



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Council of Mayors Executive Committee

Draft Minutes – January 12, 2016

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., 1st Vice Chair, Mayor Eugene Williams, 2nd Vice Chair, President Dave Brady, President Karen Darch, Mayor Jim Holland, President Ed Ritter, President William Rodeghier, Mayor Glenn Ryback, Mayor Jeffrey Sherwin, President Erik Spande

Others Present

Jennifer Becker, Elaine Bottomley, Len Cannata, Bruce Christensen, Jackie Forbes, Janell Jensen, Mike Klemens, Patrick Knapp, Aimee Lee, Scott Smith, Mike Walczak, Tammy Wierciak, Rocco Zuccherro, Barbara Zubeck

CMAP Staff Present

Jesse Elam, Tom Kotarac, Jen Maddux, Holly Ostdick, Russell Pietrowiak, Ross Patronsky, Gordon Smith, Joseph C. Szabo, Berenice Vallecillos

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Mayor Schielke called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Ms. Vallecillos announced that CMAP will be launching the development of the next long-range plan on February 24, 2016. All partners are encouraged to save the date on their calendars and join CMAP for a fun morning where they can learn the new plan's name and tell us what they want the plan to accomplish. They can secure their spot and learn more about the event by registering at <http://cmap.is/next-plan-rsvp>.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – November 10, 2015

President Ritter made a motion, seconded by Mayor Williams, to approve the minutes of November 10, 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

Ms. Ostdick gave an update on the region's STP expenditures. Ms. Ostdick reported that since the beginning of the federal fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2015, the region has spent 6% of its mark and that the region is not spending at a pace that demonstrates the needs of northeastern Illinois. Ms. Ostdick reported that in FFY 2015, the region was able to spend 5% of its mark through advanced funding.

4.2 Advanced Funding Requests

Ms. Ostdick reported that the North Central Council is requesting advanced funding for three projects, with a total federal amount of just over \$3 million. If approved, the council will have a positive balance in FFY 18. The McHenry Council is requesting advanced funding for two projects, with a total federal amount of \$2.7 million. If approved, the council will have a positive balance in FFY 20. President Spande made a motion, seconded by President Rodegheir, to approve the advanced funding requests. With a vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

4.3 Active Program Management of STP-L

Ms. Ostdick reported that after the last meeting, CMAP staff and the planning liaisons met to discuss their individual councils' approaches to spending down unobligated balances as a first step in recommending possible regional approaches to spend down the unobligated balance of STP funds in the region.

Ms. Ostdick reported that most councils have increased project cost caps and some begun funding projects and phases they have not historically funded. The Will Council started programming all project in an illustrative list and moving projects into the program only when they are ready. Despite these efforts over several years, the unobligated STP balance remains high. Ms. Ostdick noted that creating rules for accomplishing project phases or facing consequences such as removal of funding is not popular and that a regional goal of achievement would be a good starting point.

Ms. Ostdick stated that the CMAQ program went from a \$300 million unobligated balance to \$17 million in four years. It took a great deal of discussion and input as well as strict rules for accomplishment and severe consequences for not meeting those rules, and it would be good to see the unobligated balance decrease with the STP-L program. Ms. Ostdick stated that at this time a process is still to be developed, but CMAP staff is generally seeking support in moving towards a regional goal that will include consequences for letting funding remain unspent.

The committee discussed the reasons projects can be delayed including right-of-way acquisition, lack of local match, and turnover in priorities due to changes in administration. Mayor Sherwin suggested that CMAP impose a rescission method such that any unexpended funds may be reallocated within the region after ten years, which he stated is a better option than federal rescission. He also reminded the committee that a large unobligated balance is not a good discussion point when renegotiating the city/suburb split. President Darch suggested that CMAP staff and planning liaisons investigate why councils are not implementing projects. Mayor Schielke stated that municipal competition for federal funding becomes a political issue, but that the region's program stands out as honest and well-run. He noted that the large unobligated balance should continue to be stressed and attempts to remediate continued.

Ms. Ostdick reminded the committee that every four years, USDOT performs a certification review for CMAP. She noted that the region's process by which STP funds are distributed to the councils is not congruent with federal law, and that a larger unobligated balance draws more attention to the distribution process.

President Spande inquired about what is done in other places. Ms. Ostdick replied that in other regions MPOs program STP funds, but in some cases the MPO allows counties or

municipalities to program projects based on programming guidance that is attached to the funding. Mayor Schielke stated that this region has always distributed funding based on “fair share” and made decisions at the local level. President Rodegheir asked how fair share is determined. Ms. Ostdick replied that council marks are determined by population. Mayor Rockingham asked if councils are saving up for large projects. Ms. Ostdick replied that is not the case, and with advanced funding a council would not need to save up.

Mayor Williams stated that some communities are not creative enough to know whether a project qualifies for STP funding and suggested that mayors do outreach to all of their communities that do not have a strong presence at meetings. Ms. Ostdick noted that the issue is not a lack of projects but a lack of accomplishment, which is likely to draw adverse attention.

Mayor Schielke stated that there is inherent value to being at these meetings and discussing the issue. He thanked CMAP staff for their oversight and diligence and stated that local communities should be informed that the unobligated balance is being discussed.

5.0 Illinois Tollway and Central Tri-State Corridor Planning Council

Mr. Zucchero gave a presentation on the Tollway’s I-294 Central Tri-State Reconstruction Project. The Tollway convened a Corridor Planning Council (CPC) to create a broad regional vision for the future of the roadway, ensuring that near-term investments will be relevant in the long-term. The CPC is comprised of representatives from Councils of Mayors, regional transportation agencies, local business association leaders and representatives from the commercial freight industry. The CPC will be completing its work this month through the formalization of a final report. A draft of the report is currently in review and comments are welcomed through January 18, 2016.

Mayor Sherwin pointed to North Avenue as a facility that was is needed to improve access to the Tri-State and part of the Elgin O’Hare Western Access Bypass and used STP many years ago to complete an access justification report, phase one, and phase two engineering and has successfully secured \$30 million in CMAQ funds. President Ritter noted the need for improvements at the I-290/I-294 interchange. Mr. Zucchero said such problem areas would be reviewed, but there currently is not enough funding now to address all of them.

6.0 Unified Work Program Distribution

Mr. Walczak reported on the Planning Liaison (PL) program’s scope of services and funding proposal for Federal Metropolitan Planning funds, as allocated in the Unified Work Program. Local matching funds are provided by each local Council. The PL program receives funds to assist CMAP, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for northeastern Illinois, in meeting federal transportation planning requirements. Mr. Walczak reported that the PL program is requesting a 3% increase in funding this year. Mayor Schielke stated that the planning liaisons are a key component to the Council of Mayors operations and an invaluable resource. He encouraged the approval of the funding proposal.

President Spande made a motion, seconded by President Darch, to approve the scope of services and funding proposal. With a vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

7.0 State Legislative Update

Mr. Smith gave an update on state legislative activities. He reported that there is not much movement in the General Assembly.

8.0 Federal Legislative Update

Mr. Kotarac gave an update on federal legislative activities. He reported that congress passed Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST), a five-year federal transportation reauthorization bill, the first multi-year bill in over a decade. He noted that Illinois received a 10% increase in funding over five years. Mr. Kotarac continued that FAST is the first federal transportation bill to provide funding specifically for freight projects. Funding for freight projects will come through two funding streams: a formula program allocated to the state and a competitive grant program for which municipalities, counties, and MPOs are eligible to apply. He stated that the programming approach for freight formula funds allocated to the state has yet to be determined and stressed the importance of reminding IDOT and Springfield that most freight congestion is in the Chicago region. Mr. Kotarac also reported that the competitive TIGER grant program will return this year; municipalities are eligible to apply. President Darch asked if multimodal projects are eligible for the freight program. Mr. Kotarac confirmed that the freight program can be used to a limited extent for rail projects; grade separation projects are fully eligible. President Darch asked if CMAP is considering a second CREATE-type list of projects in the next long range plan. Mr. Kotarac responded that in the FAST Act, freight planning is required, at the state level a plan is required in two years. He said that CMAP staff will ask for input from the mayors on this topic as the long range planning process continues. Mayor Schielke stated that he really appreciates the insight and political strategy Mr. Kotarac has brought to CMAP and encouraged the committee members to contact their representatives as a step in ensuring federal transportation funds are spend the way they were intended.

9.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

10.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2016.

12.0 Adjourn

Mayor Schielke thanked the committee for attendance and participation despite the weather. President Spande made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by President Darch, and with a vote of all ayes, the meeting adjourned at 10:47 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 |