



CMAP BOARD

MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

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 Tuesday, March 12, 2024 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.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88121200726?pwd=OIFcnbDvF0rsbpzwKpB4CvRXBvKy2i.1>

Conference call number: 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 881 2120 0726 Pass code: 394669

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 Bennett called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Present: Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Gary Grasso, Paul Hoefert, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan and Matthew Walsh

Absent: Matthew Brolley and John Roberson

Non-Voting: Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

Noting a physical quorum of the Board, Chair Bennett reported that a request was received from Members Anne Sheahan and Leanne Redden to attend the CMAP Board meeting virtually in compliance with Open Meetings Act requirements. A vote is needed to approve their virtual attendance.

A motion was made by Member Nancy Rotering, seconded by Member John Noak, to allow Anne Sheahan and Leanne Redden to participate virtually. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Gary Grasso, Paul Hoefert, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer and Carolyn Schofield

Absent: Matthew Brolley and John Roberson

Non-Voting: Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

Not Present: Anne Sheahan and Matthew Walsh

Chair Bennett remarked that Members Sheahan and Redden are present and able to participate in the Board meeting.

Staff present: Erin Aleman, Bill Barnes, Nora Beck, Michael Brown, Jonathan Burch, John Carpenter, Enrique Castillo, Gilton Cross, Teri Dixon, Alex Ensign, Elizabeth Ginsberg, Ryan Gougis, Kasia Hart, Craig Heither, Jaemi Jackson, Natalie Kuriata, Aimee Lee, Tony Manno, Martin Menninger, Jason Navota, Stephane Phifer, Elizabeth Scott, Ryan Thompto, Jennie Vana, Blanca Vela-Schneider, Laura Wilkison

Others present: Garland Armstrong, Eric Czarnota, Drew Duffin, Jackie Forbes, Kendra Johnson, George Kandathil, Mike Klemens, Brian Larson, Jill Leary, Heidi Lichtenberger, James Neil, Jeffrey Nolish, Mat Pasquini, Hart Passman, Suzette Quintell, Leslie Rauer, Vicky Smith, Joe Surdam, Daniel Thomas, Kyle Whitehead

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, reported that voting items will be postponed to later in the meeting to allow the arrival of one additional board member.

Chair Bennett moved agenda items 4.01 and 7.02 ahead of the approval of the minutes.

4.0 CMAP Announcements

4.01 Executive director's report

[24-095](#)

(This item was moved up on the agenda.)

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, provided an update regarding the Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership report. She indicated that the deadline for the Technical Assistance Call for Projects deadline is Friday, March 22 and encouraged board members to reach out to their communities to apply if they have projects that meet the criteria.

Executive Director Aleman reported that CMAP maintains the Travel Demand Model for the region and that the data comes from the Household Travel survey which is conducted every 10 years. CMAP recognizes there is a need for regular data collection on regional travel behaviors every couple of years. A small pilot of the next Household Travel Survey will be conducted in April to make sure the mechanics of the survey tool is working correctly before the official launch, anticipated for later in the year.

Executive Director Aleman noted that the MPO Policy Committee will meet tomorrow and one agenda item includes taking action on the proposed FY2025 Unified Work Program for Northeastern Illinois. This document is a companion to the FY2025 comprehensive budget and work plan.

7.0 Information Items

7.02 Regional Climate Action Plan

[24-052](#)

Attachments: [CAP Memo](#)

(This item was moved up on the agenda.)

Nora Beck, Principal Policy Analyst in Regional Policy and Implementation Division, provided an update on the agency's regional climate action work. The federal government has made net zero greenhouse gas emission commitments which will require metropolitan planning organizations to elevate climate action efforts.

The USDOT has added a new federal performance measure in addition to the 17 that CMAP already follows. This measure sets declining targets for greenhouse gas emissions on the National Highway System (NHS) relative to 2022. In February 2024, IDOT set a 2.6 percent reduction from 2022 to 2026 for tailpipe CO2 emissions on the NHS. CMAP has six months to adopt three targets based on geographic locations but noted that there are no direct penalties for failing to meet those targets. Staff has begun developing the required 2022 baseline using its travel model and anticipates bringing forward proposed reduction targets to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee at their June committee meetings. These targets will be used to inform the development of next Regional Transportation Plan.

Principal Policy Analyst Beck discussed the Carbon Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program, consisting of two phases for planning and implementation. Phase 1 has already begun and has three deliverables: the Priority Climate Action Plan that had a deadline of March 1, 2024, led by Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC); the Comprehensive Climate Plan that is due July 2025; and the status report that is due the summer of 2027. Phase 2 of the program is the implementation of

competitive grants.

(Member Matt Walsh arrived at 9:49 a.m.)

Principal Policy Analyst Beck shared Insight regarding what CMAP has learned in the development of the greenhouse gas inventory. She reported that CMAP, in partnership with ComEd and the Respiratory Association, were awarded the Clean Energy to Communities Initiatives grant for advanced modeling support. The grant would be used to better understand the scale and extent of strategies for reaching transportation emission reduction goals.

Discussion ensued including the timing of data sets, mode shift strategies, the long-term impact of electrical vehicles and batteries, the use of industrial space for solar installation, and how the program can better serve disadvantaged communities.

The Regional Climate Action Plan was discussed.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.01 Minutes from February 14, 2024

[24-091](#)

Attachments: [CMAP Board 2.14.24 Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Member Paul Hoefert, seconded by Member Nancy Rotering, that the minutes from February 14, 2024 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Gary Grasso, Paul Hoefert, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan and Matthew Walsh

Absent: Matthew Brolley and John Roberson

Non-Voting: Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

5.0 Procurements and Contract Approvals

Approval of the Group Vote

Stephane Phifer, Interim Deputy of Finance, presented agenda items 5.01 to 5.03.

A motion was made by Board Member Noak, seconded by Board Member Rotering, to approve agenda items 5.01 through 5.03 under one vote. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Gary Grasso, Paul Hoefert, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan and Matthew Walsh

Absent: Matthew Brolley and John Roberson

Non-Voting: Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

5.01 Authorization to enter into a contract with Civiltech Engineering, Inc. as a result of RFP 291 for Project Management and Oversight (PMO) Services for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) public right-of-way (PROW) Transition Plans in Northeastern Illinois for a period of 15 months ending June 30, 2025, with an optional one-year renewal in an amount not to exceed \$317,000

[24-098](#)

Attachments: [ADA PMO for RFP 291 Memo](#)

Agenda items 5.01 through 5.03 were taken under one vote.

- 5.02 Authorization to enter into a sole source contract with Urban Land Institute (ULI) for transportation and land use consulting services for a period of five years beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$200,000** [24-097](#)

Attachments: [Urban Land Institute Memo](#)

Agenda items 5.01 through 5.03 were taken under one vote.

- 5.03 Authorization to amend contract C-21-0044 with Berry Dunn McNeil & Parker, LLC for consulting services for an amount of \$59,125, resulting in a total not-to-exceed amount of \$458,500** [24-087](#)

Attachments: [Berry Dunn Amendment 3 Memo](#)

Agenda items 5.01 through 5.03 were taken under one vote.

6.0 Other Items for Approval

- 6.01 Appointment of President Richard Reinbold to serve as a CMAP Officer on the Executive Committee** [24-118](#)

Attachments: [Appointment of President Reinbold as Officer of the Executive Committee](#)

A motion was made by Member Gary Grasso, seconded by Member John Noak, to approve the appointment of President Richard Reinbold to serve as a CMAP Officer on the Executive Committee.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Gary Grasso, Paul Hoefert, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan and Matthew Walsh

Absent: Matthew Brolley and John Roberson

Non-Voting: Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

- 6.02 Proposed amendments to the Regional Planning Act** [24-102](#)

Attachments: [RPA Proposed Changes Memo](#)

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, reported that CMAP would like to pursue changes to the Regional Planning Act to help support the agency complete its day-to-day operational needs. Staff has prepared three approaches for the Board's consideration. The current approach is to preserve the intent of the original regional Planning Act statute by continuing to require a 4/5 vote on key regional priorities and major agency actions. This approach specifies which actions would continue to be subject to a 4/5 vote of the Board members in office and allow action on remaining items to be determined by a process set forth in the by-laws. Alternative 1 would utilize the same language as identified in the current approach but expand upon the list of items that are still subject to a 4/5 vote of the Board members in office. She noted that the wording related to the annual federally funded program would need to remain the same after conversations with state legislators. Alternative 2 would identify which actions would be newly subject to a simple majority vote of the Board members in office. All other actions would continue to be subject to a 4/5 vote of the Board members in office.

Discussion ensued and the general consensus was that Alternative 2 was the preferred approach.

A motion was made by Member Gary Grasso, seconded by Member Paul Hoefert, to approve proposed

RPA amendments identified as Alternative 2 in the memo with the caveat that it would exclude the executive director's contract. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Gary Grasso, Paul Hoefert, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan and Matthew Walsh

Absent: Matthew Brolley and John Roberson

Non-Voting: Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

7.0 Information Items (continued)

7.01 Legislative Update

[24-096](#)

Attachments: [RPA Appropriations Memo](#)
[OMA Legislative Activity Memo](#)

Laura Wilkison, Senior Director and Policy Advisor, shared that CMAP has filed a bill that would appropriate \$5 million to CMAP to carry out the agency's broader scope of regional planning obligations that were detailed in the state statute but never funded including housing, climate, and economic development work.

Staff is watching a bill filed by the Illinois Municipal League that would allow public bodies subject to Open Meetings Act (OMA) to meet remotely in cases when the chief elected or appointed official of the public body deems it to be unsafe or a danger to public health. The OMA statute has language that permits certain public bodies with a jurisdiction of more than 4,500 square miles to meet the physical quorum requirements at one or more public building locations, through an interactive video conference provided that the public body provides public notice and public access. CMAP's jurisdiction is 4,071 square miles. Staff sought feedback on whether to work with the Illinois Municipal League to explore opportunities to allow metropolitan planning organizations with jurisdictions of 4,000 square miles or more to have a similar allowance. Discussion ensued and the general consensus was that the Board would be in favor of having staff, in partnership with the Illinois Municipal League, explore this option.

Staff is also moving forward with the federal and state advocacy agenda that was approved by the Board last year.

8.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the Board.

9.0 Public Comment

Garland Armstrong, former Illinois resident, sought information on recycling efforts. Chair Bennett reported that most municipalities' waste haulers provide a share of recycled material to their municipalities.

10.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2024.

11.0 Adjournment

A motion was made by Member John Noak, seconded by Member Paul Hoefert, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Gary Grasso, Paul Hoefert, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan and Matthew Walsh

Absent: Matthew Brolley and John Roberson

Non-Voting: Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Blanca Vela-Schneider