



Land Use Working Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, March 15, 2017
9:00 a.m.

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

LUC Members Present: Mark VanKerkhoff (Co-Chair), Drew Awsumb, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Lisa DiChiera, Steve Lazzara, Nathaniel Werner, Nancy Williamson, Adrienne Wuellner.

LUC Members Absent: Judy Beck, Susan Campbell, Paul Hoss, Robert McKenna, Arnold Randall, Paul Rickelman, Todd Vanadilok, Dennis Sandquist, Heather Smith, Heather Tabbert (Co-Chair), Eric Waggoner, Ruth Wuorenma.

Staff Present: Stephen Ostrander (committee liaison), Alex Beata, Kristin Ihnchak, Elizabeth Irwin, Ricardo Lopez, Brandon Nolin, Elizabeth Oo, Elizabeth Scott.

Others Present: Scott Preslak (Metra), Mike Walczak (NWMC)

1.0 Call to Order

Mark VanKerkhoff called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes.

Committee member Nancy Williamson mentioned that she recently attended a town meeting in the Village of Richmond, where CMAP completed a planning priorities report in 2016. She mentioned that given the report’s recommendation that the Village complete a plan for its historic downtown, she had suggested that the Village should look at best practices for streetscape and road design, as demonstrated in the best practices detailed in the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)’s *Urban Street Design Guide*. She suggested that CMAP follow-up with the Village to underscore this recommendation.

3.0 Approval of meeting minutes of February 15, 2017

A motion to approve the minutes of February 15 was made by Adrienne Wuellner and seconded by Nancy Williamson; all in favor, the motion carried.

4.0 ON TO 2050: Inclusive Growth: Framework and Strategies– Elizabeth Scott, CMAP

CMAP staff have been working with a resource group to develop an approach to inclusive economic growth for ON TO 2050. This approach connects efforts to decrease inequality to longer, stronger regional economic growth. Elizabeth presented refinements to the framework and draft strategies under consideration for the inclusive growth strategy paper.

A committee member observed, in reference to a map in the presentation that indicated upward mobility in the region, that mobility didn't seem like the best measure. He suggested that there might be a more average, regionally-based measurement that would be more informative.

Another member added that some "average income" households might not be able to remain in certain geographic areas.

Steve Lazzara commented that his understanding of TOD (transit-oriented development) involved the development of housing near transit that is affordable to a wide-spectrum of potential residents. However, he is mostly seeing the development of housing with a high pricepoint. He added that he is grateful for the recent project in Preston Heights that CMAP has been assisting with, which touches upon issues of providing housing that is affordable to area workers.

Another member commented that the large intermodal facilities in Will County (toured last fall by the members of the Land Use Committee) and development of Amazon facilities, etc., seem to provide an opportunity to connect to areas that CMAP is targeting on the issue of inclusive growth.

A member added that he would like to see Amazon do more to reach out to poorer residents living in the vicinity of Amazon facilities.

Another member registered a concern of the term "excluded communities" (being used in the presentation). He observed that Aurora is listed as an "excluded community" despite many years of outreach to communities.

5.0 Regional Freight and Environmental Justice – Alex Beata, CMAP

Alex briefed the committee on recent research into freight and environmental justice. Topics include the federal regulatory framework, local and national examples, and potential recommendations for the Regional Strategic Freight Direction, CMAP's near-term freight policy agenda.

Steve Lazzara commented that in the study area for the Preston Heights/Patterson Road plan, they're seeing cut through by freight trucks, but the commentary of nearby residents is more focused on traffic than pollution and noise.

Kristi DeLaurentiis mentioned that in the South Suburbs, they are seeing at-grade crossings for freight limiting transit potential. She added that SSMAA will be focusing on how future freight can benefit communities, including addressing economic justice issues.

Another member noted that the UP intermodal facility in Will County (visited last fall by the committee) seemed to have a good template for addressing water quality concerns, which could serve as good guidelines.

A member observed that in the Chicago region, there seem to be “three buckets” relevant to freight, each of which have environmental justice issues to consider and address: original ports, industrial parks (especially near airports), and the new large-scale intermodal facilities.

Another member noted that it is important to consider the broader ecosystem as it relates to places near industry such as Midewin Tallgrass Prairie.

A member mentioned that he liked seeing the reference to Health Impact Assessments, and noted that Pew has developed a great database that could have relevant cases and studies that could be relevant to the analysis of freight.

6.0 ON TO 2050: Public Health: Introduction – Ricardo Lopez, CMAP
CMAP has partnered with Adler University Institute on Social Inclusion to develop a strategy paper on Public Health to inform ON TO 2050. This will involve a Resource Group that will meet regularly along with research by Adler University. We are in the initial phase of the process, in which we are analyzing the public health landscape and determining our role as an MPO. Ricardo presented an overview of the work scope, along with a discussion on how the committee can contribute to this effort.

A member asked what was specifically meant by the term “health inequities” used in the presentation. Ricardo admitted that it was broad. Another member suggested that “health disparities” is a more common term, and suggested that CMAP look at the whole body of work that has been done on this and related topics (such as that work done by the Metropolitan Planning Council).

Another member suggested that in considering what is a good role for an MPO on this issue, it might be good to focus on building livable communities—especially looking at connected and unconnected communities, emphasizing the importance of long-term investments.

A member said that she was interested in what will mitigate industrial areas. Planning trees/forests next to new industrial areas seemed to be a logical strategy.

Another member thought that an integrated strategy is needed, perhaps incorporating strategies such as soda taxes and mandating PE classes.

Steve Lazzara mentioned a person at Will County Land Use Department that is working with the Public Health Department.

Drew Awsumb noted that Highland Park focuses on the notion of public benefits.

A member admitted that in his municipal department, they tend to focus on new development, and a typical barrier is “we need to have a drive-thru.” He added that it was interesting that so many people love the feel (and walkability) of European cities they visit on vacation, but want to avoid walking even 10 feet.

Kristi DeLaurentiis noted the importance of smoke-free housing, and that SSMMA has focused on assuring “healthy hot spots” in food deserts. She added that it might be good to connect CMAP’s look at this issue to the Chicago Community Trust’s “On the Table” discussions, as well as the American Cancer Society’s work.

Adrienne Wuellner mentioned that Pace Bus doesn’t currently have a specific public health component.

Mark VanKerkhoff noted Kane County’s focus on public health issues, including in their 2040 plan, which recommended a full menu of health-related options. He added that it is important to have people with a background in public health to, for example, become involved in planning commissions, Village Boards, etc.

Another member suggested that perhaps health could be a standard chapter in future local Comprehensive Plans developed by CMAP.

7.0 ON TO 2050: Alternative Futures: What if more people chose walkable communities? (draft memo) – Liz Oo, CMAP

The next step in the development of the ON TO 2050 Alternative Futures process is creating a memo, surveys, and an interactive app for each of the five futures selected for further analysis. Each memo will provide more detail on the key trends driving the future, the most important impacts of these trends on the region, and strategies for CMAP and partners to respond. Liz updated the committee on progress made in the walkable communities future, where residents have increased preference for walkable, mixed-use communities. She also asked for committee feedback on impacts, strategies, and potential questions to ask

stakeholders in forthcoming survey.

[Due to time considerations, there were no questions.]

8.0 Other Business

Elizabeth Irwin announced this year's FLIP (Future Leaders In Planning) program, noting that this year's program was focused on the Alternative Futures themes.

Nancy Williamson told committee members that the IEPA recently had a systems crash. The Section 319 Program will be having an upcoming call for projects in 2017-2018 (Amy Walkenback is the Program Director who can be contacted for more information).

9.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10.0 Next Meeting

The Land Use Committee was scheduled to next meet on April 19, 2017.

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Ostrander, LUC Committee Liaison
April 5, 2017