

**STP PROJECT SELECTION COMMITTEE****MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

Thursday, November 3, 2022

9:30 AM

**Please join from your computer, tablet or smartphone.****<https://meet.goto.com/630377757>****You can also dial in using your phone.****United States: +1 (571) 317-3122****Access Code: 630-377-757****1.0 Call To Order**

Chair Dobbs called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m., and reminded the members that as permitted by the Governor's Disaster Declaration of October 14, 2022, the determination has been made that an in person meeting is not practical or prudent for this committee. To ensure that the meeting is as transparent as possible, staff posted the meeting materials one week in advance, will provide a recording of this meeting linked on our website, and will take all votes by roll call. Ms. Weber called the roll.

**Present:** Kama Dobbs, Dan Burke, Alice Gallagher, Kevin O'Malley, Leon Rockingham, and Jeffrey Sriver

**Absent:** Jeffery Schielke

**Non-Voting:** John Donovan, Tony Greep, Jennifer (Sis) Killen, and Heather Mullins

**Absent (NV):** Chad Riddle

**Staff present:** Laurent Ahiablame, Lindsay Bayley, Teri Dixon, Phoebe Downey, Alex Ensign, Doug Ferguson, Jon Haadsma, Noah Harris, Kasia Hart, Craig Heither, Aimee Lee, Amy McEwan, Tim McMahon, Martin Menninger, Sarah Stolpe, Mary Weber

**Others present:** Len Cannata, Kaci Crowley, Eric Czarnota, Grant Davis, Jon Paul Dipla, Jackie Forbes, Michael Fricano, Kendra Johnson, Heidi Lichtenberger, Jack Malec, Brittany Matyas, Jada Porter, Leslie Rauer, Thomas Rickert, Brian Stepp, Joe Surdam, Daniel Thomas, David Tomzik, Freddy Vasquez, Jazmin Vega

**2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no changes to the agenda. Ms. Dobbs welcomed Aimee Lee, CMAP's new Deputy for Transportation in the Research, Analysis, and Programming Division. Several committee members also welcomed Ms. Lee.

**3.0 Approval of Minutes - September 1, 2022****[22-484](#)**

**Attachments:** [Draft Minutes STP PSC 09012022](#)

*A motion was made by Mayor Rockingham, seconded by President Gallagher, to approve the minutes of September 1, 2022 as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:*

- Aye:** Kama Dobbs, Dan Burke, Alice Gallagher, Kevin O'Malley, Leon Rockingham, and Jeffrey Sriver
- Absent:** Jeffery Schielke
- Non-Voting:** John Donovan, Tony Greep, Jennifer (Sis) Killen, and Heather Mullins
- Absent (NV):** Chad Riddle

#### 4.0 Active Program Management Reports

##### 4.1 Shared Fund Status Updates

[22-506](#)

**Attachments:** [STP & CRRSAA Shared Fund Status Report - October 2022 \(Active\)](#)  
[STP Shared Fund Status Report - October 2022 \(Contingency\)](#)

Ms. Weber provided a summary of the STP and CRRSAA Shared Fund status reports. She highlighted two projects in the active program that did not submit their required September Quarterly Status Updates. Per the Active Program Management policies, the projects should be removed from the active program and required to reapply for funding in the next cycle. As updates to the Active Program Management policies will be discussed at the next meeting, staff asked if the committee would like staff to delay taking action. Mayor Rockingham asked how far along each project was. Ms. Dobbs responded that the funding for both projects is for phase 1 engineering. Although there has been no project activity, they are still required to submit quarterly status updates. Mayor Rockingham suggested that no action be taken until further discussion of proposed changes to the Active Program Management policies.

Ms. Weber then provided a summary of the contingency program, noting a few projects that did not submit September quarterly updates as well as a project that was let for construction using other fund sources. These projects will be removed from the contingency program. Mayor Rockingham suggested that the contingency projects be carried through the next quarterly reporting cycle. Staff agreed.

##### 4.2 Regional Accounting Update

[22-502](#)

**Attachments:** [STP Regional Accounting - October 2022](#)  
[CRRSAA Regional Accounting - October 2022](#)

Ms. Weber reviewed the Regional Accounting Summary for the overall STP and CRRSAA programs. In FFY 2022, only one shared fund phase was obligated, which was just 15% of the funding programmed. From the local programs, less than 50% of the funding available was obligated. Ms. Weber complimented both the Central Council and Lake Council for obligating over 100% of their funding. Although staff is still completing final audits on FFY 2022 activities, approximately \$26M will be removed from the shared fund and individual council marks and will be available to be redistributed to any council or the shared fund once all programmed funds are obligated. Similarly, the region was not successful in obligating all the CRRSAA funding available and have carried over about \$31M of the \$42M available to the region. Funds that were unprogrammed have been reallocated to cover cost increase requests and the region is on track to have these funds obligated within the next six months.

#### 5.0 STP Shared Fund Methodology

## 5.1 Preliminary Engineering Requirements

[22-486](#)

**Attachments:** [STPPSC CMAQTAPPSC MethodologyMemo Preliminary Engineering 11032022update](#)

Ms. Dobbs reviewed the final staff proposal for relaxing the requirement that phase 1 engineering be substantially complete to apply for funding. Based on discussion by both this committee and the CMAQ and TAP Project Selection Committee in September, the staff recommendation is to define the degrees of completion for preliminary engineering and to accept applications for any project that has preliminary engineering underway. Based on the degree of completion, future cost increases and phases eligible for funding will be limited. These limitations will not apply to cohort 4 communities that are eligible to apply for preliminary engineering funding. Ms. Killen stated she appreciated staff's efforts to propose an approach that places reasonable limits and expectations on projects.

## 5.2 Transportation Impact: Jobs + Households

[22-503](#)

**Attachments:** [STPPSC MethodologyMemo Jobs+HH Analysis](#)

Ms. Dobbs reviewed the jobs and household scoring. At the prior meeting, staff proposed transitioning from using the sum of all jobs and all households within each project's travel shed, to considering jobs and households separately. The jobs portion of the score would be unchanged. For households, staff proposed scoring based on the proportion of households within the project's travel shed to the total households within the project area. While this committee generally supported the proposal, a request for staff to re-score projects from the last cycle using the proposed method was made. Ms. Dobbs provided a comparison of 10 projects showing the difference in scores between the current and proposed methods.

Mr. Davis expressed concern that this will take points away from denser areas and may conflict with CMAP's ON TO 2050 goals of targeting infrastructure to developed areas. Ms. Dobbs stated that within the collar counties there are projects that serve a much larger proportion of the population than others. This proposal was aimed at trying to equalize that impact in the collar counties and is not intended to negatively impact suburban Cook. She reminded the committee that they may choose to continue using the current scoring method. President Gallagher agreed that it does appear suburban Cook may be negatively impacted, stating that there are many worthwhile projects in that area that benefit from CMAP's funding assistance. Ms. Killen expressed concern about the change in scores for reconstruction projects in suburban Cook, noting those projects are integral to supporting communities. Based on feedback from the committee, it was determined that the current methodology will continue being used.

## 6.0 Draft FFY 2024 - 2028 STP Shared Fund Application Booklet

[22-504](#)

**Attachments:** [STP Shared Fund Application Booklet FFY2024-28 committee markup version 11032022](#)

Ms. Dobbs provided a summary of the draft FFY 2024-2028 Shared Fund application booklet. Mr. Burke expressed concern regarding the proposal to expand eligible project types to include commuter rail yard and terminal projects. He noted that the committee has made a conscious effort to select project types focused on the needs most relevant to local governments. With the already high demand for shared funds, this inclusion may have detrimental impacts. Ms. Dobbs stated that based on prior committee discussion, these projects would be incorporated within the Transit Station

category, therefore not adding an additional project type, but creating more competition among transit-related projects. Ms. Mullins stated that the transit agencies are in support of including this change. President Gallagher noted that Chicago is a transit hub for the country, and it is appropriate to support that. Ms. Dobbs reminded the committee that the request to include rail yard and terminal projects came from a local government. In response to a question from Mr. O'Malley, Ms. Dobbs confirmed that yard or terminal projects could be stand-alone projects or part of a larger station project, noting that the improvement score considers the average condition, compliance, and efficiency of the project. Mr. O'Malley noted concern about investing in facilities that are not customer-facing and wanted assurance that the projects would do more than achieve a state of good repair by improving service for customers. Ms. Dobbs explained that 25% of the improvement score is proposed to be related to efficiency. Mr. Sriver stated concerns that rail yard and terminals projects are very expensive and may request a large portion of the available funding. Ms. Dobbs noted that a goal of the Shared Fund is to fund larger cost projects of a regional nature and that grade separation and bridge projects have already demonstrated that some years only one project can be funded.

After continued discussion, it was determined that the addition of rail yards and terminals would be accepted and that the committee could revisit this decision for the next call for projects cycle. Additionally, Ms. Dobbs reminded the committee that even if a project scores well, the committee, as well as the Transportation Committee and MPO Policy Committee, have the power to remove a project from the program regardless of score.

*A motion was made by President Gallagher, seconded by Mayor Rockingham, to approve the FFY 2024-2028 STP Shared Fund Application Booklet, rejecting the changes in the Household/Job Impact section, and accepting all other proposed changes, and to authorize staff to make minor corrections not affecting the policies, to insert missing information, and to correct any formatting or typographical errors. The motion carried by the following vote:*

**Aye:** Kama Dobbs, Dan Burke, Alice Gallagher, Kevin O'Malley, Leon Rockingham, and Jeffrey Sriver

**Absent:** Jeffery Schielke

**Non-Voting:** John Donovan, Tony Greep, Jennifer (Sis) Killen, and Heather Mullins

**Absent (NV):** Chad Riddle

## **7.0 Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **8.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **9.0 Next Meeting**

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2022.

## **10.0 Adjournment**

*A motion was made by Kevin O'Malley, seconded by Dan Burke, to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

Minutes prepared by Mary Weber