



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Agenda Item No. 2.0

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Freight Committee

Minutes

November 17, 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, Jennifer Becker (for Mike Klemens), Ben Brockschmidt, David Chandler, Kevin Donahue, Adrian Guerrero, Alicia Hanlon, Kazuya Kawamura, John Loper, Libby Ogard, Adam Rod, DeAnna Smith, Randy Thomas, Tom Vander Woude (for Reggie Greenwood)

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

Others Present: Kristen Andersen (Metra), María Choca Urban (Cook County), Lisa Dziekan (Metro Strategies), Sheena Frève (UIC-UTC), Ed Parks (Metro Strategies), Mary Elisabeth Pitz (MEP&A), Brian Rademacher (IDOT), Erika Witzke (Cambridge Systematics)

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 – September 22, 2014

Mr. Guerrero moved to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Alonzo. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

3.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

4.0 Review Freight Committee Agenda for FY 2015

Mr. Beata briefed the Committee on the expected work plan for the remainder of FY 2015. Over the winter, the Committee will consider the policy components of the freight planning framework; policy updates regarding freight volumes, intermodalism, and truck routing; federal and state legislative updates, as appropriate; and other items. Over the spring, the Committee will consider the programming components of the freight planning framework; policy updates on truck permitting, truck parking and off-hours delivery, and general freight challenges; federal and state legislative updates, and other items.

5.0 Review of CMAP's Freight-Manufacturing Nexus Report

Ms. Weil provided a brief overview of the Freight-Manufacturing Nexus Report, which was published in August 2013. The report notes that the region's economy is specialized

in both manufacturing and freight, and that these two sectors complement each other to drive economic growth in the region. The rich transportation infrastructure in northeastern Illinois, coupled with supporting logistics industries, boosts accessibility and lowers costs for the region's manufacturers.

6.0 Cook County Long Range Transportation Plan

Ms. Choca Urban gave a presentation on the development of Cook County's long-range transportation plan. The visioning process to date has identified goals for economic opportunity, accessibility and reliability, safety, land use, environmental stewardship, and implementation. To assist the planning process, the County has developed four scenarios reflecting varying levels of investment in capital and collaboration among stakeholders, along with different patterns of economic development and land use development. Ms. Choca Urban also briefed the Committee on four transportation projects related to freight that the County is currently facilitating in the south suburbs, as well as the County's RFQ for a countywide freight analysis.

Mr. Thomas asked about the status of the four projects in the south suburbs, and Mr. Guerrero asked about projects under development elsewhere in the county. Ms. Choca Urban noted that the four projects are along various stages of development, ranging from an RFP to preconstruction activities, and she also listed several other efforts in the county. Committee members also asked about the County's public outreach efforts, which to date have gathered responses from 1,600 people, and commended the County for its increased leadership in implementing the CREATE program.

7.0 Freight Planning Framework

Mr. Beata reviewed the freight planning framework project, which is intended to lay the groundwork for an upcoming regional freight plan. This framework will tackle policy and programming issues, with the current focus being on the former. The goal is to first identify a universe of potential projects and programs for study, then to identify methodologies to study the selected projects and programs, and finally to consider combining the projects and programs to support regional policy goals, such as those identified in GO TO 2040. Mr. Beata reviewed the staff memo, which identified potential projects and programs, organized into three categories: operational programs, regulatory reforms, and capital projects.

The Committee had a robust and lengthy conversation on the draft memo. While some members provided specific feedback on potential amendments or additions to the list of projects and programs, most of the discussion centered on broad policy issues such as economic development, safety, and performance measurement, as well as the overall process for developing the freight planning framework. Mr. Beata and Ms. Schuh reiterated the overall process, stressing that staff is building on the policies already identified in past planning efforts such as GO TO 2040 and the Regional Freight Leadership Task Force, and that there will be opportunities to revisit these policy recommendations as the current process continues. Mr. Beata also noted that the memo's technical focus is important to allow sufficient time to develop analytical techniques such as travel demand modeling, and again encouraged Committee members to begin

consideration of how various projects or programs could be combined to serve larger policy goals.

8.0 Freight Policy Update

Ms. Murdock reviewed the findings from a recent Policy Update analyzing data from FHWA's Freight Analysis Framework (FAF). She reviewed the origins and destinations of freight entering and leaving the region, both by tonnage and value, for truck, rail, and air modes. The findings reflect the composition of the regional economy, key trading partners, and supply chains. Mr. Brockschmidt asked about water modes, and Ms. Murdock responded that CMAP has FAF data on additional modes but selected the top three for the purposes of a brief Policy Update. Ms. Hanlon and Dr. Kawamura asked about the forecasting growth in freight flows. Ms. Schuh responded that the FAF projections are developed by FHWA. Ms. Murdock responded that CMAP is currently developing a freight model, and Mr. Murtha noted that FAF data is a primary input into that model.

9.0 Detailed Results of Municipal Survey

In the interest of time, Co-Chairman Guerrero skipped this item. He noted that the committee received a presentation on the 2014 Municipal Survey at its previous meeting in September; each committee member received a hard copy of the updated memo, which is also available on the committee's webpage.

10.0 Other Business

Mr. Guerrero notified committee members of an upcoming luncheon at the Metropolitan Planning Council focused on the CREATE program. Ms. Hanlon asked about the FUND 2040 proposal. Mr. Beata noted that a presentation could be scheduled for the January 2015 meeting of the Freight Committee. Finally, Mr. Chandler noted that Cook County is in the process of procuring a managing partner for the Brownfields Redevelopment and Intermodal Promotion Act (BRIMPA) Development Program. BRIMPA went into effect in July 2014 and provides a mechanism to support logistics and industrial economic development projects in select south suburban municipalities using growth in state income tax revenue.

11.0 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

12.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be January 26, 2015.

13.0 Adjournment

The Task Force adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Beata, CMAP Staff