



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

## Agenda Item No. 3.0

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## Regional Freight Leadership Task Force

Minutes

October 18, 2013

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

**Members Present:** Michael Gorman (Chair), Chris Berry – University of Chicago, David Brady – Village of Bedford Park, Michael Burton – C&K Trucking, Rick Dickens – Cannon Ball Express Lines, Bill Driegert – Coyote Logistics, Peter Fahrenwald – RTA, Paul Fisher – CenterPoint Properties, Alicia Hanlon – Office of the Will County Executive, Gabe Klein – CDOT, Jim LaBelle – Metropolis Strategies, Paul Nowicki – BNSF, Phil Resendiz – FedEx Freight, Herbert Smith – Norfolk Southern

**Staff Present:** Alex Beata, Matt Maloney, Randy Blankenhorn, Emily Plagman

**Others Present:** Stan Scofield – APL, Dean Mentjes – FHWA, Mike Klemens – Will County Governmental League, Jennifer Becker – Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors, Mary Elisabeth Pitz – MEP&A, Brian Urbaszewski – Respiratory Health Association, Jennifer Miller – Michiana Council of Governments, Kristen Andersen – Metra, Libby Ogard – Prime Focus LLC, Max Bosso – Village of Elwood, Bola Delano – IDOT, Mark Pitstick – RTA, Rocco Zuccherro – Illinois Tollway, Aimee Lee – Illinois Tollway, Kevin Donahue – Illinois Tollway, John Donovan – FHWA

### 1.0 Call to Order

Regional Freight Leadership Task Force Chair, Michael Gorman, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

### 2.0 Welcome and Introductions

Chair Gorman provided opening remarks. CMAP Executive Director Blankenhorn provided welcoming remarks. The Task Force members and CMAP staff introduced themselves. Members of the audience introduced themselves.

### 3.0 Overview of Scope

Mr. Maloney linked the Task Force to GO TO 2040, reviewed some of CMAP's recent work on freight topics, and provided an overview of the Task Force's scope.

### 4.0 Status Updates

Mr. Beata invited the following speakers to provide brief updates on other ongoing freight efforts at the national, state, and local levels:

- 4.1 Freight Policy Council – Mr. Mentjes of the Federal Highway Administration’s Illinois Division Office provided an update on the activities of the U.S. DOT Freight Policy Council.
- 4.2 National Freight Advisory Committee – Ms. Delano of the Illinois Department of Transportation provided an update on the activities of the National Freight Advisory Committee.
- 4.3 Illinois State Freight Advisory Council – Ms. Delano provided an update on the Illinois State Freight Advisory Council.
- 4.4 Transportation and Logistics Strategy Team – Messrs. LaBelle and Fisher and discussed the business-led Transportation and Logistics Strategy Team, which is an outgrowth of World Business Chicago’s *Plan for Economic Growth and Jobs*. They described the Strategy Team’s “Supply Chain Innovation Network of Chicago,” an industry-led group comprised of all users and suppliers of the freight network.
- 4.5 CREATE Program - Mr. Sriver of the Chicago Department of Transportation provided an update on the CREATE rail improvement program, including its current funding status.
- 4.6 Illinois Tollway – Mr. Zuccherro from the Illinois Tollway provided an overview of his agency’s recently-initiated freight study. Mr. Zuccherro then answered questions from Task Force members.

## **5.0 Review of Materials**

Mr. Beata provided an overview of the background paper “The Importance of Freight to Northeastern Illinois,” presenting data to illustrate the economic impact of freight on the region, as well as the challenges raised by congestion, disjointed governance, and revenue shortfalls. Task Force members commented on federal financing programs.

## **6.0 Other Business**

There was no other business before the Task Force.

## **7.0 Public Comment**

Mr. Urbaszewski of the Respiratory Health Association asked if issues of bulk and marine storage would be considered by the Task Force. Mr. Maloney responded that the Task Force could look into these topics, and reaffirmed that the Task Force’s scope is limited to institutional responses. Task Force members then noted various sustainability initiatives underway at their organizations. Next, Task Force members discussed other topics, including the need to link theory to practice, for a potential study of the Chicago region’s freight market vis-à-vis competitor regions, and to continue routing freight through Chicago, optimizing the efficiency of the supply chain.

**8.0 Next Meeting**

The Task Force meets next on November 15, 2013.

**9.0 Adjournment**

The Task Force adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Beata, CMAP Staff