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# **Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)**

# **Board Meeting Minutes**

March 13, 2013

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

Cook County Conference Room

Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

Board Members Present: Gerald Bennett, CMAP Board Chair-representing southwest Cook County, Frank Beal-representing the City of Chicago, Susan Campbell-representing the City of Chicago (via tele-conference), Roger Claar-representing Will County (via tele-conference), Michael Gorman-representing Cook County, Elliott Hartstein-representing Lake County (via tele-conference), Andrew Madigan-representing the City of Chicago, Marilyn Michelini-representing Kane and Kendall Counties, Heather Weed Niehoff-representing the City of Chicago (via tele-conference), Raul Raymundo-representing the City of Chicago, Rick Reinbold-representing South Suburban Cook County, Rae Rupp Srch-representing DuPage County, Dan Shea-representing McHenry County, Peter Silvestri-representing suburban Cook County and non-voting members Leanne Redden-representing the MPO Policy Committee, André Ashmore-representing the Governor's office (via tele-conference), and Sean O'Shea-representing the Governor's office.

**Staff Present:** 

Randy Blankenhorn, Jill Leary, Dolores Dowdle, Don Kopec, Bob Dean, Matt Maloney, Patricia Berry, Gordon Smith, Randy Deshazo, and Sherry Kane

**Others Present:** 

Mike Albin-DMMC, Kristen Anderson-Metra, Jennifer Becker-Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors, Allison Bos-SW Conference, Bruce Carmitchel-IDOT, Bruce Christensen-Lake County, John Donovan-FHWA, Parfait Gasana-MPC, Joe Levie-UIC (CUPPA), Chrissy Mancini-MPC, Daniela Morpurgo-UIC (CUPPA), Hugh O'Hara-Will County Governmental League, Ed Paesel-SSMMA, Mark Pitstick-RTA, David Seglin-CDOT, Vicky Smith-SW Conference, Peter Skosey-MPC, Mike Sullivan-Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors, Steven Vance-Streetsdog, Tom Van Der Woude-SSMMA, Mike Walczak-NWMC and Tammy Wierciak-WCMC.

### 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

CMAP Board Chair, Mayor Gerald Bennett, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., and asked Board members to introduce themselves.

# 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements

### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2013 meeting of the CMAP Board as presented was made by Rae Rupp Srch and seconded by Mayor Marilyn Michelini. All in favor, the motion carried.

# 4.0 Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported on the following topics. The Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program update was included in the Board's materials. Blankenhorn also recapped highlights from recent meetings with D.C. delegation and staff, as well as a number of the federal agencies, including the Economic Development Administration (discussing expansion of the LTA program to economic development), Department of Commerce (covering OECD report), and U.S. DOT (reviewing freight policies related to MAP-21, congestion pricing and federal budget). Blankenhorn thanked Board members Gorman, Hartstein & Larson for attending the Manufacturing Drill-Down forum held at Harper College in Palatine on February 26, 2013, and reported that CMAP continues to look for opportunities to present findings, especially to business leaders. Finally, Blankenhorn reported that CMAP had received a no-cost extension of the EI2 work from the Department of Energy, through September 30. Originally due to end in May, residential retrofits saw a considerable rise through outreach efforts, the commercial side realized success, CMAP's partnership with Retrofit Chicago gained traction and staff will use the extra months continuing to implement programs.

### 5.0 Procurements and Contract Approvals

The following procurements were presented for approval: a two-year contact approval with an option for three one-year extensions to SLG Innovation for Information Technology (IT) Consulting Service Support in the amount of \$325,200 for the first and \$334,956 for the second year; purchase of IT hardware and software at a cost not to exceed \$364,000 either procured through government contract or state list; a one-year renewal of the CoStar commercial real estate online database subscription in the amount of \$26,971.46; approval of concepts related to reallocation of funds to meet expansion and reductions in the EI2 programs through September 30. A motion to approve the contract awards and purchases, as presented was made by Dan Shea, seconded by Mayor Marilyn Michelini, and with all in favor, carried.

## 6.0 Committee Reports

On behalf of Elliott Hartstein, chair of the Regional Coordinating Committee, Mayor Michael Gorman reported that the committee had met earlier in the morning and discussed the following topics. The proposed amendment of the Circle Interchange project into GO TO 2040, including technical analysis was considered and the Regional Coordinating Committee recommended that the CMAP Board and MPO Policy

Committee approve the amendment. A second proposed amendment to GO TO 2040 would also revise the description of the Prairie Parkway project, which the Regional Coordinating Committee considered and likewise recommended approval. Staff presented and the Regional Coordinating Committee recommended approval of the semi-annual GOTO 2040/TIP conformity analysis and TIP amendments to the CMAP Board. The Committee also recommended approval of an expansion of the region's Metropolitan Planning Area to include Sandwich and Somonauk Townships in DeKalb County to account for growth in the Chicago Urbanized Area per the 2010 Census. Staff presented an update on recent freight activities. Staff discussed current thinking on a proposed Regional Freight Authority task force as well. A presentation was made on the potential policy applications of the Green Infrastructure Network, a set of GIS data and tools that identifies the most critical natural areas in northeastern Illinois. Finally, staff gave an update on state legislative activities, reporting that the deadline has passed for substantive bills to be introduced in both the House and Senate, and bills must move out of committee by March 22.

# 7.0 CMAP & MPO Memorandum of Understanding (annual review)

The CMAP & MPO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was presented for annual review. A motion by Mayor Marilyn Michelini was seconded by Rae Rupp Srch to reaffirm the MOU and with all in favor, carried.

## 8.0 Major Capital Project Update

From the Major Capital Projects Quarterly report that was included in the Board packet, Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn gave a brief update on the following projects of which CMAP has been actively engaged: Illinois Route 53/120, CTA Red and Purple Line Modernization, CTA Red Line South, Elgin/O'Hare/Western Access, and Illiana. An update of a number of other major capital projects was also included in the report, Blankenhorn continued. Responding to the question raised about GO TO 2040 again being amended with the Illiana project, Blankenhorn stated that should a decision to pursue the project be made, such an amendment might be considered later this year. Sean O'Shea added that a resolution on Elgin O'Hare/Western Access is being considered by the General Assembly. Blankenhorn responded that CMAP is supportive of that resolution.

#### 9.0 GO TO 2040 Plan Amendments

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn presented two GO TO 2040 Plan Amendments for Board approval. First, IDOT had asked that CMAP amend GO TO 2040 to include the Circle Interchange improvements. While the project includes major reconstruction, it also adds highway capacity which is why GO TO 2040 must be amended. Blankenhorn gave a brief summary of the material that had been included in the Board packet, including the number of public comments made, IDOT's technical analysis, the review process and its consistency with the goals and directives of GO TO 2040 and direct and indirect impacts of those goals, and finally the regional benefit of the project. Blankenhorn concluded that staff, CMAP's Transportation Committee, and Regional Coordinating Committee recommend the amendment. A motion by Dan Shea was seconded by Mayor Peter Silvestri to approve the amendment to the GO TO 2040 plan to include the Circle Interchange improvements. All in favor, the motion carried.

A second amendment to GO TO 2040, at the request of FHWA, involved a technical change to the Prairie Parkway description that would maintain eligibility of necessary funding and assure that the dollars allocated would stay in the corridor. Many of the public comments received had very little to do with the change in the language, but rather where the remaining available funds should be directed. A motion by Mayor Marilyn Michelini, was seconded by Rae Rupp Srch to approve the language change and amend the GO to 2040 plan. All in favor the motion carried.

### 10.0 Transportation Consent Agenda

CMAP Staff Patricia Berry presented the Transportation Consent Agenda that included the semi-annual GO TO 2040 TIP Conformity Analysis & TIP Amendment, reporting that the public comment period, during which no comments were received, concluded on February 18, 2013. Also included in the consent agenda, Berry reported, was the recommendation to expand the MPA boundaries to include the townships of Sandwich and Somonauk (in DeKalb County) in the Kane/Kendall Council of Mayors. A motion by Mayor Michael Gorman was seconded by Rae Rupp Srch to approve the transportation consent agenda as had been presented. All in favor, the motion carried.

### 11.0 State Legislative Update

CMAP Staff Gordon Smith presented the State Legislative Update and reported that the Governor's budget included a \$6,000,000line item to metropolitan planning organizations within the state. Smith reported that of the over 6,000 bills that had been introduced in the first two months of the session, at this time CMAP is particularly interested in HB 1549 associated with performance measures. The bill was moved to sub-committee and Peter Skosey, MPC Vice President was working diligently to alleviate concerns. Smith also reported that SB 1594 associated with a CMAP and RTA merger had been delayed until next week and the General Assembly is presently considering pension reform. Two issues had been discussed earlier at the Regional Coordinating Committee, Smith continued: why had CMAP not taken a position to protect the Local Government Distribution Fund (LGDF), under HB2481 and how could CMAP remain neutral on HB2460? Regarding HB 2481, Board Chairman Mayor Bennett reported that the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus would be leading an effort to oppose that bill. It was also reported that CMAP would not be able to support the arbitrary formula being introduced under HB2460, which calls for a 50/50 split in highway funds. When questioned about downside to supporting the measure, Smith reported that the agency's position is not to support arbitrary funding formulas. .

# 12.0 Freight Policy Update

CMAP Staff Randy Deshazo gave an update on recent developments in freight from MAP-21. Deshazo reported that MAP-21 established the need for a National Freight Policy, the designation of a primary freight network of up to 27,000 miles of highways and recommends that the states prepare their own freight plans, with the participation of state freight advisory boards. MAP-21 also directed U.S. DOT to prepare a national freight plan, involving stakeholders from various regions and sectors in a national freight

advisory committee, Deshazo continued, and nominations for the federal freight advisory committee are now being accepted. CMAP's support of the freight provisions of MAP-21 have been conditional (i.e., MAP-21 is too focused on highway investment, while a multimodal approach is really needed), CMAP with work with other larger major metros in developing consensus on freight policy for the next transportation reauthorization bill and, as called for in GO TO 2040, conducting a feasibility analysis of a regional freight authority. The region's highways and rail infrastructure are congested, existing resources are limited, and the freight industry lacks a unified voice in Springfield and in D.C., Deshazo continued, and CMAP will explore ways to provide a voice for freight needs and develop new revenue to execute projects, through a task force to advise staff and the CMAP board. Staff is working now to identify potential taskforce members. When questioned about IDOT's advisory council for the freight plan, Deshazo stated that the process should begin shortly and the timing of the update would be discussed at the next freight committee meeting.

Regarding nominations for the (25-member) national freight advisory committee, Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn reported that it is likely that ASHTO would nominate IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider at the State level, that Jim Healy would be nominated at the County level, and that at the regional level, Gabe Klein is the likely nomination. A motion by Dan Shea was seconded by Rae Rupp Srch to allow CMAP Executive Director to work out the details and sign on to a joint letter appointing the regional member of the advisory committee. All in favor, the motion carried.

Finally, Deshazo wrapped up, indicating that staff will likely bring its slate of task force members (similar to the Tax Policy Task Force) to advise staff and the Board for approval in June. Blankenhorn added that this task force will need a chair.

## 13.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the CMAP board.

#### 14.0 Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

### 15.0 Next Meeting

The April meeting of the Board is on call; the Board will likely meet next on May 8, 2013.

### 16.0 Executive Session

At 10:30 a.m., a motion to move to a closed session was made by Dan Shea and seconded by Rae Rupp Srch. All in favor the motion carried.

At the conclusion of the closed session, Chairman Bennett announced that the CMAP Board had considered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) under agreement 11BOB43. A motion authorizing CMAP's Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn to sign the MOU made by Rae Rupp Srch, was seconded by Dan Shea and with all in favor carried.

# 17.0 Adjournment

At 10:40 a.m., a motion to adjourn made by Dan Shea, seconded by Mayor Marilyn Michelini and with all in favor carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Leary, Chief of Staff

04-15-2013 /stk

Approved as presented by unanimous vote, May 8, 2013