



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2007

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

Board Members Present: Rita Athas (Deputy Chief of Staff, City of Chicago), Frank H. Beal (Executive Director, Chicago Metropolis 2020), Gerald Bennett (Mayor, Palos Hills), Roger Claar (Mayor, Bolingbrook), Zenovia Evans (Mayor, Riverdale), Elliott Hartstein (President, Buffalo Grove),), Al Larson (President, Schaumburg), Marilyn Michelini, (President, Montgomery), Raul Raymundo (Executive Director, Resurrection Project), Rae Rupp Srch, (Representing DuPage County), Dan Shea (McHenry County Board). **Non-Voting Members:** Edward Paesel (Executive Director, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association-NIPC) and Tom Cuculich (Director Economic Development & Planning DuPage County for Stephen Schlickman).

Absent: Anthony Calderone (Mayor, Village of Forest Park, Andre Rice (President, Muller & Monroe Asset Management), Calvin Jordan (Highway Commissioner, Rich Township) Nigel Telman (Partner, Sidley Austin, LLP) and Stephen Schlickman (Executive Director, Regional Transportation Authority-CATS),

Staff Present: Randy Blankenhorn, Jill Leary, Don Kopec, Dolores Dowdle, Bob Dean, Tom Garritano, Patricia Berry and Matt Maloney

Others Present: Jack Groner-Metra, Les Nunes-IDOT, Pat Carey-City of Chicago, Vicky Smith-Southwest Conference of Mayors, Bruce Christensen-Lake County, Mike Walczak-NWMC, Chris DiPalma-FHWA, Tam Kutzmark-DMMC and Jim LaBelle-CM2020.

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Mayor Gerald Bennett of Palos Hills, CMAP Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m., and asked that Board members introduce themselves.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes. CMAP's Employee of the Month, Sef Okoth-September 2007 and Lee Deuben-August 2007 were recognized.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – September 12, 2007

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2007 board meeting, as presented, was made by Dan Shea and seconded by Mayor Marilyn Michelini. All in favor, the motion carried.

4.0 Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported the following:

The Burnham Centennial celebration will take place in 2009. CMAP has been working with the partners in that effort to coordinate and schedule events to coincide with the development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. More information will be forthcoming.

The Texas Transportation Institute's annual Urban Mobility study was published on September 18, and CMAP issued a press release and fact sheet that same day. The intent was to influence media coverage, and for reporters to think about some of the region's options for addressing congestion. In particular, we pointed out that the congestion numbers indicate metropolitan Chicago needs to do a better job of maintaining its transportation system as a whole, including mass transit. Some of the innovative options include technology and infrastructure enhancements to better manage traffic, more collaborative planning between public and private agencies to guide growth, and creative financing to expand options for travelers. This is an example of how we can promote our agenda effectively when there are clearly stated policies. The news release and the fact sheet are at their place.

At the request of Senator Durbin's office, CMAP will be hosting a briefing on water with the northeastern Illinois congressional delegation on October 17, 2007.

The vice chairs, Rita Athas and Mayor Hartstein, are the appointees to MPO Policy Committee. In the case of their absence, alternates should be considered. Frank Beal and Rae Rupp Srch agreed to serve as alternates for the committee.

In a memorandum to the Board, a recommendation by staff to approve the purchase of 2 mid-level color and black & white copiers, 1 high-speed mid-level color copier and 22 computer printers at a cost of \$68,995 was presented for Board approval. A motion by Dan Shea was seconded by Mayor Michelini to approve the contract award as presented. All in favor, the motion carried.

A Resolution establishing a deferred compensation plan for CMAP employees and naming the Administrative Principal as the coordinator of the program was presented for

Board approval. A motion made by Mayor Larson was seconded by Rae Rupp Srch to adopt the Resolution. All in favor, the motion carried.

In a memorandum to the Board, a recommendation was made to approve a contract with the University of Illinois on behalf of the Regional Economics Application Laboratory (REAL) in the amount of \$178,521 that will assist in the preparation of the 2040 socioeconomic forecasts for use in developing the comprehensive plan. A motion made by Mayor Micheleni was seconded by Rae Rupp Srch to approve the contract as presented. All in favor, the motion carried.

5.0 Committee Reports

Rita Athas, Programming Committee Chair, reported that the committee is recommending that a subcommittee of the Programming Committee be formed to initiate the scope and process for reviewing Developments of Regional Importance (DRI) as stated in SB 1201. The subcommittee will make its preliminary recommendations to the Programming Committee on how to define and develop the DRI process. Upon approval by the committee of the preliminary recommendations, a larger task force comprised of stakeholders will be convened to assist in creating the scope and the process for review. The task force's recommendation will be submitted to the Programming Committee for their recommended approval to the CMAP Board. The subcommittee will be convened prior to the next committee and board meeting. The remainder of the committee's agenda will be considered later in the board meeting. Additionally, Vice Chair Athas asked the chairs and vice chairs of the working committees that sit on the coordinating committees to discuss at their working committees relevant topics for consideration at the coordinating committees to ensure a coordinated and comprehensive approach.

Elliott Hartstein, Planning Committee Chair reported that a summary of the visioning event for the Regional Comprehensive Plan was presented along with the public engagement plan. The Climate Change summit scheduled for December 11 was discussed and particularly how CMAP should address and incorporate issues related to climate change in the planning process. The committee also heard a presentation on an upcoming infill development snapshot report and the work plan of CMAP's community and technical assistance group.

Written summaries of CMAP's working committees were also provided.

6.0 Legislative and Agency Funding Update

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported that Governor Blagojevich approved Senate Bill 1201 with an amendatory veto, deleting the language to create the Wastewater Committee. For the bill to become law, the General Assembly must override the veto or accept the amendment. Last week the Senate voted to override the amendatory veto and the House is scheduled to take the same action this week.

Mayor Hartstein commended the effort that it took to pass this legislation in Springfield this session and the bipartisan support that it received.

7.0 Proposed FY 2008 Multi-Year Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program

The Board was asked to approve the proposed FY 2007 Multi-Year Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. The public comment period, as required, concluded on August 28. Responses to those comments were addressed and accepted by the CMAQ Project Selection Committee and the CMAP Transportation Committee. Randy Blankenhorn noted that the Policy Committee will consider the program for approval at their meeting the following day. A motion by Rae Rupp Srch was seconded by Mayor Michelini to approve the FY 08 CMAQ. All in favor, the motion carried.

8.0 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

CMAP staff, Holly Ostdick requested that the Board approve the recommendation of the Programming Committee to approve the TIP amendment revising the I-355 from I-55 to I-80 project to a six-lane cross section from a four-lane cross section. Rapid population and employment growth will bring the planned four-lane cross section to capacity sooner than anticipated. Rather than add the third lane later under traffic, it is beneficial to complete these improvements now while the road is traffic-free and contractors are mobilized on-site. The project includes adding lanes on portions of selected arterials with entrance/exit ramps to I-355. These projects are regionally significant and non-exempt, and thus require a TIP amendment with a conformity analysis. The results of the analysis indicate that the TIP with the proposed amendment conforms to the State Implementation Plan (SIP). The comment period on the proposed TIP amendment for I-355 and associated projects ended on September 23rd. No comments were received. A motion by Dan Shea was seconded by Rae Rupp Srch. All in favor, the motion carried.

9.0 Metra New Starts

Metra staff, Jack Groner, stated that the results from the Alternatives Analysis for the Union Pacific Northwest and West Lines which support a locally preferred alternative were presented to the Programming Committee for their consideration and recommended endorsement. Mayor Hartstein asked what the potential impact of the proposed acquisition by CN of the E, J&E, specifically the impact on CREATE and the STAR Line. Mr. Groner responded that he did not have any details since the application wasn't filed yet and that CN had not discussed it with Metra. He noted that Metra had committed \$20 million to CREATE. Rita Athas asked if the alternatives analysis was coordinated with regional plans, not just transportation, but housing, land use, etc. Mr. Groner responded that it was in the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan. She also commented whether Metra was best suited to undertake an alternatives analysis or if a regional entity would be more appropriate to undertake the analysis.

Following the recommendation of the Programming Committee, Rae Rupp Srch made a motion to endorse the selected alternative, which was seconded by Mayor Larson. All in favor, the motion was carried.

10.0 Project Notification

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn stated that in the past, NIPC issued a monthly project notification to apprise elected officials and other interested parties of applications for federal and state grants that could impact their communities. Staff forwarded copies of these funding applications to the NIPC Planning Committee, which then decided whether to make an expression of “general support” as part of its consent agenda. The project reviews and notifications did not include any detailed staff reviews. Following a discussion, the board’s consensus was that the Land Use working committee did not need to review the notification, but the process should continue in some form. Staff was directed to examine possibilities to provide the information in a different format and present options to the board at a later meeting.

11.0 Regional Comprehensive Plan

Randy Blankenhorn stated the 6 step process of the Plan:

1. Focus the Vision
2. Understand Current Conditions
3. Evaluate Strategies
4. Choose a Preferred Scenario
5. Select Recommended Capital Projects
6. Compose the Plan

Although we are in Step 1, we are concurrently preparing for steps 2 and 3 at a staff level. The purpose of the snapshot reports is to establish linkages between CMAP’s issue areas, gather background data, and initiate discussions on major regional issues early in the planning process. The purpose of the sustainability snapshot is to define the concepts of sustainability, particularly how policy issues related to sustainability should be treated in the RCP. Bob Dean, CMAP staff, gave a presentation on the policy issues related to sustainability and responded to the Board’s input and questions. The Board’s consensus was that the policy issues discussed should be considered in the development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

12.0 Regional Priorities

Executive Director Blankenhorn stated that as the legislature continues to debate the need and the magnitude for a state capital program, CMAP continues to support the five principles adopted in December 2006. Over the next few years, as part of developing the Regional Comprehensive Plan we will formulate regional priorities. However in the interim, the board should discuss how it would like to approach regional priorities, for example in a capital program or federal transportation reauthorization and staff was seeking guidance on how to pursue regional priorities. Tom Cuculich stated the programs should come from sound policies and the importance of working with the counties and the municipalities to ensure substantial programs. Rita Athas commented that CMAP

should be leading the charge to be effective and the importance of a timely response. Mayor Hartstein stated that the priorities should be region wide and Ed Paesel commented that they shouldn't be limited to transportation projects.

13.0 Unified Work Program (UWP)

Blankenhorn stated that the UWP Committee is about to begin its FY 2009 process. Over the last several years the committee has worked to establish a clearer framework for how to prioritize the allocation of what is now \$18 million annually in federal planning dollars. The UWP process funds a significant portion of CMAP's work as well as other important planning projects by other agencies across the region. To ensure accountability, the UWP Committee is seeking further policy guidance from other CMAP committees and the Policy Committee in advance of developing the upcoming FY 09 UWP. The Board requested that staff provide further information and a recommendation to proceed with next year's funding cycle at their next meeting

14.0 Other Business

Joel Stauber from the Citizens' Advisory Committee gave the Board an update on their Committee meeting held earlier in the week.

15.0 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

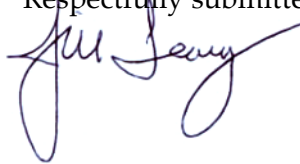
16.0 Next Meeting

The CMAP Board is scheduled to meet again on November 14, 2007.

17.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn by Mayor Evans, seconded by Frank Beal and with all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Al Levy".

10-30-07

Approved as presented by unanimous vote, November 28, 2007.