



**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** CMAP Board

**From:** CMAP Staff

**Date:** May 31, 2024

**Subject:** Memorandum of Understanding between the CMAP Board and the MPO Policy Committee

**Action Requested:** Information

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This memo provides an overview of the purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Board and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Committee (Policy Committee). The MOU is to be reaffirmed periodically and will be brought before both boards at their annual joint meeting in October 2024.

At this time, no changes are being recommended. It is being shared for informational purposes in advance of the October joint meeting.

When CMAP was created in 2005, the intent was to bring together land use and transportation planning.

To codify this goal, the agency developed an MOU that sets forth a process for collaboration and coordination between CMAP as the state-designated comprehensive regional planning agency and the Policy Committee serving as the federally designated MPO for northeastern Illinois.

In the spirit of the creation of CMAP, the MOU recognizes the desirability and absolute necessity of the region’s planning for land use and transportation to remain integrated in an open and collaborative process in which socioeconomic and environmental objectives are appropriately considered. The renewal of the MOU is an opportunity for both bodies to affirm their intent to continue and strengthen the cooperative and productive relationship, which currently exists.

The MOU embodies the agreed upon framework used by the region to connect its land use to the transportation system, preserve its environment and sustain its economic prosperity. Both the CMAP Board and the MPO Policy Committee must be responsive to the region’s residents,

working cooperatively with municipalities and counties that maintain authority for local land use decisions.

The agreement covers the metropolitan planning area as defined by the U.S. Department of Transportation planning regulations and the region defined by the Regional Planning Act. The region includes the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will. The metropolitan planning area includes the region and Aux Sable township in Grundy County and Sandwich and Somonauk townships in DeKalb County. The agreement covers the working relationship between the two boards, whose responsibilities are defined in the Regional Planning Act and federal legislation.

Action: Informational