



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## **Transportation/Work Program Committee Minutes**

March 23, 2007

10:00 a.m.

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

### **Transportation/Work Program Committee Members Present:**

Jack Groner, Chairman, Metra  
Luann Hamilton, Vice-Chairman, CDOT  
Chuck Abraham, IDOT-DPIT  
Rodney Bettenhausen, Cook County  
George Catalano, Will County  
John DeLaurentiis, RTA  
Chris DiPalma, FHWA, Metro Office  
Don Kopec, CMAP  
Clarita Lao, IDOT-District One  
John Loper, DuPage County  
Mike McLaughlin, BLT  
Jan Metzger, CTAQC  
Arlene Mulder, Council of Mayors  
Randy Neufeld, Bike/Ped Taskforce  
Jason Osborn, McHenry County  
Thomas Rickert, Kane County  
Jeffrey Sriver, CTA  
Dick Smith, IDOT-OP&P  
Lorraine Snorden, Pace  
Steve Strains, NIRPC  
Vonu Thakuriah, UIC  
Paula Trigg, Lake County  
Mary Wells, ISTHA

### **Transportation/Work Program Committee Members Absent:**

Vanessa Adams, FTA, USDOT Chicago Metro Office  
Benet Haller, CDPD  
Fran Klaas, Kendall County  
Paul Losos, Private Transportation Providers

John Rita, MTD  
Mike Rogers, IEPA  
Joe Schofer, Northwestern University  
Ken Yunker, SEWRPC  
Tom Zapler, Class 1 Railroad Companies

### **Others Present**

Mark Avery	Mark Pitstick
Reggie Greenwood	Bill Reynolds
Jackie Grimshaw	Chad Riddle
Chalen Hunter	Adam Rod
Mike Klemens	David Simmons
Tam Kutzmark	Dave Seglin
Jill Leary	Holly Smith
Beth McCluskey	Vicky Smith
Carl Mikyska	Marie Choca Urban
Les Nunes	Mike Walczak
Hugh O'Hara	Tammy Wierciak
Holly Osttick	Erin Willrett

### **CMAP Staff**

John Allen	Hubert Morgan
Patricia Berry	Tom Murtha
Randy Blankenhorn	Ross Patronskey
Claire Bozic	Joy Schaad
Janet Bright	Gordon Smith
Bob Dean	Pat Tinnelle
Teri Dixon	Tom Vick
Doug Ferguson	Ty Warner

Jill Leary

## **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Jack Groner of Metra and Chair of the Transportation/Work Program Committee called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Groner described the evolution of the planning process occurring and described the transition from the Work Program Committee to the Transportation Committee. He noted that the Policy Committee bylaw changes will be considered for approval at the Policy Committee's June meeting and that the new members are not yet eligible to vote. Members and all present introduced themselves.

## **2. Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

## **3. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of January 19, 2007**

On a motion by Mr. Rickert, seconded by Mayor Mulder , the minutes of the January 19, 2007 meeting were approved.

## **4. Updates and Status Reports**

### **4.1 Committee and Task Force Meetings**

There were no questions or comments on the committee and task force meeting summary report.

### **4.2 Status Report on the Implementation of Projects**

Ms. Lao reported on March IDOT lettings. There was no status update from RTA. Mr. Seglin stated that the City of Chicago has obligated two STP-L projects for a total of \$470,000. The projects are a 63<sup>rd</sup> St Improvement and a Laramie Ave Viaduct Improvement. There was no RTA report. Seven 2007 CMAQ projects have been obligated for a total of \$3.396 million. Mr. Patronsky advised the Committee that obligation information through February has been received; the CMAQ program is 79% obligated. This breaks down to 87% for TEA-21 and 54% for SAFETEA-LU. He also noted that one project was on the March letting for \$345,000.

Mr. Patronsky also noted that 156 proposals for FY 2008 CMAQ funding had been received, requesting \$359,000,000 in federal dollars.

### **4.3 Council of Mayors Update**

Mayor Mulder stated that the Executive Committee met on February 20. The Committee approved a submittal to the Unified Work Program (UWP) Committee requesting a 5% increase totaling \$1.2 million dollars for the Planning Liaison (PL) Program for fiscal year 2008. The Committee also approved the submittal for the competitive round which requests an additional 15% increase for the PL program totaling \$182,000 to assist the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) with projects throughout the region. A simplified PL Scope of Services which encompasses eligible activities for federal UWP funding was also approved.

At the meeting, Mayor Gerald Bennett, Chairman of the CMAP Board, along with Don Kopec gave an update on the status of the vision, governance, and funding for the agency. Joy Schaad provided an overview to the Council of Mayors Executive Committee on the status of FRA's Final Rule on the Use of Train Horns in Illinois.

The Council of Mayors Executive Committee discussed the Flexible Match Initiative Program. This program would allow councils to use a wide variety of public and private

contributions of funds, land, materials and engineering to be counted toward the local match. The Committee recommended that meetings be conducted within each Council area to discuss the pros and cons and to determine how they want to proceed with the Flexible Match Program so that a policy can be developed.

Regarding STP accomplishments, the Council of Mayors had 8 projects on the March letting with a total of \$10.5 million in federal funds. The April letting is targeting 8 projects with STP involvement totaling \$13.9 million in federal funding.

The next meeting of the Council of Mayors Executive Committee was tentatively scheduled for April or May.

## **5. Transportation Improvement Program**

### **5.1 TIP Change and Project Grouping Procedures**

Ms. Dixon requested approval of the updated Attachment A of the TIP Change and Project Grouping Procedures deleting FY 06 as a selected year and reflecting updated fund sources. On a motion by Mr. Kopec, seconded by Mayor Mulder the updated Attachment A was approved.

### **5.2 TIP Changes**

Ms. Dixon requested Work Program Committee consideration of approval of the TIP changes. On a motion by Mayor Mulder, seconded by Ms. Lao the TIP changes were approved.

## **6. Update on Household Travel Survey**

Mr. Wies gave an update on the progress of the year long Household Travel Inventory data collection effort. To date, over 2000 households have been recruited and nearly 1000 households have completed the survey. Mr. Wies indicated that non-response is highest among large households, African-Americans, Latinos and Low Income Households. The survey design includes mechanisms for improving response within these communities. Mr. Wies also briefly described the GPS component of the survey in which households that make many trips or travel long distances by automobile are being equipped with GPS units intended to validate their in-person survey responses.

## **7. Urban Partnership**

Mr. Murtha described the region's Urban Partnership process to respond to USDOT's "Congestion Initiative." To reduce regional congestion, the Chicago Metropolitan Urban Partnership is developing a program of transit, congestion pricing, telecommuting and other travel demand management, and technology improvements. Mr. Murtha explained that congestion pricing needed to be a central element of the Partnership's program. To help fund the program, USDOT intends to target several hundred million dollars to Urban

Partnerships through discretionary sources, including ITS, value pricing, and FTA bus fund sources.

Mr. Murtha announced that, in support of this effort, a workshop would be held with federal participation on March 28. He also explained that a proposal and related grant applications needed to be submitted on April 30, and that USDOT was expected to work with metropolitan areas to further develop winning proposals over the summer. By August, USDOT would tap between one and five metropolitan areas to be approved Urban Partnerships, making grant funding available for congestion reduction.

## **8. SAFETEA-LU Compliant Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

Ms. Schaad opened by clarifying where the SAFETEA-LU Compliant RTP Update fits within the planning dynamics of the Regional Framework Plan, the October 2003 approved 2030 RTP, the October 2006 update of the RTP's capital element and strategic systems and the upcoming development of a comprehensive plan for the region by October of 2010. She referred to her presentation made at the January Work Program Committee meeting and offered to answer questions about the scope, proposed changes, planned public outreach and the schedule. After brief discussion, the Committee authorized staff to release the draft 2030 RTP Update out for public comment.

Ms. Schaad noted that, upon this authorization, list serve and press announcements, uploading to three websites, and nearly 10,000 postcards to interested parties would be mailed on the draft update, the public comment period, and the April 2 public event to be held at CMAP offices.

On a motion by Mr. Rickert, seconded by Ms. Snorden the release of the Draft 2030 RTP Update for public comment was approved.

## **9. Regional Comprehensive Plan**

Mr. Dean referred committee members to the draft list of goals and objectives included in the meeting packet. These goals and objectives were compiled from the 2040 Regional Framework Plan and the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan, using the Framework Plan as a base and adding several objectives from the RTP that were not explicitly referenced in the Framework Plan. For each of CMAP's committees, staff provided an initial recommendation concerning whether each goal was central, highly relevant, or less relevant to the committee's mission; these recommendations should be discussed and possibly modified at a future committee meeting. The purpose of this identification is not to ask for committee approval or adoption of these goals, but to help determine what the major issues would be that each committee should address.

Ms. Wells asked for an explanation of the difference between goals that were identified as central and goals that were identified as relevant. Mr. Dean responded that for goals identified as central, the committee would take ownership of these goals and ensure that they were reflected in the vision for the region. For goals identified as relevant, the committee may be interested in seeing how these goals are addressed, but does not have the same responsibility to ensure that they are considered in the development of the regional vision.

Mr. Dean asked for the committee to schedule time at their next meeting to determine which goals were central to the committee's mission. Future meetings would include exercises to extract the major issues from these goals, which would eventually be reflected in a vision for the region that would be used in the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Groner asked how much discussion and debate would occur during committee meetings. Mr. Thomas stated that the committee's full involvement during the vision development process was expected. Mr. Blankenhorn added that CMAP's committees would be asked to spend considerable time working toward the development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Groner requested that committee members prepare for a discussion of the goals and objectives at the next committee meeting, scheduled for May 25.

## **10. Public Participation Plan**

Mr. Morgan presented the draft CMAP Public Participation Plan. He noted that staff researched "state of the practice" around the country from MPOs and planning agencies with similar mission to CMAP. Working with the Citizens' Advisory Committee, the draft Public Participation Plan was developed. The Plan focuses on the Plan's purpose, summarizes the new standards in SAFETEA-LU and explains in detail CMAP's strategic direction for public participation, the public involvement goals for the agency and concludes with how the Plan will be used. Mr. Morgan asked that the Committee release the Public Participation Plan for public comment.

On a motion by Mayor Mulder, seconded by Mr. Strains the release of the draft Public Participation Plan for public comment was approved.

## **11. FY 08 UWP**

Mr. Nunes gave a brief update on the Unified Work Program (UWP). He explained that the total mark for the UWP committee to consider projects for was approximately \$18.5 million. In the previous report to the Work Program Committee (WPC) it was reported that the core and supplemental core programs totaled \$13,028,492 for 22 projects leaving a balance of \$5,468,723 for the competitive selection part of the UWP program. Mr. Nunes asked the committee to refer to the *UWP FY08 Recommended Competitive Projects* handout for a listing of the selected program. If the WPC approves, the 30-day public comment period will begin today and the comments will be received until April 23 and will be discussed and addressed at the May 1 UWP Committee meeting. Everything is on schedule for a final UWP to be presented to the WPC on May 25 and up the chain of command as previous scheduled.

On a motion by Mr. Pitstick, seconded by Ms. Hamilton, the proposed FY 08 UWP was released for public comment.

## **12. Regional Planning Act**

Mr. Blankenhorn stated that House Bill 1134 was heard in committee on March 20. It passed to the floor with the understanding that House Amendment #1 would replace the underlying bill once House staff had the opportunity to thoroughly evaluate it. The amendment language can be found on the CMAP website ([www.chicagoareaplanning.org](http://www.chicagoareaplanning.org)) and staff will keep the committee informed of further action.

### **13. Other Business**

The committee was informed that immediately following adjournment there would be a meeting of the SAFETEA-LU Subcommittee to discuss the rescissions on the newly released notice. Mr. Smith will be at that meeting to listen to and discuss concerns.

### **14. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **15. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

### **16. Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. DeLaurentiis, seconded by Mayor Mulder. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia A. Berry  
Secretary