



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Transportation Committee

Minutes

January 16, 2015

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

Committee Members Present: Chair Michael Connelly – CTA, Charles Abraham - IDOT DPIT, Reggie Arkell – FTA, Jennifer Becker – Kendall County, Michael Bolton – Pace, Bruce Carmitchel – IDOT OP&P, John Donovan – FHWA, Alicia Hanlon – Will County, Jessica Hector-Hsu – RTA, Scott Hennings – McHenry County, Emily Karry – Lake County, Vice Chair Sis Killen – Cook County, David Kralik – Metra, Aimee Lee – Illinois Tollway, Holly Ostdick – CMAP, Mayor Leon Rockingham – Council of Mayors, David Seglin – CDOT, Peter Skosey – MPC, Kyle Smith-CNT, Chris Snyder – DuPage County, Mike Sullivan - Kane County

Absent: John Fortmann – IDOT District One, Robert Hann – Private Providers, Adrian Guerrero – Class 1 Railroads, Randy Neufeld – Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force, Mike Rogers – IEPA, Steve Schlickman – Academic & Research, Joe Schofer – Academic & Research, Steve Strains – NIRPC, Ken Yunker – SEWRPC

Others Present: Mike Albin, Garland Armstrong, Heather Armstrong, Len Cannata, Bruce Christensen, Janell Jensen, Mike Klemens, Christina Kupkowski, Sharon Lowhim, Ashley Lucas, Kirsten Mellem, Brian Plum, Sagar Sonar, Tom VanderWoude, Mike Walczak, Tammy Wierciak, Barbara Zubek

Staff Present: Randy Blankenhorn, Patricia Berry, Claire Bozic, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Dolores Dowdle, Jesse Elam, Tom Garritano, Leroy Kos, Tom Murtha, Ross Patronskey, Liz Schuh, Gordon Smith, Joe Szabo.

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Committee Chair Michael Connelly called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Mr. Connelly introduced CMAP Senior Fellow Joe Szabo and welcomed him to CMAP. The committee congratulated Mr. Blankenhorn on his appointment to the position of Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation. Further discussion occurred under item 10.0.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2014

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2014 meeting, as presented, was made by Mayor Rockingham, seconded by Mr. Carmitchel, carried.

4.0 Coordinating Committee Reports

Mr. Connelly reported that the Regional Coordinating Committee met on January 14 and recommended approval of the ITS Architecture to the CMAP Board. The committee also received updates on Cook County's Long Range Transportation Plan development, CMAP's Economic Development report and CMAP's State Legislative agenda. He noted that the Local Coordinating Committee will meet on February 11, 2015.

5.0 FFY 2014-19 TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications

5.1 FFY 2014-19 TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications

Mr. Kos reported that TIP revisions that exceed financial amendment thresholds have been requested and administrative modifications including line items that have been awarded, moved, or deleted were provided for the committee's information. Mr. Seglin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kralik, to approve the FFY 2014-19 TIP Amendments. The motion carried.

5.2 Semi-Annual GO TO 2040/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment

Mr. Kos reported that the semi-annual conformity analysis and TIP Amendment has been prepared. He reviewed the amendments and requested that the committee release it for 30 days of public comment. Ms. Hanlon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Killen, to release the semi-annual GO TO 2040/TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendment for public comment from January 16 to February 16, 2015. The motion carried.

6.0 Unified Work Program (UWP)

Ms. Dowdle reported that a call for projects for the SFY 2016 UWP was made this month and reviewed the program development process and schedule. In response to questions from Ms. Hanlon and Mr. Snyder, Ms. Dowdle stated that the call for projects is communicated through CMAP's committee structure and posted on the CMAP website. She stated staff will review alternatives for the announcement of the call. In response to questions from Mr. Snyder, Ms. Dowdle stated that CMAP anticipates the programming mark for SFY 2016 and the allocation of funds for core and competitive proposals to be similar to the current year and that IDOT would be providing the mark later this month.

7.0 Mobility Data Visualizations

Mr. Garritano provided an overview and demonstration of the mobility data visualizations site that will be launched on January 26. In response to a question from Mr. Seglin, Mr. Garritano stated members interested in testing the site prior to the launch can be provided login credentials. In response to a question from Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garritano stated that the most recent data available for each category was used and that all sources are documented on a single page, with links to data. In response to a question from Mr. Bolton, Mr. Murtha stated that transit access for both rail and bus in the suburbs was included in the data. In response to a question from Mr. Bolton, Mr. Garritano noted that the site was developed to meet accessibility standards to the maximum extent possible, given the way the data is graphically displayed. Mr. Snyder noted that the use of the term “structurally deficient” always raises questions. Mr. Garritano stated that CMAP wanted to use the standard industry term, but recognized that the term could cause concern. To address this concern a thorough explanation of the definition of “structurally deficient” has been included in the text regarding bridge condition. Mr. Seglin noted there is some value in the use of the term to balance the understanding that while not unsafe, our infrastructure is in crisis. In response to comments from Mr. Snyder and Ms. Killen, Mr. Garritano requested that members provide contact information for their agencies’ communications and media relations staff so a consistent regional message is communicated to the media. Ms. Hanlon suggested showing the entire regional rail network in the background of the CREATE pages may be beneficial. Mr. Garritano thanked all for their comments and said he welcomed further input.

8.0 State Legislative Principles and Agenda 2015

Mr. Gordon Smith reported that on January 14 the CMAP Board approved the State Legislative Principles and Agenda documents. He reviewed the six areas that CMAP will be focusing on and reviewed key issues within those areas. In response to a question from Mr. Skosey, Mr. Smith stated that there is not current pending legislation related to any of these issues and that CMAP expects FUND 2040 to be part of broader legislative proposals. Mr. Seglin suggested convening a group of interested parties to share information on the agenda and legislative principles. In response to a question from Ms. Hanlon, Mr. Smith noted that to date there has been limited success in recruiting members of the business community, and positive responses from civic and labor communities to spearhead FUND 2040 and that CMAP is reassessing how to advance the effort given the departure of the executive director, Mr. Blankenhorn, who has been the face of the effort. Mr. Bolton noted a concern that even if the motor fuel tax is raised, the number of alternative fuel vehicles, both personal and fleet vehicles, is increasing and the insurance industry may be able to provide mileage data for those vehicles so they could pay a fair share. He also noted that when discussing public private partnership (P3) projects, CMAP should keep in mind that P3 is used not just for transportation related infrastructure. Mr. Smith stated that CMAP has always supported user fees. He reported that the General Assembly has passed legislation to create a task force to identify alternative funding

sources and CMAP would like to be a part of that task force. Mr. Skosey stated that MPC is working with the General Assembly on value capture for transit and has begun developing a public message effort to be called "Accelerate Illinois" to communicate the public desire for infrastructure investments to the General Assembly. He also noted that MPC recently looked at vehicle registration data and that only about 15,000 alternative fuel vehicles are registered in the state at this time there is not a big revenue issue related to these vehicles not paying motor fuel tax. Mr. Smith concluded by stating that CMAP would convene a meeting to discuss and share the agenda and legislative principles. He also encouraged members to contact CMAP staff for support or assistance on issues that they are working through the General Assembly.

9.0 Status of Local Technical Assistance Program and the Major Capital Projects

Mr. Connelly noted that updated status reports provided with the meeting materials.

10.0 Other Business

Mr. Seglin reported that at the recent National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) and TRB annual meeting there was significant discussion about driverless vehicles. California and Nevada have already enacted legislation related to these vehicles and at some point the issue will emerge here. NACTO is concerned about how this technology will impact the use of public ways; for example, rather than paying for parking while shopping, consumers may just send their car driving in endless circles around the block. He stated that the region should initiate discussions about it. Mr. Bolton said that Pace has been looking at driverless cars as an option for the first or last mile connection for suburban transit to penetrate subdivisions bringing people to and from the edges where bus operations are more frequent and practical.

Mr. Skosey reaffirmed that he is happy that Mr. Blankenhorn has been selected as the next Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation and thanked Randy for being willing to take on that role.

Mr. Carmitchel stated he is thrilled as well and the reaction within the ranks of IDOT staff has been positive.

Mr. Blankenhorn thanked these gentlemen and the committee for their support and stated that he has accepted the position with mixed emotions. He stated that he is proud of CMAP's success and that the staff and partners are responsible for that success. He stated he looks forward to working with everyone in his new role and looks forward to increased coordination between CMAP and IDOT.

11.0 Public Comment

Garland Armstrong inquired about the timeline for completion of the Bellwood grade separation. Mr. Kralik stated he will provide that information to Mr. Armstrong.

Heather Armstrong stated that she enjoyed the conversation regarding driverless cars and noted that they would help people with disabilities, particularly the visually impaired, get around to destinations without transit service.

12.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for March 6, 2015.

13.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 10:23 a.m., made by Mr. Snyder, seconded by Mayor Rockingham, carried.