



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMA) Transportation Committee Draft Minutes March 4, 2016

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

Committee Members

Present:

Chair Sis Killen – Cook County, Charles Abraham - IDOT DPIT, Gabrielle Biciunas – NIRPC, Lynette Ciavarella – Metra, Michael Connelly – CTA, Yonah Freemark – MPC, Tony Greep – FTA, Luann Hamilton – CDOT, Robert Hann – Private Providers, Jessica Hector-Hsu – RTA, Scott Hennings – McHenry County, Emily Karry – Lake County, Patrick Knapp - Kendall County, Christina Kupkowski – Will County, Holly Ostdick – CMA, Tom Rickert – Kane County, Chad Riddle – IDOT District One, Mayor Leon Rockingham – Council of Mayors, Chris Schmidt – IDOT OP&P, Kyle Smith - CNT, Lorraine Snorden – Pace, Chris Snyder – DuPage County, P.S. Sriraj – Academic & Research, Vice Chair Rocco Zucchero – Illinois Tollway

Absent:

Darwin Burkhart – IEPA, John Donovan – FHWA, Adrian Guerrero – Class 1 Railroads, Randy Neufeld – Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force, Joe Schofer – Academic & Research, Ken Yunker – SEWRPC

Others Present:

Mike Albin, Garland Armstrong, Heather Armstrong, Elaine Bottomley, Len Cannata, Nicki Cannatello, Bruce Christensen, Vicky Czuprynski, Michael Fitzsimmons, Jackie Forbes, Will Gillespie, Jeff Griffin, Margaret Grinnell, Xingmin Guo, Tatiana Jane, Janell Jensen, Michael Kenny, Mike Klemens, Ray LaHood, Dennis Latto, Jill Leary, Devon Lechtenberg, Lean Mooney, Brian Pigeon, David Spacek, Ben Sullivan, Vicky Tan, Emily Tapia-Lopez, Mike Walczak, Kevin Walsh, Holly Waters, Tammy Wierciak, John Yonan, Barbara Zubek, Junjun Zheng

Staff Present:

Lindsay Bayley, Alex Beata, Bob Dean, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Jesse Elam, Doug Ferguson, Jane Grover, Kelwin Harris, Lindsay Hollander, Kristen Ihnchak, Elizabeth Irvin, Leroy Kos, Tom Kotarac, Jen Maddux, Martin Menninger, Tom Murtha, Ross Patronskey, Russell Pietrowiak, Liz Schuh, Mengwei Sun, Joe Szabo

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Committee Chair Sis Killen called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Mr. Szabo introduced Former Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood. Secretary LaHood discussed his background, growing up in Peoria and working as the Chief Planner for the Bi-State Metropolitan Planning Organization. He thanked the committee members for their role in the regional transportation planning process and noted that Chicago and Northeastern Illinois is an important region for transportation, with excellent leadership.

Ms. Killen noted that agenda item 10 would be moved in between item 5.2 and 6.0.

Ms. Killen also announced that a memo was provided to the committee regarding the upcoming Municipal Plans, Programs, and Operations Survey that will be conducted to inform agency work and track the progress of GO TO 2040 implementation. She stated that the Council of Mayors' Planning Liaisons would be assisting with distribution and follow-up regarding the surveys. She encouraged members to support this effort and to contact staff with questions or concerns.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2016

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2016 meeting, as presented, made by Mr. Connelly, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, carried.

4.0 Coordinating Committee Reports

Mr. Zucchero reported that the Local Coordinating Committee met on February 10, 2016. The committee received presentations on two Local Technical Assistance (LTA) projects: a corridor plan for the Fox River through Algonquin and Carpentersville which addresses natural resources, recreation, transportation and place making along the river and the MPC Great Rivers Chicago project to reimagine the use of the City's rivers. The committee also discussed the implications of the state budget impasse including an inability to have contract expenses reimbursed. Ms. Killen stated the Regional Coordinating Committee will meet on June 8, 2016.

5.0 FFY 14-19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

5.1 Amendments and Administrative Modifications

Mr. Kos reported that TIP revisions exceeding financial amendment thresholds have been requested. Among the requested amendments, on page 20 of the report is a TAP-L funded project for the Kane County Forest Preserve District which was approved in the last programming cycle. They are requesting that federal funding from phase 2 engineering be moved to the construction phase with no change in total cost. The change was held as an amendment for consideration by the Transportation Committee. When approving the TIP changes, the committee will be approving the change to this TAP-L funded project. Administrative

modifications, including line items that have been awarded, moved, or deleted, were provided for the committee's information. Mr. Connelly made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, 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 GO TO 2040/TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendment had been release for a 30-day public comment period. He continued that no comments were received. Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Connelly, to recommend approval of the semi-annual GO TO 2040/TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendment to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee. The motion carried.

10.0 Legislative update

10.1 Federal

Mr. Beata gave a federal legislative update which included that the TIGER and FASTLANE programs are conducting calls for projects. TIGER applications are due on April 29, 2016. FASTLANE is the discretionary Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects program authorized in the FAST Act. Applications are due April 14, 2016. Mr. Snyder asked if the state budget impasse would affect the expenditure of the FAST Act formula freight program. Mr. Riddle responded that the operations budget is the issue at IDOT and capital expenditures have remained on track so there is no delay in capital work. Mr. Schmidt responded that he would follow up with Mr. Snyder on how the formula freight funds are being programmed. Mr. Snyder asked if the region being designated as a Manufacturing Metals Consortium would be more attractive for FASTLANE funding. Mr. Beata stated that he was unaware at this time but it definitely would not be a bad thing.

Mr. Beata also noted that the national highway freight map had been released. Staff has reviewed it and identified number of additional road segments to be added.

10.2 State

Mr. Kotarac stated that two bills have been introduced in the state legislature, one bill in the House (HB 6286) and the other in the Senate (SB 2966) to reinstate the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund with general fund revenues, indexed to inflation, and with continuing appropriation. The bill would also give federal planning funds a continuing appropriation, ensuring those funds are given to MPOs around the state and avoiding any potential loss of federal funding due to IDOT's inability to reimburse MPOs for those funds. He stated CMAP is seeking legislative and organization support. He reiterated that this is

one possibility for addressing the agency's funding needs, and that Mr. Dean will present others being considered.

6.0 CMAP Agency Funding

Mr. Dean gave an overview of the current status of the agency's finances – that in an unprecedented solution, the FHWA and FTA are directly giving the federal funds to an MPO. However, CMAP does need to work towards more sustainable funding and also secure local match as some items are not being accomplished because CMAP is only receiving 80% of the overall funds programmed. If there is no solution, there will be no LTA call this year and some contracts have already been paused. CMAP would expect to have to stop operations in the summer if we do not receive 100% of our funding. Although we prefer the state legislative fix, we are researching other solutions. We have done a peer review of other MPOs and found some interesting comparisons including that no other MPO relies solely on the State the way CMAP does. Those other MPOs generally receive funding from local dues, fees for service, and external grants. CMAP is working with stakeholders to discuss those options but they will not be ready for use by the summer, so staff is working with IDOT and FHWA to work on ideas. Ms. Killen stated that Cook County appreciated CMAP pursuing all options and that President Preckwinkle supports local involvement. Mr. Freemark mentioned that the peer review of how other MPOs are funded showed that CMAP is much more efficient than other MPOs and asked if the committee would be provided with what isn't being done between those MPOs and CMAP. Mr. Zucchero stated that it is clear CMAP is efficient by the cost per capita of MPO operations. Mr. Dean stated there are links in the included memo to the peer review.

7.0 Service Boards – Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra, and Pace Capital Program Development

The Service board presented their programs. They are available online:

- [CTA](#)
- [Metra](#)
- [Pace](#)

Mr. Connelly asked Metra if the amount included in their program presentation for Positive Train Control (PTC) is the entire amount to implement PTC system wide. Ms. Waters responded PTC is anticipated to cost approximately \$400 million to implement system wide. \$102 million dollars were included in the state capital program but Metra has yet to receive it. Metra is working with IDOT to receive those funds. Ms. Ciavarella noted that if the additional funding does not come through, it will require a major change to the capital program.

Ms. Killen stated that the service boards are working hard to stretch their funding.

In response to a comment from Ms. Ciavarella, staff will work with other agencies to present their programs to the committee.

8.0 Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Strategic Plan

Ms. Hector-Hsu gave an [overview](#) of the development of RTA's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.

9.0 The Next Long Range Plan: ON TO 2050 Snapshot Report and Strategy Papers

9.1 Transportation Network Snapshot Report: Travel Behavior

Ms. Irvin [presented](#) the major points of the travel behavior portion of the transportation network snapshot report. In response to a question from Mr. Connelly, Ms. Irvin stated she could present the information to other groups upon request. Mr. Freemark suggested looking at seasonal trends.

9.2 Transportation System Funding Concepts Strategy Paper: Key Directions (Alex Beata)

Mr. Beata reviewed the different concepts anticipated to be researched as cost savings or reasonably expected revenues in ON TO 2050. Ms. Hamilton stated that Vehicle Mile Traveled (VMT) fees are a good revenue source but implementation will be very difficult and that the region may want to consider increasing the motor fuel tax in the near time. Mr. Beata replied that this approach was in the current financial plan, and that staff is monitoring pilots of VMT fees across the country. Mr. Zucchero stated that any revenue recommended should be indexed to inflation to avoid losing buying power. Mr. Freemark remarked that expanded operations should be considered in fiscally constraining the plan; he continued that non-user fees are not always preferred but seem most likely to be implemented and therefore should not be dismissed. Mr. Beata replied that the financial plan covers both capital and operating costs; core revenues are expected to cover basic operations.

9.3 Asset Management Strategy Paper: Introduction (Tom Murtha)

Mr. Murtha reviewed the memo included in the packet and stated that asset management has been gaining attention in the most recent federal authorizations. In response to a question from Mr. Freemark, Mr. Murtha responded that strategic disinvestment may be considered as jurisdictional transfers, intentionally allowing a change in service level, or abandonment, as a last resort. In response to a question from Ms. Ciavarella, Mr. Murtha stated that anyone interested in participating in the Asset Management Strategy Paper Resource Group should contact himself within the next two weeks. Ms. Hamilton stressed that asset management is important to consider in the context of coordinating multiple jurisdictions as the public isn't always aware of the jurisdiction of an asset. Mr. Schmidt indicated that IDOT is addressing risk through the Illinois All-Hazards Transportation System Vulnerability Assessment & Climate Adaptation Plan now under development.

9.4 Transit Modernization and Innovation Strategy paper: Introduction (Martin Menninger)

Mr. Menninger stated CMAP is working on a strategy paper that will examine changing transit mobility needs and how emerging technologies are reshaping transit service for users and operators. He said that a resource group with 10 to 15 individuals will be convened; the group will include some consultants. He asked the committee for feedback. In response to a question from Ms. Killen, Mr. Menninger stated that this topic will continue to be discussed at the Transportation Committee.

10.0 Legislative Update

This item was moved to earlier in the agenda and is represented the same in the minutes.

11.0 Status of Local Technical Assistance Program

Ms. Killen stated that a memo on the Status of the Local Technical Assistance Program is available in the packet. She continued that at each member's place is an update on the products of ON TO 2050 and that the document will be updated regularly.

12.0 Other Business

Mr. Sriraj indicated that the University of Illinois - Chicago (UIC) Urban Transportation Center (UTC) is preparing an application for the University Transportation Centers Program. Completed applications are due May 13, 2016. He stated someone from UIC UTC will be reaching out to TC members to talk about possible partners to include in their submission.

Mr. Freemark announced that the former New York City Commissioner, Janette Sadik-Kahn, will be at the next Think & Drink event at MPC on March 29, 2016 from 5 to 7 p.m.

13.0 Public Comment

Mr. Garland Armstrong stated that the ON TO 2050 Launch event was wonderful and that it is important to conduct outreach especially with the disabled community. He continued by asking if there was any update on the signage at O'Hare airport to direct people to Metra and Pace services. Lastly, he stated that the information on commute trends based on income is important and should be publicized.

14.0 Next Meeting

Ms. Killen stated that the next meeting will be on April 22, 2016 starting at **9:00 a.m.** to accommodate representatives from the peer MPOs of Seattle and Philadelphia to present on financial planning. This is being done in response to a request from the Transportation Committee and to help inform the committee about alternative approaches to consider for ON TO 2050.

15.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Snyder, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.