

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Friday, July 28, 2023

9:30 AM

Cook County Conference Room
433 West Van Buren Street, Suite 450
Chicago, IL 60607

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Vice Chair Tara Orbon called the meeting to order at 9:31a.m. and reminded the audience that the meeting was being recorded.

Present: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT-D1 Representative, IDOT - OIPI Representative, IDOT - OP&P Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, MPC Representative, NIRPC Representative, Pace Representative, Tollway Representative, Will Co Representative, and RTA Representative

Absent: CNT Representative, IEPA Representative, and SEWRPC Representative

Non-Voting: FHWA Representative

Absent (NV): Academic Research Representative 1, Academic Research Representative 2, Bike/Ped TF Representative, and FTA Representative

Tara Orbon (Vice Chair) served as representative to Cook Co; Leon Rockingham served as representative to CoM; Vig Krishnamurthy served as representative to CDOT; Aimee Lee served as representative to CMAP; Michael Connelly served as representative to CTA; Chris Snyder served as representative to DuPage Co; John Donovan served as representative to FHWA; John Baczek served as representative to IDOT D1; Jack Cruikshank served as representative to IDOT OIPI; Brandon Greber served as representative to IDOT OP&P; Jackie Forbes served as representative to Kane Co; Heidi Lichtenberger served as representative to Kendall Co; Mike Klemens served as representative to Lake County; Audrey Wennink served as representative to MPC; Scott Hennings served as representative to McHenry Co; Lynnette Ciavarella served as representative to Metra; Tom Vander Woude served as representative to NIRPC; Eric Llewellyn served as representative to Pace; Kyle Whitehead served as representative to RTA; Henry Guerriero served as representative to Tollway; Christina Kupkowski served as representative to Will Co

Staff Present: Erin Aleman, Lindsay Bayley, Bill Barnes, John Carpenter, Daniel Comeaux, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Phoebe Downey, Ryan Ehlke, Doug Ferguson, Elizabeth Ginsberg, Jon Haadsma, Kasia Hart, Jaemi Jackson, Leroy Kos, Martin Menninger, Nikolas Merten, Stephane Phifer, Chad Phillips, Russell Pietrowiak, Julie Reschke, Elizabeth Scott, Lee Skuby, Sarah Stolpe, Ryan Thompto, Leo Torres, Mary Weber, Laura Wilkison, Ingrid Witherspoon, Daniel Xu

Others Present: Jessica Abdehour, Dennis Barber, Eric Czarnota, Michael Fricano, Tony Greep, Andrea Gunning, Roger Huff, Kendra Johnson, Quinn Kasal, Brian Larson, John Loper, Brittany Matyas, Daniel Maziarz, Heather Mullins, Manar Nashif, Ryan Peterson, Leslie Rauer, Steve Schilke, Joseph Schofer, Joe Surdam, Daniel Thomas, Jazmin Vega, Jill Ziegler

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

2.01 Requests for Agenda Changes

[23-358](#)

It was announced that Aimee Lee will take over as the representative to CMAP for the Transportation Committee. Lynette Ciavarella of Metra shared that they are taking public comments on their new fare structure proposal until August 6th, and that they are holding events in person and online to solicit feedback. Tara Orbon of Cook County announced the release of the County's updated bike plan.

2.02 Executive Director's Announcements

[23-357](#)

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Staff Aimee Lee presented the committee with the executive remarks. The CMAP Legislative Affairs team is working on reconvening the IJA working group. On the state side, the General Assembly passed a \$50.6 budget and CMAP will continue tracking updates. Lee announced that the STAR program got a nearly \$5 million grant in partnership with IDOT and six counties. The team is getting started in developing safety action plans. The CMAP Data Hub has been updated. Community data snapshots have been updated for county and municipal level insights on local communities. Lee explained that the Illinois' Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) met to discuss some updated federal rules around air pollution enforcement that could have impacted transportation funding. With potential policy changes coming down, there may be a strategic restructuring of the Transportation Committee to approach issues in a progressive way. Lastly, the UWP Committee met to discuss developing new methodologies to re-focus the program. The UWP Committee is engaged in discussions with peers and proposals are being refined. Lee concluded by announcing that at least \$1 million will be allocated to the competitive program annually, with a portion dedicated to safe and complete streets planning.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.01 Minutes from June 2, 2023

[23-368](#)

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval

Attachments: [TC\(DraftMinutes\)06-02-23](#)

A motion was made by Leon Rockingham, seconded by Jack Cruikshank, that the minutes from June 2, 2023 be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote.

4.0 Items for Approval

4.01 FFY 2023-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments and Administrative Modifications

[23-359](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: TIP Amendment 23-10 was published to the eTIP web site on July 21, 2023 for committee review and public comment. A memo summarizing formal TIP amendment 23-10 and administrative amendments 23-10.1 and 23-10.2 is included in the meeting materials. Staff requests approval

of TIP Amendment 23-10.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval

Attachments: [TC\(Memo\)TIP Amend23-10](#)
[Formal Amendment 23-10](#)
[Administrative Amendment 23-10.1](#)
[Administrative Amendment 23-10.2](#)

CMAQ Staff Russell Pietrowiak presented the committee with the latest formal and administrative TIP amendments as detailed in the attached memo. The I-80 RSP project is ramping up and so to have the costs. \$48 million in federal funds have been added to the TIP. Bridge work added another \$16 million in funding. The Congress Parkway Bridge is scheduled to be replaced in FY 25, with an update to the mix of federal and state funds. \$262.1 million of cost increases were mostly from new projects, several AC/ACC changes, cost updates, and schedule changes. The TIP remains fiscally constrained.

Jack Cruiksank of IDOT asked about the 70 schedule changes, Pietrowiak explained that the changing of federal fiscal years is moving projects to different IDOT lettings.

Audrey Wennink of MPC asked about the projects that have cost changes beyond the threshold and would be interested in the committee have a table of the percentage changes for all of these. Pietrowiak added that the formal amendment report includes percentage change data on individual projects.

A motion was made by John Baczek, seconded by Mike Klemens, that TIP Amendment 23-10 be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote.

5.0 Information Items

5.01 Recommended FFY 2024 - 2028 CMAQ, Carbon Reduction, TAP-L, and STP Shared Fund Programs for Public Comment

[23-369](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: On July 13, 2023, the Project Selection Committees for STP and CMAQ/CRP/TAP-L met and discussed the staff recommended programs for the FFY 2024-2028 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ), Carbon Reduction (CRP), locally programmed Transportation Alternatives (TAP-L) and STP Shared Fund regional transportation funding programs. The Project Selection Committees released the program recommendations for a Public Comment Period from July 13 to August 11, 2023.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

Attachments: [TC\(Memo\)Draft Rec FFY24-28](#)

CMAQ Staff Kama Dobbs explained that 129 applications were received for funding across all four funding programs. Staff evaluated the applications according to the methodologies approved by the STP and CMAQ/TAP project selection committees to determine eligibility and final scoring in each program. These evaluations led to the development of four recommended programs which were presented to the respective project selection committees and released for public comment on July 13th. Public comment is currently ongoing, and will close on Friday, August 11th. The four programs combined include over \$593 million in federal funding for 66 projects - including bike/ped, bridges, emissions reduction, highway, and transit projects - that are sponsored by the region's programmers. More than half of the recommended projects are locally sponsored by a suburban municipality or park district. 17 of the 19 projects recommended for the STP shared fund and 23 of 47 projects recommended for CMAQ, Carbon Reduction, or TAP-L are within suburban municipalities. More detailed statistics about each recommended program are contained in the memo, and the memo contains links to even more details and the call for projects website which has details on how to submit a public comment. After the comment period closes on August 11th, the comments will go back to the STP and

CMAP & TAP project selection committees for final discussion and program approval on August 31st. CMAP staff will then process TIP amendments to incorporate the committees' approved programs and those TIP amendments will be brought to the Transportation Committee on September 22nd for consideration for a recommendation of approval to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee on October 11th.

Tara Orbon from Cook County clarified that following the public comment period the program will go to other committees and return to TC in the form of a TIP amendment.

Chris Schnyder from DuPage County asked about the difference between federal requested and recommended programmed amount. Dobbs confirmed that they discuss with partners and don't program below the minimum amount that they specify.

Audrey Wennink of MPC asked if it would be possible to view more project details. Dobbs explained that all selected and non-selected project applications are available online.

5.02 Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) report update

[23-360](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: Update of CMAP's ongoing work to develop a transit system report, the Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART), required by the Illinois General Assembly.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Staff Laura Wilkison presented on progress in drafting the Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) report and engagement efforts this summer. The discussion centered around the financial recommendations included in the report. The funding packages highlight a need for more robust state support. In comparable areas, there is a higher percentage of state support for paratransit than we see in Illinois- even the rest of the state sees more state funding than in the RTA region. There is a financial gap in the current operating system and there are essential system improvements that will also need funding. Long term funding solutions likely won't be able to be enacted by 2026 so there will be short term/stop gap options in the solutions. The PART team developed 3 funding packages: minimum viable, meaningful change, and transformational investment. These packages include various revenue sources such as increased sales tax base, increased tolls, downtown commercial parking tax, in-region vehicle registration surcharge, remove state service fee on RTA sales tax, funding for existing state reduced fare mandates, and an in-region MFT surcharge. These represent baseline actions, durable sources, and diminishing or stop gap sources. Wilkison emphasized that there is not one solution, and in the end many revenue sources will be required.

There was further discussion amongst committee members regarding the importance of paratransit. There was a sentiment that equity and climate change must be addressed through this report. As the region witnesses emissions and costs of car ownership rising at alarming rates, the aim is that the recommendations in the report advance goals of increased ridership and ensure stable funding. Wilkison noted that if the goal is mode shift, then this must be in collaboration with bring transit to the areas of the region that have little to no access to transit.

The presentation continued to cover recommendations for implementation and governance reform. The PART team's analysis focused on funding allocations that align with regional goals and provide avenues for local input. There is a need by the state to review the current 50% fare box recovery requirements. Four options of governance structures are being evaluated: a stronger coordinating agency, a regional network manager, an integrated agency with committees, and a unified new entity. The team continues to work with the Eno Center for Transportation, a third-party vendor, to evaluate the implications of each of these. Aimee Lee added context that they are trying to solve transit's funding issues, the topic of governance introduces the idea of a new vision of the transit system. The region must position itself for success in implementing the desired

system.

The next steps for the PART report include distributing white papers, memos, and videos. The team will be continuing their outreach efforts in a culmination of the joint MPO Policy and CMAP Board meeting.

6.0 Other Business

Chris Snyder asked if a consultant has been brought on for the Safe Streets for All grant. CMAP Staff Lindsay Bayley confirmed that there will be a kickoff meeting soon and AECOM has been brought on as the project manager for the creation of safety action plans.

7.0 Public Comment

CMAP Staff Doug Ferguson confirmed that the committee received a written comment and read the letter into the record. John Paul Jones, from Englewood Sustainable Initiatives and Grow Greater Englewood, submitted to the committee that the organization is happy to see that the Englewood Line Trail is recommended for funding. The CTA is looking to re-open the historic green-line Racine station in Englewood, which is of interest to the community. Jones and his collaborators are focused on bolstering accessibility, sustainability, and effective land-use in greater Englewood moving forward.

8.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on September 22, 2023 at 9:30am.

9.0 Adjournment

A motion was made by Leon Rockingham, seconded by Brandon Geber, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:54am.

Minutes prepared by CMAP Staff Sarah Stolpe