



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

## Agenda Item No. 3.0

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### **Economic Development Committees**

#### **DRAFT Minutes**

**October 22, 2018**

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
DuPage Conference Room  
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois

**Members present:** Peter Creticos (Institute for Work and the Economy), Joanna Greene (Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership), Terrence Hall (World Business Chicago), Emily Harris (Chicago Community Trust), Michael Horsting (Regional Transportation Authority), Jason Keller (vice chair, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago), Kelly O'Brien (Alliance for Regional Development), Kurtis Pozsgay (Village of Bensenville), Lance Pressl (Institute for Work and the Economy), John Reinert (McHenry County Board), Ayom Siengo (United Way of Metro Chicago), Christine Sobek (chair, Waubensee Community College)

**CMAP staff:** Sarah Buchhorn, Diana Cooke, Austen Edwards, Jesse Elam, Jane Grover, Erin Kenney, Stephanie Levine, Tony Manno, Stephane Phifer, Jeff Schnobrich, Simone Weil, Drew Williams-Clark

#### **1.0 Call to Order/Introductions**

Christine Sobek called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

#### **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

#### **3.0 Approval meeting minutes**

A motion to adopt the minutes for June 25, 2018 was made and seconded. With no opposition, the motion carried.

#### **4.0 Review of CMAP Working Committees**

CMAP staff are reviewing the agency's working committees to identify structural and procedural opportunities that may help to facilitate implementation of the ON TO 2050 plan. Stephanie Levine briefed the committee on the background and activities conducted so far as part of this assessment. These include a review of the committees' historical and governing documents, peer planning and programming organizations, and management theory. Staff have also conducted a series of internal focus groups with plan authors and committee liaisons. Committee members can share feedback with Austen Edwards.

## **5.0 ON TO 2050: Summary of public comments and revisions**

A draft of the ON TO 2050 comprehensive plan was available for public comment June 15 – August 14, 2018. Jane Grover provided an overview of CMAP’s public outreach during the planning process, the public comments received on the draft plan, and final revisions made in response to these comments. Public engagement included 38 presentations to CMAP committees and working groups, 11 open houses, and one public hearing. In total, staff received 970 public comments, including two letter-writing campaigns concerning CrossRail Chicago and potential extensions of Metra service into Kendall County. Other comments focused on the environmental and community effects of freight movement, regionally significant projects, and individual aspects of the plan’s five chapters. Staff incorporated and responded to comments ahead of the plan’s formal adoption on October 10, 2018. These revisions included greater emphasis on people with disabilities, the historical roots and legacy of racial inequities, local exemplars and best practices, and tax policy modernization including proposals for a vehicle miles travelled tax.

## **6.0 ON TO 2050: Implementation priorities**

With feedback from committee members, staff have begun to scope and initiate efforts to implementing key strategies of the ON TO 2050 plan in fiscal year 2019. Drew Williams-Clark provided an update on these activities. Staff are scoping development of a targeted reinvestment program to align various public investments and technical assistance in priority areas of the region, such as economically disconnected areas, job centers, and mixed use areas. CMAP received approximately \$1 million in grant funding from the Chicago Community Trust and the MacArthur Foundation to support a program aimed at building municipal capacity. Staff are currently developing the analytical components to several intermediate research projects outlined in ON TO 2050. Such efforts include a regional data scan on traded industry clusters and an exploration of new transportation revenues. Staff are also determining interest and funding opportunities for land preservation efforts in Kane County, water quality partnerships, and ongoing studies on truck routing and permitting practices. Committee members discussed opportunities to incorporate disability components into capacity building programs and recent research on the tax and land use implications of autonomous trucking technology.

## **7.0 Disinvested areas strategy report**

After extensive analysis, CMAP staff are identifying strategies for promoting reinvestment in disinvested areas – including communities with the social, physical, or economic characteristics of a weak market that have allowed for long-term economic declines. Erin Kenney provided an overview of the project’s theoretical framework and initial findings. A wide array of macro trends contribute to these patterns, including economic shifts, development patterns, population and demographic changes, perception challenges, and the legacy and prevalence of racial discrimination. Strategy development will focus primarily on systemic solutions based on findings from a review of research literature, peer regions, and extant programs with similar aims. These solutions fall broadly into three areas of focus: local capacity, infrastructure, and financial resources. For example, CMAP recently completed a local technical assistance project in Robbins that tied stormwater management with economic development goals, conducted in partnership with Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, University of Illinois-Chicago, and the

Regional Transit Authority. Committee members discussed potential public engagement efforts, the need to include neighborhood organizations as a focus of action, and leveraging the latent capacity for assistance in universities and other anchor institutions. Discussion also touched on the federal Opportunity Zones program and engagement with the private sector, as well as the wealth-building implications of housing.

#### **8.0 Traded clusters drill-down report**

Staff have developing the analytical components to support implementation of the ON TO 2050 plan's recommendations on supporting the region's traded industry clusters. This research project will provide a regional data scan on the characteristics and performance of traded clusters and their unique policy and planning needs. Austen Edwards provided an update on the project's direction, initial framing, and activities in developing a final report, expected in early 2019. The analysis has underscored the need to combine multiple public datasets with direct business intelligence in prioritizing clusters for substantial, concerted public investment over time. Data suggest that many of metropolitan Chicago's industrial strengths have experienced mixed or even trailing performance in the national context since 2001. The final report will aim to elevate key challenges and opportunities in regional industrial policy, to support regional inclusive growth efforts, and to identify key traded clusters for further drill-down analysis. Committee members discussed changes to the internal composition of different clusters in response to changing business practices, as well as the effects of changing business models and the on-demand economy.

#### **9.0 Other business**

Dr. Christine Sobek announced her decision to step down as Chair of the Economic Development Committee, effective after the meeting.

Kelly O'Brien invited committee members to register for the Alliance for Regional Development's 6<sup>th</sup> Summit on Regional Competitiveness, hosted on October 10, 2018 in partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

Peter Creticos provided a brief update on efforts to ensure a full count in the 2020 Census.

#### **10.0 Public Comment**

No public comment was provided.

#### **11.0 Next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Monday, January 28, 2018 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

#### **12.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Austen Edwards, Staff Liaison