



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Agenda Item No. 3.0

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MPO Policy Committee

Minutes

March 14, 2013

Cook County Conference Room

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800

Chicago, Illinois

MPO Policy Committee Members Present:

Frank Beal - Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Mike Bowen - Federal Highway Administration, Lynette Ciavarella - Metra, Scott Gryder - Kendall County, Alicia Hanlon - Will County, Gabe Klein - Chicago Department of Transportation, Kristi Lafleur - Illinois Tollway, Christopher J. Lauzen - Kane County, Aaron Lawlor - Lake County, Wes Lujan - Class I Railroads, Michael McLaughlin - Chicago Transit Authority, Jason Osborn - McHenry County, Leanne Redden - Regional Transportation Authority, Rhonda Reed - Federal Transit Administration, T. J. Ross - Pace, Jeffery Schielke - Council of Mayors, Secretary Ann Schneider - Illinois Department of Transportation, Chris Snyder - DuPage County, John Yonan - Cook County

MPO Policy Committee Members Absent:

Elliott Hartstein - Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, John McCarthy - Private Providers

Staff Present:

Patricia Berry, Randy Blankenhorn, Randy Deshazo, Teri Dixon, Dolores Dowdle, Don Kopec, Jill Leary, Tom Murtha, Holly Ostdick, Ross Patronskey, Gordon Smith

Others Present:

Mike Albin-DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, Brian Carlson - Illinois Department of Transportation, Bruce Carmitchel-Illinois Department of Transportation, Shiela Clements - Federal Transit Administration, Chalen Daigle - McHenry County Council of Mayors, Bola Delano - Illinois Department of Transportation, John Donovan - Federal Highway Administration, Henry Guerriero - Illinois Tollway, Luann Hamilton - Chicago Department of Transportation, Charles Ingersoll - Illinois Department of Transportation, Jon-Paul Kohler - Federal Highway Administration, Aimee Lee - Regional Transportation Authority, Josh McClusky - Illinois Department of Transportation, Sue Miller - Illinois Department of Transportation, Mark Pitstick - Regional Transportation Authority, David Seglin - Chicago Department of Transportation, Karen Shoup - Illinois Department of Transportation, Mike Sullivan - Kane-Kendall Council of Mayors, Paula Trigg - Lake County Division of Transportation, Mike Walczak - Northwest Municipal Conference

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Secretary Schneider called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no changes or announcements.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – January 10, 2012

On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by John Yonen, the minutes of the January 10, 2013 Policy Committee were approved.

4.0 Agency Reports

4.1 Council of Mayors Report

Mayor Schielke reported that the Council of Mayors Executive Committee met on January 29th where they approved revised 2013-2017 STP marks. The Councils have spent \$72.5 million in STP funds this year which is 73% of their mark. At the meeting the Mayors approved their FY14 UWP Planning Liaison request. They were also updated on the proposed expansion of the Metropolitan Planning Area and heard about the Manufacturing Cluster Drill Down report. Their next meeting is scheduled for May 21st.

4.2 CMAP Board Report

Leanne Redden noted that the CMAP Board met twice since the last Policy Committee meeting – on February 13th and March 13th. In February they discussed CMAP's 2013 legislative agenda, a Manufacturing Drill Down Report, and congestion pricing. At yesterday's meeting, they covered many of the same items that are on this Policy Committee agenda: the Plan Amendment bringing in the Circle Interchange to the list of fiscally constrained projects; the TIP Amendment and conformity, the expansion of the region's planning area, major capital projects and freight policy.

4.3 CMAP Report

Don Kopec reported on the status of CMAQ applications recently received. He noted that 145 project proposals were received which totaled over \$1.03 billion in federal funding – the first time requests in a program cycle have exceeded a billion dollars. The proposed program will cover two new years which will total about \$200 million, making this by far the most competitive cycle in the history of the CMAQ program. He also explained the constraint put on by having to program at least 25% of the funds for projects reducing particulate matter. This may cause a problem in putting together a proposed program.

Mr. Kopec provided a brief profile of the projects submitted. There were \$415 million in requests for transit service or facility improvements; \$112 million in bike and ped requests; and, nearly \$378 million in traffic flow improvement requests.

Mr. Kopec the briefed the committee on the meeting of the MAP-21 Committee which was established at the January meeting of the Policy Committee. He also covered the Manufacturing Cluster Drill Down Report which was distributed to the members.

5.0 Proposed Amendment to GO TO 2040

Patricia Berry introduced the proposed changes to GO TO 2040 which would add the Circle Interchange project to the list of fiscally constrained projects and change the language in the plan describing the Prairie Parkway. She covered the highlights of the memo contained in their mailings and mentioned that there was a significant discussion at the Transportation Committee which was chaired by Leanne Redden. Ms. Redden then described that discussion mentioning that a great deal of the concern expressed at that committee had more to do with the process by which the Circle Interchange project has come to be considered for inclusion in the plan, rather than the project itself. The Transportation Committee will be looking at that issue in their upcoming meetings.

Secretary Schneider noted that, given the age of the structures comprising the Circle Interchange, it really needs to be reconstructed. The Department's philosophy is to also take these opportunities to make improvements whenever possible. It is shortsighted to just do maintenance in these cases. For this reason, several ramps and a short section of the mainline facility will be expanded. On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by Leanne Redden the plan amendment bringing the Circle Interchange into the list of fiscally constrained projects was approved.

Ms. Berry then explained the proposed language change in the plan describing the Prairie Parkway. On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by Alicia Hanlon, the change was approved.

6.0 Semi-annual GO TO 2040/TIP Conformity Analysis & TIP Amendment

Patricia Berry informed the Committee that a 30-day public comment period on the proposed TIP Amendment and accompanying conformity determination ended on February 18th without any comments being received. The amendment consisted of changes to ten projects, two which changed their scope of work, two projects were brought into the TIP, three projects were moved out of the TIP and the completion dates of three projects were moved and crossed conformity analysis years. The results of the conformity analysis show that the region is in compliance with the State's Implementation Plan (SIP). On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by Gabe Klein, the TIP Amendment and conformity determination were approved.

7.0 MAP-21 Committee

Secretary Schneider noted that Mr. Kopec has already covered this item in his earlier report.

8.0 Designated Recipients of Section 5310 Formula Funds for the Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

Teri Dixon presented Resolution 13-01 which designates both the RTA and IDOT as recipients of Section 5310 Formula Funds for the mobility of seniors and individuals with

disabilities. A portion of these funds, as determined through the region's Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan will be used by IDOT for paratransit vehicles. Mike McLaughlin noted that this agreement was worked out among the RTA and Service Boards. On a motion by Mike McLaughlin, seconded by Mayor Schielke, Resolution 13-01 was approved.

9.0 FTA Subarea Allocation between Indiana-Illinois and Wisconsin-Illinois and Designated Recipients of Section 5307 and Section 5430 Capital and Planning Funds

Patricia Berry introduced Resolutions 13-02 through 13-06 which first establishes an allocation of Section 5307 and Section 5340 funds between Indiana and Illinois and between Wisconsin and Illinois and also designates the CTA, Metra and Pace and recipients of these funds. Alicia Hanlon noted that FTA had some questions about the way the allocation was determined and asked if these had been resolved. Ms. Redden responded that there currently is a dialogue going on with FTA to resolve any questions or concerns that they may have. Rhonda Reed of FTA agreed with that explanation. On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by Kristi Lafleur, Resolutions 13-02 through 13-06 were approved.

10.0 MPA Boundary Expansion

Patricia Berry explained to the Committee that by federal law, the region needs to include all areas designated as urbanized by the U.S. Census Bureau, along with any area expected to be urbanized within the next twenty years. She noted that numerous meetings were held with officials of Sandwich, Plano, the Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors, IDOT - District 3 and FHWA to discuss the implications of the boundary expansion. It is the staff recommendation that the metropolitan area be expanded to include the townships of Sandwich and Somonauk in DeKalb County. The geography of the township is used since that is the smallest level for which data is commonly available.

Mayor Schielke remarked that the RTA, Metra and Pace need to recognize that the region is expanding and eventually the issue of where transit service is provided will have to be addressed. Scott Gryder of Kendall County echoed the Mayor's comments saying the area could use Metra service. He noted that Kendall is changing and needs to look at things differently. The expansion will not change any board structure and the new communities will work through the Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors. On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by Alicia Hanlon, Resolution 13-07, which expands the metropolitan planning area boundary, was approved.

11.0 CMAP Board / MPO Policy Committee Memorandum of Understanding

Patricia Berry explained that every year the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee review their Memorandum of Understanding. At this time no changes are suggested, although next year the text describing the planning area will need to be modified. On a motion by Mayor Schielke, seconded by Scott Gryder, the MOU was reaffirmed.

12.0 Major Capital Project Update

Randy Blankenhorn provided a status of the major capital projects contained in GO TO 2040 which were being advanced. He referred the members to a handout at their places.

He also noted that in six or seven months, there will be a plan update for the Board and Policy Committee to consider which will carefully review and possibly revise the list of major capital projects.

Wes Lujan inquired about the possibility that there would be a rail line in the Illiana Corridor. Secretary Schneider answered that it was not part of the Environmental Impact Statement. Mike McLaughlin thanked CMAP for the work they have done with the concept of value capture as it could apply to the Red Line. Secretary Schneider also gave an update on the status of the CREATE program. Finally, Gabe Klein noted that work is beginning on the 22nd Street Station of the Green Line, an 18 month project.

13.0 Freight Policy Update

Randy Deshazo reviewed the freight related provisions contained within MAP-21. He noted the creation of a national freight committee and that the state has developed a freight plan. IDOT will also be forming a committee to address this requirement.

Locally, CMAP will be setting up a task force to examine a number of issues related to freight in the region. Wes Lujan expressed some concern about the possibility of creating a freight authority or another layer of government.

There was some discussion about someone from the region being nominated to the National Freight Committee. Secretary Schneider will likely be nominated in conjunction with her role in AASHTO.

14.0 RTA Strategic Plan Update

Aimee Lee referred the Committee to the handout which was distributed in the member's packets. She reviewed the vision and goals of the strategic plan and how they have changed since the Moving Beyond Congestion program was adopted. Included in the material were the results of a survey the RTA conducted regarding the vision and goals, along with a 2012 Report on Strategic Performance Measures.

15.0 Legislative Update

Gordon Smith presented a memo to the Committee with a Legislative Summary for March 2013. He first covered the schedule deadlines for bills to pass through the House and Senate. He also presented on HB1549 which institutes a merit-based selection process for transportation investments in Illinois. While this bill is supported by the CMAP Board, there were some concerns expressed about the capability of some regions within the state to produce the information necessary. It may be quite difficult to implement such a system equitably throughout the state.

Secretary Schneider urged the members to do what they could to support Joint Resolution 31 which authorizes the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority to expand the Illinois toll highway system by implementing the Elgin-O'Hare Western Access project.

Finally, SB 1594, the proposal concerning the merger of the RTA and CMAP has been delayed and may be taken up next week.

16.0 Other Business

Secretary Schneider noted that there were several new members in attendance including Scott Gryder from Kendall County, Christopher Lauzen from Kane County, Mike Bowen from the Federal Highway Administration, Rhonda Reed from the Federal Transit Administration, and Aaron Lawlor from Lake County. She thanked them for attending and encouraged them to continue participating in this important committee.

17.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

18.0 Next Meeting – Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.**19.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Secretary Schneider at 11:20 a. m. on a motion by Gabe Klein, seconded by Scott Gryder.