



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Council of Mayors Executive Committee

Minutes – November 10, 2015

9:30 a.m.

CMAP Offices – Cook County Conference Room

**Jeffery Schielke, Chairman**  
Mayor, City of Batavia  
Kane/Kendall Council

**Leon Rockingham, Jr., 1st Vice Chair**  
Mayor, City of North Chicago  
Lake Council

**Eugene Williams, 2nd Vice Chair**  
Mayor, Village of Lynwood  
South Council

**George Van Dusen**  
Mayor, Village of Skokie  
North Shore Council

**Sandy Frum**  
President, Village of Northbrook  
North Shore Council

**Al Larson**  
President, Village of Schaumburg  
Northwest Council

**Karen Darch**  
President, Village of Barrington  
Northwest Council

**Jeffrey Sherwin**  
Mayor, City of Northlake  
North Central Council

**Joseph Tamburino**  
Mayor, Village of Hillside  
North Central Council

**James Discipio**  
President, Village of LaGrange Park  
Central Council

**William Rodeghier**  
President, Village of Western Springs  
Central Council

**Dave Brady**  
President, Village of Bedford Park  
Southwest Council

**John Mahoney**  
Mayor, Village of Palos Park  
Southwest Council

**Michael Einhorn**  
President, Village of Crete  
South Council

**Erik Spande**  
President, Village of Winfield  
DuPage Council

**Thomas Karaba**  
President, Clarendon Hills  
DuPage Council

**Ed Ritter**  
President, Carpentersville  
Kane/Kendall Council

**Glenn Ryback**  
President, Wadsworth  
Lake Council

**Richard Mack**  
President, Village of Ringwood  
McHenry Council

**Robert Nunamaker**  
President, Village of Fox River Grove  
McHenry Council

**Roger Claar**  
Mayor, Village of Bolingbrook  
Will Council

**Jim Holland**  
Mayor, Village of Frankfort  
Will Council

### Executive Committee and Elected Officials Present

Mayor Jeffery Schielke, Chairman, Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr., 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Mayor Eugene Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, President Dave Brady, President Karen Darch, President Jim Discipio, President Mike Einhorn, Mayor Jim Holland, President Ed Ritter

### Others Present

Jennifer Becker, Elaine Bottomley, Bruce Carmitchel, Bruce Christensen, Jackie Forbes, Mike Klemens, Patrick Knapp, Dennis Latto, Brian Pigeon, Chad Riddle, David Seglin, Tammy Wierciak, Barbara Zubek

### CMAP Staff Present

Doug Ferguson, Lindsay Hollander, Kristin Ihnchak, Tom Kotarac, Jen Maddux, Holly Ostdick, Ross Patronsky, Liz Schuh, Gordon Smith, Joseph C. Szabo, Andres Torres, Berenice Vallecillos

### **New Agenda Item – Introduction of CMAP’s Executive Director**

Due to delays on the UP Northwest Metra line, there were not enough committee members present to have a quorum to call the meeting to order. Therefore, the committee moved forward with items on the agenda that did not require action by the Council.

Mr. Szabo, Executive Director of CMAP, introduced himself and provided history on his career. He expressed his excitement to continue to work with this Council as CMAP’s Executive Director. Mayor Schielke stated that Mr. Szabo has been involved in region for many years and shared his excitement that Mr. Szabo is now the Executive Director of CMAP.

### **5.0 Long Range Plan Development**

Ms. Schuh gave a short presentation on the development of the region’s next long range comprehensive plan. President Einhorn suggested that CMAP staff analyze how demographic and traffic data is projected to ensure its validity for decision makers throughout the region. Mayor Schielke requested that the new plan offer recommendations on how to locally plan around economic drivers such as school districts and retail. Ms. Schuh reported that CMAP staff is working closely with partners and

consultants in areas outside CMAP's purview to continue to improve data accuracy throughout the development of the next plan.

**1.0 Call to Order and Introductions**

Mayor Schielke called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

**2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

**3.0 Approval of Minutes – September 1, 2015**

Mayor Holland made a motion, seconded by Mayor Williams, to approve the minutes of September 1, 2015 with a vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

**4.0 Transportation Programming Updates/Action Items**

**4.1 IDOT Bureau of Local Roads Update/CMAP STP-L Expenditure Report**

Mr. Riddle gave an update on the region's STP expenditures and reminded programmers to check the letting schedule so as not to miss any deadlines as the holidays approach. Mayor Schielke inquired about the status of MFT funds and Mr. Riddle reported that the process has not changed, to keep spending MFT funds as if they are there, including paperwork, so back payments can be made when available<sup>1</sup>. Mayor Williams asked if the MFT funds could be swept to balance the state budget and Mr. Carmitchel reported that IDOT has been informed it won't happen, but anything is possible. Mayor Schielke thanked IDOT staff for their guidance. Mr. Carmitchel reported that John Donovan and Kay Batey of the Illinois Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have been critical in securing the CMAP's FHWA planning dollars in lieu of the state budget impasse and thanked them.

**4.2 Advanced Funding Requests**

Ms. Ostdick reported that there were no new advance funding requests for this meeting. However, there was one project that had received advance funding last year but was not able to use it due to its agreement being delayed. The project was moved into FY 2016 because it could be authorized at any moment as the agreement is now moving through the process. This is allowed per the advance funding policies adopted in early 2012.

**4.3 FFY 2016-2020 STP Marks**

Ms. Ostdick reported that with the new allotment for FFY 2016, the region has a mark of \$257 million. Last year the region had the largest mark in the history of the STP-L program. This year it is the third largest. The unobligated balance is just over \$125 million, which is more than the new money received. In order to spend down the unobligated balance, spending must be essentially double what was spent last year. Ms. Ostdick continued that the marks table does not necessarily reflect the state appropriation available to use these federal funds. It is anticipated that between this and CMAQ funding being spent, state appropriation may be an issue this year. It is something that will need to be worked out if spending catches up to the available state appropriation. On a motion by President Einhorn, seconded by Mayor Rockingham, and a vote of all ayes, the FFY 2016-2020 STP marks were approved.

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<sup>1</sup> [IDOT Circular Letter 2015-17](#)

#### **4.4 Active Program Management of STP-L**

Ms. Ostdick reported that as a region we are doing better, but not great, at spending down the unobligated balance of STP funds in the region. Given that the situation has not improved substantially staff recommends a discussion at the regional level on how to spend more while still funding the best projects for the region. She stated that the first step is to hear from the Council what it thinks could be done to enhance spending of the funds. Staff will take this information and summarize it for further discussion at the next meeting, but will include some staff ideas as well. She asked that the Council try to think regionally about solutions as this money comes directly to the region and is distributed to each council based on direction from the MPO Policy Committee, but that does not stop it from being spent regionally.

Mayor Holland asked what the source of the issue is and if there is a simple solution. Mr. Riddle stated that projects being delayed are the source of the issue. Projects can be delayed for several reasons including right-of-way acquisition, lack of local match, turnover in priorities due to changes in administration, and lack of a sense of urgency. He noted that council methods could encourage removing projects from a program if they are not ready to move forward so other, ready projects may move in. Ms. Becker stated that CMAP had asked Councils a year ago to describe their programming methods. She said this is an opportunity to discuss active program management possibilities and suggested the creation of a working group. President Darch stated that the 20% local match could be too high for some municipalities, but it was noted that this is a federal requirement. President Einhorn suggested more closely monitoring engineering costs and the possible implementation of a cap on them. Ms. Ostdick noted that Lake County is using STP funds to implement projects submitted but not selected for the CMAQ program. Mayor Schielke asked the planning liaisons to meet with CMAP staff to discuss this before the next committee meeting. Ms. Ostdick pointed out that any implementation would need a champion and suggested committee members also join the working group.

#### **6.0 Motor Fuel Tax Replacement Options**

Ms. Hollander gave a short presentation on CMAP's issue brief on the research and evaluation of possible replacements for the state motor fuel tax (MFT). President Discipio suggested that the region keep the MFT, raise it, and supplement it with another mechanism. President Darch echoed that this was the best option since people are generally unaware of the MFT and it would not be as intrusive as other options. President Ritter stated that the equity issues presented for each alternative would not allow for implementation and equity issues must be addressed. President Einhorn questioned the need for an increase, noting that MFT funds are not always used for road maintenance and that this problem should be reviewed. They noted that any new revenue system for Illinois would be better implemented at the Federal level to remove the incentive for people to travel to adjacent states to avoid paying the tax in Illinois. Ms. Hollander stated that CMAP staff likely will dive deeper into how MFT funds are used in the region and other states' alternative programs during development of the next long range comprehensive plan.

#### **7.0 Local Technical Assistance Program**

The CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee approved a new group of Local Technical Assistance projects. Ms. Vallecillos gave an overview of the project applications received and selected. Mayor Schielke asked about plan commission training. Ms. Vallecillos replied that CMAP contracts with DePaul's Chaddick Institute for this multi-community training.

## **8.0 State Legislative Update**

Mr. Smith gave an update on state legislative activities. He reported that there is movement in the General Assembly and that Governor Rauner announced support for a bill that would allocate MFT funds to the locals, but the bill may or may not be presented today. Mayor Holland questioned when the budget impasse will impact Illinois' general population and the committee discussed the many programs that will be affected without a budget.

## **9.0 Federal Legislative Update**

Mr. Kotarac gave an update on federal legislative activities. He reported that the Senate and House passed their respective transportation bills but they have yet to be reconciled. He stated that both bills are six year bills from 2016-2021 authorizing federal transportation funding but each only identified funding for three years. He outlined the differences between the bills and how funding would be allocated to Illinois. He continued that these are the first federal transportation bills to provide funding specifically for freight projects, which would greatly benefit the region.

## **10.0 Proposed 2016 Schedule**

The proposed 2016 meetings will be held at 9:30am on the following dates:

- January 12, 2016
- April 12, 2016
- July 12, 2016
- October 25, 2016

President Ritter made a motion to approve the proposed 2016 meeting schedule, seconded by President Darch with a vote of all ayes, the meeting schedule was approved.

## **11.0 Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **12.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **13.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2016.

## **14.0 Adjourn**

Mayor Rockingham made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by President Darch, and with a vote of all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

**Council of Mayors Executive Committee Members:**

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ___ President Dave Brady   | ___ President Al Larson         | ___ Mayor Jeffery Schielke* |
| ___ Mayor Roger Claar      | ___ President Richard Mack      | ___ Mayor Jeffrey Sherwin   |
| ___ President Karen Darch  | ___ Mayor John Mahoney          | ___ President Erik Spande   |
| ___ President Jim Discipio | ___ President Robert Nunamaker  | ___ Mayor Joseph Tamburino  |
| ___ President Mike Einhorn | ___ President Ed Ritter         | ___ Mayor George Van Dusen  |
| ___ President Sandy Frum   | ___ Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr** | ___ Mayor Eugene Williams** |
| ___ Mayor Jim Holland      | ___ President William Rodegheir | * Chairman                  |
| ___ TBD                    | ___ Mayor Glenn Ryback          | ** Vice-Chairman            |