



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606

312 454 0400
www.cmap.illinois.gov

**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Environment and Natural Resources Committee
DRAFT Minutes
Thursday, March 2, 2017**

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

- Members Present:** Lynn Boerman and Nancy Williamson (via phone) – IDNR, Keary Cragan – U.S. EPA, Jack Darin – Illinois Sierra Club, David Leopold – UI Labs Joe Schuessler – MWRD, Deb Stone– Cook County Department of Environmental Control, Kim Wasserman-Nieto – Little Village Environmental Justice Organization Mike Warner – Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Sean Wiedel – Chicago Department of Transportation, Moira Zellner – University of Illinois-Chicago
- Members Absent:** Ed Collins – McHenry County Conservation District, Martha Dooley – Village of Schaumburg, Jackie Forbes – Kane County Division of Transportation, Danielle Gallet – Metropolitan Planning Council, Pete Harmet – IDOT, Chris Mulvaney – Chicago Wilderness, Stacy Meyers– Openlands
- Staff Present:** Nora Beck (staff liaison for ENR), Noah Boggess, Anthony Cefali, Brian Daly, Kate Evasic, Holly Hudson, Jason Navota, Jared Patton, Kelsey Pudlock
- Others Present:** Margaret Schneemann - IISG, Jose Abonce – UIC, Justin Keller – UIC, Protichhe Wagle - UIC

1.0 Call to Order

Jack Darin called the meeting to order at approximately 9:35 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

- **ON TO 2050 Bi-Monthly Report**, here.
- **County stormwater management legislation**, SB 1507 and HB 2756.
 - Proposes to extend stormwater management authority to rest of the state (CMAP region already covered).
 - Would allow grant making authority, this section is subject to future changes.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 2 meeting was made by Sean Wiedel, seconded by Keary Cragan. The motion carried with all in favor.

4.0 ON TO 2050: Water Strategy Paper: Challenges and Policy Framework – Jason Navota, CMAP Staff

Water 2050 and GO TO 2040 recognized the water supply, water quality, and wastewater planning challenges facing the region and emphasized demand management and resource protection strategies. CMAP is exploring new approaches to water resource planning as part of the development of the next plan. Using a [presentation](#), Jason presented a summary of the challenges facing water resources and a draft policy framework for the next plan. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions and discussed the following points:

- Challenges:
 - Area Water Quality Management Plan from 1983 and changing FPA process.
 - Significant portion of waterways that are not assessed (50%) and what that means of our attainment with water quality standards. Difficulty in tracking progress overtime given rolling cycle of testing.
 - Understanding the drop in per capita water consumption, efficiencies in residential and industrial processes, infrastructure improvements.
 - ISWS has been developing Lake Michigan distribution and purchasing information.
- Policy Framework
 - Watershed workgroup concept: IEPA authorized the workgroup concept in the MS4 permit for communities of a specific size in March of 2016. There is a regional framework that could be utilized and the population size threshold could change in the future.
 - Groundwater “allocation” and infiltration: Similar to the runoff portion of the Lake Michigan Allocation, could a similar calculation be done that shows the contribution of infiltration? Or the subtraction of that water via the lack of reuse.
 - Expanding role of county stormwater agencies and their involvement in development.
 - Example from Michigan, groundwater supply withdrawal maximum upon which new development is reviewed.
 - No one entity is responsible for protection of these resources, via watersheds or some other mechanism. So what are the intermediate steps to getting to that point:
 - Data sharing - and education on why this is necessary to begin with
 - Capital sharing
 - Formal MOUs and early agreements
 - Water rates in the role of conservation, communicating the value of water, and the importance of equitable rate structures.

- Margaret Schneemann has partnered with the University of North Carolina on a [Northeastern Illinois Water and Wastewater Rates Dashboard](#).
- Lessons learned from other communities. Using it to inspire action on why we should be thinking about these issues from an environmental justice angle as well as the costs of reactive versus proactive strategies.
- Recognize the role and interconnectedness of green infrastructure (all scales) in the solutions
- Consider how engaging community organizations could help design better strategies and lead to legislative changes and other actions.
- Involvement of hyperlocal action towards solutions.
- Greywater systems. Plumbing code has been a barrier, but individual projects have gone through the variance process.
- Impacts of invasives and corresponding strategies.

5.0 ON TO 2050: Stormwater and Flooding Strategy Paper: Causes and Impacts, Part 2 – Nora Beck, CMAP Staff

CMAP is exploring new approaches to stormwater management as it relates to flooding as part of the development of the next plan. CMAP staff have updated a memo on the main causes of flooding and existing impacts of flooding based on committee feedback and added components related to transportation impacts and documented damages. Using a [presentation](#), Nora presented a [draft memo](#) and asked for committee feedback during the meeting as well as separately by **March 16**. Committee members provided a number of suggestions:

- Role of street closures (viaduct flooding) and how some communities may be unable to leave neighborhood, which has implications for emergency response, health concerns, and job access.
 - Role of ground level freight blocking community access (which may also be impacted by flooding)
- Committee expressed interest in the rainfall animation, which will be shared on the ENR committee webpage.
- Committee members are interested in sharing memo with colleagues in transportation departments to get their feedback.

6.0 ON TO 2050: Local Food Snapshot – Brian Daly, CMAP staff

As part of ON TO 2050 development, CMAP has prepared a Local Food Snapshot, which provides an overview of trends in food production, the number and characteristics of farms, the value of agricultural products sold in the region, and recent and ongoing activities in the local food policy area. Using a [presentation](#), Brian presented the draft components of the Local Food Snapshot. Committee members discussed the following points:

- Changing agricultural acreage over time could be a result of fallow fields as well as expansion of farming activities into natural areas.
- Support for Chicago State University's Food Desert Indicator.
- Discussion on CMAP's Urban Agriculture guidance: [Municipal Strategies to Support Local Food Systems: Including Local Food in Comprehensive Plans and Urban Agriculture Ordinance Toolkit](#).

- Solar Energy Side note: Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus (MMC) is working on providing technical assistance to municipalities for solar energy and has specifically involved [SolSmart](#). Also see [Grow Solar: Local Government Solar Toolkit: Planning, Zoning and Permitting](#).
- Flexibility in food freight movement and ability to handle disruptions, not just for national freight movement and processing, but also local food distribution within the region.

7.0 Other Business.

None.

8.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9.0 Next Meeting

The ENR Committee is scheduled to next meet on Thursday, April 6, 2017.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nora Beck (ENR Committee Liaison)
March 2, 2017