



MPO POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Thursday, June 12, 2025

9:30 AM

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

Members of the public who attend in-person can pre-register for a visitor's pass at info@cmap.illinois.gov until June 11, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. or should plan to arrive early to check-in with the building's information desk for access.

You can also join from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Conference Call number: 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 847 9627 2107 Passcode: 252201

CMAP provides the opportunity for public comment. Individuals are encouraged to submit comment by email to info@cmap.illinois.gov at least 24 hours before the meeting. A record of all written public comments will be maintained and made publicly available.

The total cumulative time for public comment is limited to 15 minutes, unless determined otherwise by the Chair. Public comment is limited to three minutes per person unless the Chair designates a longer or shorter time period. Public comments will be invited in this order: Comments from in person attendees submitted ahead of time; comments from in-person attendees not previously submitted; comments from virtual attendees submitted ahead of time; and comments from virtual attendees not previously submitted.

To review CMAP's public participation policy, please visit <https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/committees>.

If you require a reasonable accommodation or language interpretation services to attend or join the meeting, please contact CMAP at least five days before the meeting by email (info@cmap.illinois.gov) or phone (312-454-0400).

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Biagi called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Present: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Tollway Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2 and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: Class I Railroads Representative and FHWA Representative

Absent (NV): FTA Representative

Noting a physical quorum of the Committee, Chair Biagi reported that requests were received from Kendall Co Representative Scott Gengler and Class 1 Railroads Representative Tom Evenson, to participate in this meeting remotely in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. A vote is required.

A motion was made by CoM Representative, seconded by Metra Representative, that the agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT Representative, Kane Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Tollway Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2 and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: FHWA Representative and FTA Representative

Not Present: Kendall Co Representative and Class I Railroads Representative

Gia Biagi served as IDOT Representative, Mary Nicol served as CDOT Representative, Frank Beal served as CMAP 1 Representative, Tara Orbon served as Cook Co Representative, Jeff Schielke served as CoM Representative, Molly Poppe served as CTA Representative, Steve Travia served as DuPage Co Representative, Cassandra Rouse served as Tollway Representative, Tom Rickert served as Kane Co Representative, Scott Gengler served as Kendall Co Representative, Shane Schneider served as Lake Co Representative, Scott Hennings served as McHenry Co Representative, Jim Derwinski served as Metra Representative, Erik Llewellyn served as Pace Representative, Kyle Whitehead served as RTA Representative, Tom Evenson served as Class 1 Railroads Representative, Jon Paul Dipla served as FHWA Representative

Staff present: Erin Aleman, John Carpenter, Kama Dobbs, Aimee Lee, Martin Menninger, Stephane Phifer, Russell Pietrowiak, Julie Reschke, Elizabeth Scott, Ryan Thompto, Isaura Velez

Others present: Brandon Geber, Megan Swanson

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There are no changes to the agenda.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Group Vote

A motion was made by CoM Representative Jeff Schielke, seconded by Lake Co Representative Shane Schneider, to approve agenda items 3.01 and 3.02 under one vote. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Tollway Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2 and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: Class I Railroads Representative and FHWA Representative

Absent (NV): FTA Representative

3.01 Minutes from March 13, 2025

[25-214](#)

Attachments: [MPO Policy Committee 03.13.25 minutes](#)

Agenda items 3.01 and 3.02 were taken under one vote.

3.02 Minutes from the May 30, 2025 special meeting

[25-216](#)

Attachments: [MPO Policy Committee 05.30.25 Minutes](#)

Agenda items 3.01 and 3.02 were taken under one vote.

4.0 CMAP Announcements

4.01 Executive director's report

[25-205](#)

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, welcomed everyone to the June meeting. She announced that CMAP's request for a \$2 million appropriation was successfully included in the FY2026 state budget. The funding will come through the Illinois Department of Human Services aligning with CMAP's mission to support dynamic, community responsive planning efforts across the region. Director Aleman highlighted that this funding enhances CMAP's ability to fulfill the Regional Planning Act's directives extending beyond transportation to include land use, water and economic development planning. She noted the importance of diversifying funding sources given the uncertainty of federal funding. Director Aleman thanked members for their engagement with legislators as it was key to securing the appropriation.

Director Aleman shared the successful adoption of countywide Safety Action Plans for Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties under CMAP's Safe Travel for All Initiative. The initiative was supported by a federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant. The plan aims to reduce serious traffic injuries and fatalities. With plans now adopted, local governments are eligible to apply for the SS4A funds by June 26.

Director Aleman announced the selection of the 30 new 2025 Planning Technical Assistance projects. The projects were chosen from over 80 applications and address local needs such as ADA transition planning, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and pavement management. She thanked the RTA for its continued partnership in the joint call for projects.

Director Aleman highlighted the release of CMAP's Local Housing Profiles that were developed with DePaul University's Institute for Housing Studies. These profiles provide housing market data for every county municipality and Chicago community area and are now available on CMAP's website.

She also announced a new partnership between CMAP and Lake County to advance affordable housing initiative, supported by a \$300,000 grant from the Schreiber Philanthropy. Over the next year, this initiative will produce a Housing Ready Toolkit with tailored, actionable housing solutions.

Director Aleman noted that the next committee meeting will take place in October as a joint meeting with the CMAP Board.

The executive director's report was received and filed.

4.02 CMAP Board update

[25-206](#)

Frank Beal, CMAP Representative 1, reported on the April 9, May 14, and June 11 CMAP Board meetings. At the April meeting, the board received an update on the agency's congestion management strategy and its connection to the Regional Transportation Plan. The board also reviewed the Emerging Priorities report which outlines proposed goal areas for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan.

At the May meeting, the board received an update on the I290 Blue Line Corridor Development office project and progress made by the CDO and its partners. The board also heard a presentation on the Regional Vision planning process and was given a preview of early insights from the existing conditions assessment.

At the June meeting, the board provided concurrence on the FFY 2026-2030 CMAQ STP Shared Fund and TAP-L programs which are up for MPO approval. The board also previewed key findings from the Existing Conditions report for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan and received an update on awarded projects under the 2025 Technical Assistance Call for Projects.

The CMAP Board update was received and filed.

4.03 Council of Mayors' Executive Committee report

[25-207](#)

Jeffrey Schielke, Chair of the Council of Mayors' Executive Committee, reported on their recent meeting. The committee includes representatives from each of the 11 regional councils of mayors. The committee welcomed three new members representing the Northwest and North Shore councils: Mayor Jesal Patel from Lincolnwood, President Mike Moran from Barrington, and President Cecily Kats from Kenilworth.

The committee discussed CMAP's data and mapping tools.

The committee also approved new by-laws, replacing the previous version that dated back to 2001. The updated by-laws now allow for hybrid workshop meetings with the goal of making participation easier and more accessible for mayors across the region.

The next meeting for the Council of Mayors is scheduled for September.

(Kendall Co Representative Scott Gengler arrived at 9:45 a.m.)

The Council of Mayors' Executive Committee report was received and filed.

5.0 Other Items for Approval

5.01 MPO Self-Certification for the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

[25-177](#)

Attachments: [Memo - Self Certification](#)
[CMAP MPO self-certification 2025](#)

Martin Menninger, Program Lead in Regional Policy and Implementation, reported on the agency's self-certification process which is required to confirm that the regional planning process complies with federal regulations. Menninger shared that self certification is an internal audit conducted by CMAP with a full federal certification review expected in early 2026.

Self-certification includes 10 parts detailed in the committee packet. Part 1 addresses core MPO requirements including the Regional Transportation Plan, the Congestion Management Process, and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Part 2 of the self certification pertains to the Clean Air Act conformity and parts 3 through 10 cover civil rights related statutes such as the Americans Disabilities Acts, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and the Older Americans Act.

Menninger noted that while CMAP complies with all requirements, not all relevant documents were accessible on the new website. Staff has since worked with the communications team to ensure that all materials are now available on the website. The Transportation Committee recommended approval of the self-certification at its May meeting.

A motion was made by CoM Representative Jeff Schielke, seconded by RTA Representative Kyle Whitehead, to approve the MPO Self-Certification for the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Tollway Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2 and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: Class I Railroads Representative and FHWA Representative

Absent (NV): FTA Representative

5.02 ON TO 2050/2025-2029 TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment**25-176**

Attachments: [Memo - Conformity Analysis](#)
[Formal TIP Conformity Amendment 25-08](#)

Russell Pietrowiak, Program Lead Analyst, reported on the ON TO 2050, 2025/2029 TIP Conformity Amendment 2508. He noted that the CMAP region is designated a nonattainment area for ozone, thus required under the Clean Air Act to demonstrate that projects in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) conform to the federally approved motor vehicle emission budget through a regional emissions analysis.

Pietrowiak explained that projects subject to air quality analysis must be modeled to show that regional emissions do not exceed the approved budget which is detailed in the conformity memo included in the meeting packet. The conformity amendment was released for a 30day public comment period during which no comments were received.

He shared that the emissions modeling process and regulatory requirements were reviewed at the Tier II interagency consultation meeting on May 16. During the meeting participants expressed support for CMAP's methodology. The conformity amendment was also presented to the CMAP Transportation Committee on May 30 where it received recommendation for MPO approval.

Pietrowiak shared that by approving this amendment the MPO affirms that the TIP is in conformity with air quality standards. There were no questions following the presentation.

A motion was made by CoM Representative Jeff Schielke, seconded by Tollway Representative Cassaundra Rouse, to approve the ON TO 2050/2025-2029 TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Tollway Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2 and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: Class I Railroads Representative and FHWA Representative

Absent (NV): FTA Representative

5.03 Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026- 2030 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Program Shared Fund (STP-SF), and locally programmed Transportation Alternatives (TAP-L) Programs**25-184**

Attachments: [Memo - Fed Programs 26-30](#)
[FFY26-30 CMAQ Prog-TC 05-30-25](#)
[FFY26-30 STP-SF Prog-TC 05-30-25](#)
[FFY26-30 TAP-L Prog-TC 05-30-25](#)
[CMAQ TIP Amendment 25-09.1](#)
[STP-SF TIP Amendment 25-09.2](#)
[TAP-L TIP Amendment 25-09.3](#)

Kama Dobbs, Principal Analyst, reported on TIP Amendments 2509.1, 2509.2 and 2509.3 which include the FFY 2026/2030 CMAQ, STP Shared Fund and TAPL project programs. These amendments reflect recommendations from CMAP's project selection committees, the Transportation Committee,

and the CMAP Board.

Principal Analyst Dobbs shared that the most recent call for projects received 88 applications, totaling more than \$1 billion in federal funding requests. She shared that after evaluating and scoring based on technical merit, project readiness, and funding availability, 40 projects were selected across the three programs. A public comment period received four comments but yielded no changes to the draft programs based on the comments.

The recommended projects represent over \$296 million in regional investment including funding for emissions reduction, transit access, highway improvements, and bike/pedestrian infrastructure. The programs were approved by the project selection committees, reviewed by the Transportation Committee, and received concurrence by the CMAP Board.

A motion was made by CoM Representative Jeff Schielke, seconded by CMAP Representative 1 Frank Beal, to approve the Federal Fiscal Year 2026-2030 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program, Surface Transportation Program Shared Fund, and locally programmed Transportation Alternatives Programs. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Tollway Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2 and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: Class I Railroads Representative and FHWA Representative

Absent (NV): FTA Representative

6.0 Information Items

6.01 Appointment of a subcommittee for nominating the vice chair of the MPO Policy Committee

[25-202](#)

Attachments: [Memo - Nominating MPO Policy Subcommittee](#)

Secretary Biagi reported that each year, the Chair of the MPO Policy Committee appoints a nominating committee to recommend a candidate for Vice Chair for the following year. This year's nominating committee includes Frank Beal (CMAP Board) representing the regional planning agency, Lynette Ciavarella (Metra) representing the public transportation agency, Mayor Jeff Schielke (Council of Mayors) representing municipal government, Mary Nicol (Chicago Department of Transportation) representing highway and roads transportation, and Scott Hennings (McHenry County) representing counties.

Secretary Biagi noted that no vote is required, and this agenda item was presented for information only.

The Nominating Committee is scheduled to meet following the MPO Policy meeting.

The agenda item was received and filed.

6.02 Regional Vision update

[25-131](#)

Attachments: [Memo - Vision](#)

Elizabeth Scott, Principal Policy Analyst, provided an overview of the agency's effort to update the region's comprehensive plan currently known as the ON TO 2050. She shared that this initiative is an agency effort focused on shaping the future of Northeastern Illinois through a robust, inclusive, and data-driven process. Scott shared that CMAP is gathering the best available data and conducting scenario planning to examine major drivers of change such as technological advancements, demographic shifts, economic trends, environmental pressures, and land use impacts. This work will form the foundation for regional civic dialogue in 2026 to identify shared priorities, challenges, and opportunities.

She shared that the ultimate goal is to produce a concise and dynamic plan that reflects the region's collective vision and identifies key areas for coordinated action. The new plan will be rooted in public input and civic engagement and supported by rigorous data analysis and presented in an accessible format.

Scott encouraged committee members to engage with their networks in the planning process and participate in upcoming outreach efforts. She also asked members to save the date of November 4, 2025 for a celebration marking CMAP's 20th anniversary and the launch of the new comprehensive plan.

The agenda item was presented.

6.03 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update

[25-181](#)

Attachments: [Memo - 2026 RTP Existing Conditions report](#)
[Existing Conditions Report](#)

Ryan Thompto, Principal Policy Analyst, provided an update on the development of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) emphasizing the recent release of the Existing Conditions Report as a significant milestone in the planning process. This report contains comprehensive data about current trends and challenges and will be integrated with the emerging priorities work to inform the plan's goals, objectives, strategies, and project selection and funding decisions.

Thompto shared how CMAP is progressing on several critical components of the RTP including the financial plan. He shared that a draft forecast of baseline revenues has been completed, and staff are now developing reasonably expected revenues to support the long range transportation vision. He noted that additional updates are anticipated at a future meeting.

In addition to financial planning, CMAP has collected submissions for the Regional Capital Projects process. These projects are undergoing evaluation to determine which will be prioritized in the RTP and the results of the evaluation with a full project list will be presented in a future meeting.

Thompto noted that public engagement remains a key part of the process with ongoing outreach to stakeholders and the public. He shared that a regional questionnaire was distributed and has already received 1,000 responses. Thompto shared that CMAP is increasing in person engagement activities across the region this summer and is attending community events to gather input on mobility challenges and priorities.

Julie Reschke, Senior Policy Analyst, presented findings from the Existing Conditions Report for the RTP. She highlighted that while serious injuries from crashes have declined since 2020, fatalities remain elevated while pedestrians and bicyclists, particularly those under 18 and over 55, are disproportionately impacted. She noted that the report emphasizes the critical role of active transportation and vulnerability of nonvehicle travelers in high crash areas.

Reschke discussed how climate impacts such as flooding and extreme heat increasingly impact transportation infrastructure and public mobility, with many regional assets at high flood risk. She noted that the region's economy grew 71% between 2010 and 2023 and added 430,000 jobs with transportation, distribution, and logistics emerging as high performing sectors. The region's economic growth trails behind other peer metros and the national average of 84%, underscoring the importance of strong transportation infrastructure in supporting economic competitiveness.

Reschke shared that much of the region's infrastructure dates to the 1950s and 1960s and is at risk of deteriorating without coordinated investment. Funding challenges such as decreasing motor fuel tax revenues due to fuel efficiency and improvements in electric vehicles have become more common. She stressed the need for strategic asset management and encouraged stakeholders to review the full Existing Conditions report.

Discussion ensued regarding the growth of suburban areas such as Batavia, IL and Kendall County. Mayor Jeffrey Schielke commented that Batavia has experienced growth due to the quality of public schools, access to tollway and Metra and medical services availability.

An update to the Regional Transportation Plan update was presented.

6.04 Legislative update

[25-215](#)

Attachments: [Memo - Legislative Update](#)

John Carpenter, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, provided an update on recent legislative developments. The General Assembly appropriated \$2 million for CMAP's for non-transportation work in the FY2026 budget and is awaiting the governor's signature. He expressed appreciation to supporters, cosponsors and legislators who helped secure the funding.

Carpenter summarized the broader state budget actions noting the \$55.2 billion FY2026 budget passed on May 31. The budget reflects a 4% increase over the previous fiscal year and includes a \$100 million reserve fund for immediate disbursement. He noted an \$800 million revenue package introduced on new taxes to tobacco, vaping products, sports betting, and on foreign and out of state corporations aiming to close a projected \$500 million revenue shortfall. It was noted that approximately \$171 million of motor fuel sales tax revenue was diverted from the Road Fund to the General Revenue Fund. Carpenter shared that a major legislative focus this session was transit reform and funding. He said bills were introduced in the final week and proposed establishing a new Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) to oversee CTA, Metra, and Pace. It included revenue proposals for transit operations and capital. While the Senate passed its version of the bill, the House did not advance either version.

Carpenter noted that legislative leadership and the governor agreed that more work is needed to address governance and funding issues. The General Assembly is not scheduled to reconvene until October, but a special session remains possible. Additionally, CMAP's intergovernmental affairs team will focus its summer on outreach advocating for stable, reliable transit funding and continue

engaging legislators around the recommendations in the PART report.

The agenda item was received and filed.

7.0 Other Business

No other business was brought before the committee.

8.0 Public Comment

Garland Armstrong, former Illinois resident congratulated Nora Leerhsan as the new acting President of the CTA. Garland also commented on communications from Metra, PACE, RTA and CTA for those with language barriers and disabilities. The RTA, PACE, CTA and Metra will follow up.

9.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting is a joint meeting with the CMAP Board scheduled for Wednesday, October 8, 2025.

10.0 Adjournment

A motion was made by CoM Representative Jeff Schielke, seconded by CTA Representative Mary Nicol, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CoM Representative, Cook Co Representative, CTA Representative, DuPage Co Representative, IDOT Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Tollway Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2 and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: Class I Railroads Representative and FHWA Representative

Absent (NV): FTA Representative

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Isaura Velez.