



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

233 South Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606
312 454 0400
www.cmap.illinois.gov

Planning Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, June 14, 2017--8:00 a.m.

DuPage County Conference Room
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois

Members Present: Elliott Hartstein (CMAP Board–Lake County), Carolyn Schofield (CMAP Board–McHenry Count), Frank Beal (CMAP Board–City of Chicago), Rick Reinbold (CMAP Board–South Cook County), Nancy Firfer (Housing Committee), Jack Darin (Environment & Natural Resources Committee), Lance Pressl (Economic Development Committee), Mark VanKerkhoff (Land Use Committee), Aimee Lee (Transportation Committee)

Members Absent: Al Larson (CMAP Board–Northwest Cook), Franco Coladipietro (CMAP Board–DuPage County), Janel Forde (CMAP Board–City of Chicago), Leann Redden (CMAP Board–RTA), Michael Davidson (Human and Community Development Committee)

Staff Present: Kristin Ihnchak (PCC staff liaison), Liz Schuh (PCC staff liaison), Elizabeth Irvin, and Tom Murtha

Others Present: Kristen Andersen-Metra, Mark Pitstick-RTA, and Tom Kelso-IDOT

1.0 Call to Order

Elliott Hartstein, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m., and members introduced themselves.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – April 12, 2017

The meeting minutes were approved by the Committee.

4.0 Regional Expressway Vision

Tom Murtha provided an overview of the Regional Expressway Vision project, which CMAP has been commissioned to complete by IDOT and the Tollway. CMAP is working with a consultant, CH2M Hill, and various subconsultants to undertake the

project. It will focus on improvements to the existing system along specific corridors rather than system expansion, and will seek to address some of the major issues facing the system, such as freight bottlenecks and other congestion problems, environmental challenges, and incorporation of emerging transportation technology. Additional revenue sources, such as congestion pricing and value capture, will be explored to finance recommendations for the corridors included in the Vision. The Vision will inform IDOT and Tollway capital programs and will also inform the ON TO 2050 plan's recommendations. The draft Vision is expected in March 2018 and the final Vision will be complete in May 2018.

Committee feedback included:

- A request to consider connections to the issues addressed in the regional overweight and oversize truck permitting project
- Clarification of how recommendations will be prioritized given fiscal constraint, and how fiscal constraint for the Vision relates to the Financial Plan for ON TO 2050. IDOT and the Tollway will be responsible for determining financing methods to fund the Vision's improvements
- Discussion about the community and partner engagement process. CMAP is connecting with its committees in the initial stages and is planning to conduct public meetings in the fall. The Alternative Futures team has also incorporated some questions into its MetroQuest surveys on behalf of the Vision, which will provide feedback from CMAP stakeholders
- Request that CMAP incorporate federal carbon planning guidance given to MPOs in the Vision

5.0 ON TO 2050: Preview Report Draft

Liz Schuh provided a brief overview of the ON TO 2050 Preview Report draft, which is being circulated to committees for feedback in advance of the summer public comment period that begins on June 19. Liz reviewed the three principles that the report is organized around – resilience, inclusive growth, and prioritized investment – and asked for committee feedback on the principles and recommendations included in the report.

Committee feedback included:

- Several committee members noted that the report's outlook on the economy and region's overall status seemed unduly pessimistic and the tone might be discouraging. Carolyn Schofield recommended that CMAP adjust the language to galvanize stakeholders to change course and make decisions differently
- The importance of short- and long-term fiscal impacts of development cannot be overstated, especially as the economy begins to pick up and spurs greenfield development

6.0 ON TO 2050: Highway Operations, Transit Modernization, and Emerging Technology Strategy Synthesis

Elizabeth Irvin provided an overview of strategies from the transit modernization, highway operations, and emerging technology strategy papers, organized by the three

ON TO 2050 principles of prioritized investments, inclusive growth, and resilience. For prioritized investments, strategies included considering operations and maintenance before expansion of transportation assets, investing in transit's core competencies, and continuing to collaborate and build partnerships to achieve shared goals. Inclusive growth strategies included investing in transit that provides opportunities for economically disconnected areas, supporting biking and walking infrastructure, and ensuring that operations strategies do not disproportionately harm low income and minority residents. Lastly, strategies related to resilience include building on and investing in communications infrastructure, taking advantage of new and emerging modes, and capitalizing on private sector data when possible to help inform decision making.

Committee feedback included:

- In transportation investments, reducing congestion and decreasing travel times often seem to be the biggest concerns. For transit in particular, a lack of flexibility in the alternatives and limited service frequency may make transit unattractive to many. CMAP is exploring various ways to speed travel as it pertains to transit, such as bus on shoulder service

7.0 Other Business

None.

8.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

9.0 Next Meeting–

The Committee meets next on September 13, 2017.

10.0 Adjournment

At 9:03 a.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Ihnchak and Liz Schuh (Committee liaisons)

Approved as presented, by unanimous vote, September 13, 2017