



CHICAGO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

MEETING OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE
to be held at the

CHICAGO AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Cook County Conference Room

Thursday, January 11, 2007
10:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. OLD BUSINESS

**A. Approval of Minutes for
November 13, 2006**

The minutes were previously mailed.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval by Policy Committee

B. Council of Mayors' Report

C. Executive Director's Report

D. Memorandum of Understanding

Staff from IDOT and CMAP have made progress in finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding. Since this has not been completed, staff will update the committee on the current status, with adoption to be considered at a future Policy Committee meeting to be called by the Secretary. February 8th or 13th are now being looked at as possible dates for this meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Meeting the Requirements of SAFETEA-LU for the Regional Transportation Plan

Under the proposed planning regulations, the region is required to have a SAFETEA-LU compliant plan by July 1, 2007. Staff will update the Committee on the progress made to date in satisfying this requirement.

B. Self-Certification of the Planning Process

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of Resolution 07-01

On an annual basis, the MPO is required to certify that the planning process is addressing major issues facing the area and is being conducted in accordance with federal laws and regulations. Northeastern Illinois' transportation planning process is documented in the Unified Work Program, the Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan.

The Work Program Committee has recommended that the Policy Committee self-certify the planning process.

C. Bylaws Committee

ACTION REQUESTED

Activate the Bylaws Committee

With the emergence of CMAP, the By-Laws of CATS will need to be revised. The current Bylaws call for a ninety-day comment period after proposed changes are presented to the Committee. The schedule proposed is for the Bylaws Committee to make recommendations at the March Policy Committee. This would start the ninety-day comment period. The proposed bylaws would then be considered by the Policy Committee at the June meeting.

D. CMAQ Program

At the last meeting of the Policy Committee, a number of issues were raised concerning the CMAQ program. Staff will update the Committee on the progress made addressing these issues. As requested additional reports detailing the CMAQ program are included in the mailing.

E. Legislative Update

Staff will update the Committee of various legislative initiatives at the federal, state and regional level.

F. Urban Partnership Agreement

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is soliciting applications from metropolitan areas for "Urban Partnership Agreements: as part of its *National Strategy to Reduce Congestion on America's Transportation Network* ("Congestion Initiative"). According to the *Federal Register* notice soliciting applications, an urban partnership agreement will facilitate local demonstration of effective congestion relief strategies by establishing priorities for discretionary funding, regulatory flexibility and federal technical resources for Partnerships. CMAP staff anticipates that an Urban Partnership Agreement in metropolitan Chicago would be multi-modal and involve several partner agencies. In addition, separate funding applications, likely by partner agencies, may be necessary for specific programs including *Intelligent Transportation Systems Funding* and the *Value Pricing Pilot Program*. Applications are due in April. Policy Committee direction is requested.

G. SIP Development for NOx and PM_{2.5}

The State of Illinois is preparing a State Implementation Plan (SIP) to demonstrate that northeastern Illinois and the Metro East area will attain the 8-hour ozone air quality standard by 2010. The SIP approval deadline is June, 2007. CMAP staff is reviewing IEPA emissions estimates to determine whether or not the region can meet the anticipated budgets for volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides. Staff will present the potential issues surrounding this difference.

The State is also preparing a SIP for the annual fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) standard. The deadline for this SIP is April, 2008; the review of anticipated budgets will be conducted later this year.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

V. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting is March 8, 2007, with a special meeting likely in February.

VI. ADJOURNMENT