



Regional Coordinating Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

Cook County Conference Room

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800

Chicago, Illinois

**Committee Members
Present:**

Elliott Hartstein, Chair (CMAP Board), Frank Beal (CMAP Board), Lance Pressl (Institute for Work and the Economy - Economic Development Cmte.), Nancy Firfer (Metropolitan Planning Council-Housing Committee), Michael Connelly (CTA-Transportation Committee), Sheri Cohen (Human & Community Development Committee), Tom Weisner (CMAP Board), Ed Paesel (South Suburban Mayors & Managers Assoc.-Land Use Cmte.), Jack Darin (Illinois Sierra Club – Environment and Natural Resources Committee)

Members Absent:

Peter Silvestri (CMAP Board), John Noak (CMAP Board), Andrew Madigan (CMAP Board), Al Larson (CMAP Board), Leanne Redden (CMAP Board)

Others Present:

Patrick Knapp-Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors, Bruce Christensen – Lake County Council of Mayors, Aaron Maertins – Metra, Garland Armstrong – Access Living, Heather Armstrong – Access Living

Staff Present:

Jill Leary, Jesse Elam, Tom Kotarac, Joe Szabo, Gordon Smith, Jason Navota, Holly Ostdick, Ross Patrosky, Louise Yeung, Simone Weil

1.0 Call to Order

Elliot Hartstein called the meeting to order at 8:10 AM and asked committee members to introduce themselves.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

The conformity analysis and TIP amendment item was moved to after item #5 to accommodate late arrivals and have quorum. There were no announcements.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – January 2015

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 2015 meeting. All in favor, the motion carried.

5.0 Update on Illinois 53/120 Corridor Land Use Plan

Jason Navota provided an update on the 53/120 Corridor Land Use Plan that CMAP is undertaking with Lake County and the Illinois Tollway, referring to a PowerPoint presentation. He reviewed the scenario building exercise that the planning process went through and compared planned land use, as read from municipal comprehensive plans, with market projections. The take-home message, he said, was that communities plan for more non-residential development than the market would support, and that such planning tends to be aspirational. The project defined “hot spots” (places where land use is likely to change as a result of constructing IL 53/120) and “cool spots” (places with important natural resources), the idea being to use land use planning to shape growth in response to the road facility. Part of the project also involved scenario planning to help understand tradeoffs related to land use in the corridor, with the impacts of several scenarios quantified in terms of their impacts on a set of environmental, transportation, and other indicators.

Members asked how much of the land in the corridor is incorporated as well as other clarifying questions. Mr. Paesel requested a similar presentation to the Land Use Committee and suggested that CMAP needed to deal with the issue of IL 53/120 being in GO TO 2040 while the Illiana Expressway was not, even though neither had full funding identified. He also said it was an issue that the Illiana was criticized for mostly benefiting Will County when in the presentation it was noted that IL 53/120 would mostly benefit Lake County. Mr. Elam thanked Mr. Paesel for his comments, noted that the Illiana Expressway is a fiscally constrained project in GO TO 2040, and said that the main purpose of the agenda item was to discuss the land use plan for the IL 53/120 corridor.

Mayor Weisner suggested it could be a major political issue to increase density in the corridor, as some of the land use scenarios would. He also noted concern over water supply in Lake County and asked if water supply impacts were considered in the impact analysis for the scenarios. Mr. Navota said it was a complex issue and was not considered. Mr. Hartstein pointed out that the higher density area is along IL 120. Ms. Cohen asked about how housing affordability played into the scenario analysis. Mr. Navota showed additional slides on the market analysis conducted for the plan and said that it was done to try to determine the future mix of housing needed in the corridor. Mr. Darin inquired whether the proposed western end of 120 would create similar traffic problems as the current end of IL 53 at Lake Cook Road does; some discussion followed.

4.0 Transportation Consent Agenda: Semi-Annual GO TO 2040/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment

Ross Patronsky provided an overview of the recommended TIP amendments. A motion was made to approve the amendments. All in favor, the motion carried.

6.0 Economic Valuation of the Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision

Louise Yeung gave a presentation on a CMAP project to estimate the monetary value of the services provided by the landscapes in the Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision (GIV), a map identifying important natural areas in the region. She reported that monetary benefits were estimated for flood storage, water purification, groundwater recharge, and carbon sequestration, while the value of recreation and native flora/fauna were qualitatively estimated. She noted that the methodology considerably underestimates the full services provided by these natural areas because it does not include all services or take into account all resources, particularly Lake Michigan. Mr. Hartstein asked whether the information had been given to the forest preserve districts and to local governments for comprehensive planning. Ms. Yeung indicated that they were partners and the Local Technical Assistance program intended to use the product in their comprehensive planning efforts. Mr. Connelly asked how carbon storage was calculated; Ms. Yeung indicated that market prices were used.

7.0 State Legislative Update

Mr. Smith reviewed the bills CMAP has been tracking as well as the governor's proposed budget. He clarified that although the budget zeroes out an appropriation for CMAP, the governor's office had given him to understand that funding for the agency would be included in a statewide line item. Mr. Smith said he would be recommending to the Board that it support four bills. One would give counties power to dissolve certain units of government. Mr. Paesel asked if it would apply to municipalities as well; Mr. Smith said it applied to counties only. Another bill (HB 2685) allows RTA to sell working cash notes, while another (SB1907) expands the motor fuel tax to alternative fuel vehicles. Mr. Hartstein said he thought the idea of SB1907 was a good one and wanted to know how much revenue it would generate.

8.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

9.0 Public Comment

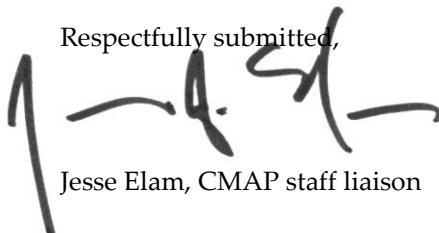
There was no public comment.

10.0 Next Meeting

The Regional Coordinating Committee meets next on June 10, 2015.

11.0 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,



Jesse Elam, CMAP staff liaison

Approved as presented, June 10, 2015