, and Mr. Murtha noted the development of CMAP's supply chain and tour-based model, as well as recent staff interest in acquiring data to validate the model. Mr. Chandler expressed an interest in more directly linking CMAP's freight work with economic development. Mr. Murtha and Ms. Schuh referred to other CMAP efforts such as the development of the Regional Economic Indicators webpage and noted that this work can be brought before the Committee. Ms. Hanlon asked about the relationship between the regional planning process and the various state, federal, and other local planning processes. Staff responded that they follow these efforts and can bring them to the Committee as needed. Dr. Kawamura expressed an interest in developing a best practices manual for municipal regulation of freight.

10.0 Freight Policy Updates

Ms. Murdock briefed the Committee on two upcoming Policy Update series. The first will review high-level freight trends related to CMAP's economic development indicators. These trends include overall flows of freight to and from the region, intermodalism, and challenges facing the regional freight system. The second series will look at major regulatory issues that affect trucking operations in northeastern Illinois, including routing, permitting, parking, and delivery management.

11.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the Committee.

12.0 Public Comment

Mr. Loper asked about CMAP's engagement with the recently announced Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership. Ms. Weil responded that CMAP is working with the infrastructure team for that initiative and can keep the Committee apprised of developments. Mr. Greenwood shared that Cook County has received a grant from the State to look into technological innovations related to freight in south Cook County, as

well as impediments to redevelopment of industrial properties along rail lines. Maria Choca Urban informed the Committee of that Cook County is developing a long-range transportation plan, as well as a county freight analysis. And Mr. Chandler shared that a request for proposals will be issued for a pilot project under the Brownfields Redevelopment and Intermodal Promotion Act.

13.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be November 17, 2014.

14.0 Adjournment

The Task Force adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Beata, CMAP Staff