



**CLIMATE COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

9:00 AM

**Please join from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89888197226?pwd=ZE9DRIJMYXZCNmdTc0FYTFJ4OG9pZz09>

**TO USE YOUR TELEPHONE**

**Meeting ID: 898 8819 7226**

**Passcode: 866298**

**One tap mobile**

**+13126266799,,89888197226#,,,,\*866298# US**

**1.0 Call to Order and Introductions**

Chair Durnbaugh called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Staff Liaison Daly provided virtual meeting logistical announcements for the Zoom platform.

Staff Liaison Daly called roll.

**Present:** Aaron Durnbaugh, Deborah Stone, Cynthia Kanner, Edith Makra, Elena Grossman, Elizabeth Kocs, Jack Chan, Jen Walling, Marcella Bondie Keenan, Martha Dooley, Mary Nicol, Raed Mansour, Thomas Maillard, and Vanessa Ruiz

**Absent:** Naomi Davis, and Paul May

**Staff Present:** Brian Daly - Climate Committee staff co-liaison, Erin Aleman, Amy McEwan, John Carpenter, Tim McMahan, Kasia Hart, Ryan Ehlke, Alex Ensign, Kate Evasic, Alexis McAdams, Kelsey Pudlock, Martin Menninger, Jason Navota, Nora Beck, Jared Patton, Julie Reschke, Jennie Vana, Laura Wilkison, Sarah Buchhorn, Blanca Vela-Schneider, Aspen Walters, Bill Barnes

**Others Present:** Rebecca Judd, Donnelley Foundation; Heidi Lichtenberger; John Donovan, FHWA; Audrey Wennink, MPC; Tom Rickert, Kane County; Kaci Crowley, Kane / Kendall County Council of Mayors, Garland Armstrong

**2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

Member Grossman joined at 9:06 a.m.

Member Ruiz joined at 9:06 a.m.

Member Bondie Keenan joined at 9:09

Member Dooley joined at 9:12

**2.01 Requests for agenda changes**

[22-441](#)

There were no requests for agenda changes.

Chair Durnbaugh welcomed back the committee members following a summer break. He reminded members of the roles and responsibilities of the Climate Committee to contribute to the agency's mission and support the implementation of the agency's strategic direction, the long-range transportation plan, and climate-related initiatives. The committee meets once per quarter and each meeting has a theme: the Strategic Direction, climate mitigation workplan, climate resilience workplan, and water resources. He thanked members for their commitment.

Chair Durnbaugh announced the departure two committee members. Stacy Meyers accepted a position at the US EPA and Ted Penesis retired from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

## 2.02 Executive Director's announcements

[22-442](#)

Executive Director Erin Aleman provided a recap of the September 14th CMAP Board meeting. The Board discussed how the region recovers from the pandemic as it relates to the transportation sector, how travel patterns are changing, how transportation systems impact greenhouse gas emissions and air quality across the region, and the potential emissions and air quality impact if more people are choosing to drive over taking the train. She expects to bring big picture policies to the Climate Committee to discuss how these changes should be approached.

Executive Director Aleman discussed how the agenda for this meeting includes items that will refine approaches to the work plan to ensure it is strategic and aligns with work as an agency. The Climate Committee will hear about CMAP's Strategic Direction, how climate work is part of State and Federal legislative agendas, CMAP's resiliency plan, and the agency's greenhouse gas inventory.

The greenhouse gas inventory data will be released publicly using 2019 data. The data shows that between 2010-2019, overall greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 9%. While it is making progress, it needs to focus on decreasing the emissions by 5% annually through 2050. The agency is committed to arming partners with data and analysis to improve the environment and our health and well-being. The goal from 2050 plan is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80%, relative to 2005 levels by 2050, which aligns with the Paris Agreement. Data will be on CMAP webpage: [cmap.illinois.gov/data/greenhouse-gas-inventory](https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/data/greenhouse-gas-inventory) <<https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/data/greenhouse-gas-inventory>>

At Regional Economy Committee yesterday, they discussed that the County Board Chairs are working with the City of Chicago and economic development leaders across the region to achieve consensus around regional economic development collaboration. With new funding through IJA and the climate bill, there's an opportunity to move the needle. We are stronger together.

## 3.0 Approval of Minutes

### 3.01 Minutes from May 24, 2022

[22-370](#)

**Attachments:** [DRAFT Climate Committee Minutes 05.24.2022](#)

*Chair Durnbaugh requested a motion to approve the March 29, 2022 committee meeting minutes.*

*The motion was made by Member Kanner and seconded by Member Maillard.*

*Staff Liaison Daly called roll.*

*The motion carried.*

**Aye:** Aaron Durnbaugh, Deborah Stone, Cynthia Kanner, Edith Makra, Elena Grossman, Elizabeth Kocs, Jack Chan, Jen Walling, Marcella Bondie Keenan, Martha Dooley, Mary Nicol, Raed Mansour, Thomas Maillard, and Vanessa Ruiz

**Absent (NV):** Naomi Davis, and Paul May

#### 4.0 New Business

##### 4.01 November Meeting Date

[22-369](#)

*Chair Durnbaugh requested a motion to approve changing the scheduled meeting of the Climate Committee from November 22, 2022 to November 29, 2022.*

*The motion was made by Member Dooley and seconded by Member Koch.*

*Staff Liaison Daly called roll.*

*The motion carried.*

**Aye:** Aaron Durnbaugh, Deborah Stone, Cynthia Kanner, Edith Makra, Elena Grossman, Elizabeth Kocs, Jack Chan, Jen Walling, Marcella Bondie Keenan, Martha Dooley, Mary Nicol, Raed Mansour, Thomas Maillard, and Vanessa Ruiz

**Absent:** Naomi Davis, and Paul May

##### 4.02 Strategic Direction Update

[22-366](#)

Alex Ensign, Director of Strategic Alignment and Innovation, presented an update on the agency's Strategic Direction.

Their team held 10 internal workshops to provide feedback on the focus areas of climate, transportation, and the regional economy. The workshops were used to identify tensions and synergies across different areas and connect specific projects to approaches. These workshops along with committee feedback helped develop a revised version of the Strategic Direction. The plan is to present a draft version to committees in November and present to the Board for approval in January.

##### 4.03 State and Federal Legislative Agenda

[22-367](#)

**Attachments:** [2023 Federal Advocacy Agenda Draft 2022-09-19](#)  
[2023 State Advocacy Agenda Draft 2022-09-19](#)

John Carpenter, Legislative Affairs Director, opened the presentation on the CMAP State and Federal advocacy agendas. The items fall into the three categories of transportation, climate and regional economic competitiveness. The Federal focus is on seeking funding from and implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The State focus is seeking legislation to fulfill requirements of the Regional Planning Act. The funding is typically limited to transportation, and they are seeking diverse funding to work on non-transportation initiatives.

Tim McMahon, Legislative Affairs Senior, presented the Federal agenda. Priority focus across the agenda is the successful implementation of IIJA. The transportation recommendations include increasing local access to federal funds, safe and complete streets, and sustainably funding the transportation system. The climate recommendations include increasing local access to federal funds, reducing emissions, strengthening federal

emissions standards, and a region-wide resilience plan. The regional economic competitiveness section involves inclusive economic growth, increased opportunities for comprehensive planning support and improved housing support, and mitigating impacts of increased freight movement on communities.

Kasia Hart, Legislative Affairs Senior, presented the state agenda. The transportation recommendations include funding and finance reform; promoting traffic safety, safe walking and cycling infrastructure; and innovation and transparency, which involves instituting performance-based management for IJJA implementation. The climate focus area includes regional solutions to water resource management; reducing emissions from the transportation sector and supporting local governments' efforts to reduce emissions. The regional economic competitiveness area includes local and regional tax policy; data standardization and transparency; innovative service delivery; and equity in fees, fines, and fares.

Director Carpenter discussed next steps. In September, the draft agendas were presented to the Council of Mayors, Transportation Committee, Climate Committee, and Regional Economy Committee. The updated draft will be presented to the Board in November and the final draft in January for approval. Comments from the Climate Committee are welcome.

Member Dooley asked when comments should be submitted by and to whom they should be submitted. Director Carpenter requested they be received in October and can be emailed to John, Tim, or Kasia: [Jcarpenter@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:Jcarpenter@cmap.illinois.gov) <<mailto:Jcarpenter@cmap.illinois.gov>>, [tmcmahon@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:tmcmahon@cmap.illinois.gov) <<mailto:tmcmahon@cmap.illinois.gov>>, [khart@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:khart@cmap.illinois.gov) <<mailto:khart@cmap.illinois.gov>>.

Member Maillard asked how a community can pursue support for a climate equity funding opportunity.

Director Carpenter said to direct those questions to Kasia.

#### **4.04 Climate Resilience Workplan Overview**

**22-368**

Kate Evasic, Senior Planner, presented on CMAP's climate resilience strategy. Planner Evasic discussed an overview of CMAP's climate approach that includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing climate resilience, and sustainably managing water resources.

The Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan is the first project. The goal of the project is to develop a data-driven understanding of system vulnerability to climate change. The project includes developing vulnerability and criticality scores and integrating climate resilience into management and investment decisions. The resilience plan will outline priorities and allow the region to compete for funding from the Federal infrastructure bill.

Vulnerability and criticality are two measures of resilience. Vulnerability is based on exposure to extreme weather, sensitivity to climate effects, and adaptive capacity to cope with impacts. Criticality measures the importance of a transportation asset related to its use and operation, socioeconomic service, health and safety, and emergency preparedness. The end goal is to ensure resilience is incorporated into all work at the agency, which will be included in a Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan.

Kelsey Pudlock, Planner, presented an update of the Flood Susceptibility Index (FSI). This project is partly funded by a Senate earmark. Four years ago, CMAP developed an index for urban and riverine flooding and scored susceptibility on a score of 1 to 10. This project will refine the 2018 methodology and flood-related factors. The project will engage partners and decision makers and help to prioritize flood mitigation investments in high-risk areas.

Planner Evasic presented the Equitable Flood Resilience Investments Project. It is a one-year project funded by an earmark that has three focus areas. One focus area is engagement, which looks to hear from counties and large municipal stormwater management agencies and community partners that represent communities disproportionately impacted by climate change. The second focus area is to identify communities most impacted by flooding. The third focus area is the development of a guide to incorporate equity into decision making. The work is important for the region as basement flooding and sewer backups are getting worse. A study by CNT found that 80% of insurance payments for flooding Chicago were in communities of color.

Alexis McAdams, Analyst, presented on the Heat Vulnerability Index (HVI) Project. The project aims to build a methodology to identify areas that experience higher heat exposure and the location and density of vulnerable populations. It supports parallel HVI efforts by local partners and related CMAP projects and will include a web-based data exploration tool using an ArcGIS online map or dashboard. The HVI approach combines three elements: exposure, sensitivity, and adaptability. Exposure includes high temperatures and how the environment holds and releases heat, or the urban heat island effect. Sensitivity involves quantifying and locating sensitive populations. These populations are not inherently sensitive to heat, but rather may lack the resources or access to resources to handle high events. Adaptability describes strategies to cope with high heat in the short term and the long term. This is the hardest element to quantify and the team is looking for input from community partners. These elements will be put together into a scoring system yet to be identified.

Planner Evasic presented on the internal project to integrate resilience into planning practices. The project will develop and share climate resources throughout the agency, identify changes to internal processes, and update an existing technical assistance climate guide.

Member Kanner asked how CMAP is incorporating local efforts, such as local food production, into the climate focus area and how the health of our watersheds is incorporated into the plan.

Planner Evasic said local food was included in the GO TO 2040 plan and less so in the ON TO 2050 plan. It is not reflected in CMAP's resilience work. The projects are regionally focused but they are always looking to ground it into what is happening locally.

Staff Liaison Daly noted that how to focus on localism is a good strategy for resilience. We want to encourage local food systems among our partners. He can share information with Member Kanner on current efforts including the American Farmland Trust and Illinois Association of Regional Councils. It's part of the conversation in the region, even if CMAP is not actively pursuing this topic.

Member Mansour discussed non-government community resilience hubs, which are becoming more common, and can be more desirable than a government cooling center. He hopes CMAP can attend a research sharing. Other organizations have developed HVI prototypes using health data such as high blood pressure as a risk factor. The City of Chicago is looking at this using death certificates. Regarding the FSI presentation, it is part of many indicators Chicago uses to help identify tree planting locations.

Member Makra asked Member Mansour to expand on the community cooling center.

Member Mansour said examples use existing infrastructure that are not traditionally used as cooling centers. The facility can have knitting classes and video games and include other activities and resources so you don't just sit in a folding chair. The community hub would provide more than just a cooling center.

Member Makra stated that it may not be the government approach, but maybe public agency such as a park district could provide these activities, which could make a public sector approach more appealing. She asked staff if they could talk more about potential technical assistance or federal funding available for communities for heat response planning and action.

Planner Evasic noted that the Healthy Streets Program has funding for tree assessments to identify where tree plantings are most needed and is a national grant program. We can look at potential interest to pull together assessments for several municipalities. We are continually trying to expand our funding and this applies to the climate work.

Member Grossman said social connectedness and mental health are missing from vulnerability assessments. She asked if CMAP is seeking out local thoughts from identified vulnerable communities to see what they feel are threats as it relates to heat and flooding?

Planner Evasic said they are doing this for the FSI by talking to community groups. Heat is an area that is focused on in the index, but the next step is to do similar work to speak with community members.

Member Bondie Keenan asked about the GHG emissions dashboard. We need to reach net zero emissions by 2050 to avoid the worst of climate change impacts, which is a far step from the identified 20% reduction. Would CMAP consider revising goals to reflect this?

Planner Nora Beck said they have been looking at updating the indicator. There is a Regional Transportation Emissions Reduction Project that is just launching to investigate this further to identify strategies.

Vice Chair Stone commented on the resilience hubs idea. She noted that it is not so much whether it is public or private but who is in the driver's seat in saying where the location should be. An example would be for Cook County to move away from the County courthouse and resources are spent to get people there. It could be located in a community-based location with all the supplies and as people go there on a day-to-day basis they would know they could go there for a cooling center if the need arises.

## **5.0 Committee Member Updates**

Member Bondie Keenan reported that the Village of Oak Park adopted a Comprehensive Sustainability and Climate Plan. Sets a goal for a net zero by 2050 and a 60% reduction by 2030. They also declared a climate emergency and are putting money toward more vulnerable community members.

Member Grossman announced that the UIC School of Public Health in partnership with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus are starting a Climate and Health Institute. She also updated the committee on a Department of Energy Community Research on Climate and Urban Sciences (CROCUS) grant that is studying climate change, climate resilience, and environmental justice on a neighborhood scale.

## **6.0 Other Business**

Chair Durnbaugh noted there was no other business before the committee.

## **7.0 Public Comment**

This is an opportunity for comments from members of the audience. The amount of time available to speak will be at the chair's discretion. It should be noted that the public comment period will immediately follow the last item on the agenda.

Chair Durnbaugh asked staff if there was any public comment received.

Staff Liaison Daly responded that no public comments were received.

Garland Armstrong commented that CMAP should ensure the disability community are involved and made

aware of the issues being faced by climate issues.

Staff Liaison Daly noted that there was an ADA presentation to the Regional Economy Committee yesterday and it is a great place to start to understand the work CMAP is doing.

*The full meeting Zoom chat that includes public comment is below:*

09:07:40 - Member Grossman: Hi Everyone. I missed roll call. Sorry I am late, but I am here.

09:08:12 - Staff Liaison Daly: Welcome, Elena

09:08:40 - Member Ruiz: Good morning, Brian I just called you as I couldn't find the link, please disregard I am here!

09:08:59 - Staff Liaison Daly: Thanks, Vanessa! Welcome.

09:32:49 - Vice Chair Stone: Naomi having trouble logging in can someone on staff help her>

09:33:16 - Member Maillard: Where would you like comments emailed?

09:34:25 - Senior Specialist, McMahon, CMAP : [tmcmahon@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:tmcmahon@cmap.illinois.gov) for federal  
[khart@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:khart@cmap.illinois.gov) <<mailto:khart@cmap.illinois.gov>> for state  
Thank you all!

09:35:11 - Analyst Ehlke: Deborah - I'll reach out to Naomi to see if we can get her logged in

09:53:42 - Member Mansour: Kelsey, CDPH uses the FSI as one of the indicators to identify priority communities for tree planting to improve urban canopy.

09:55:01 - Planner Pudlock: Raed, that's great to hear! I'll follow-up with you to learn more.

10:02:36 - Member Mansour: Great work Alexis, hope to get your input on our plan for a public health based HVI.

10:05:44 - Member Bondie Keenan: What are the 2030 and 2050 GHG reduction goals?

10:06:52 - Planner Beck: Marcella, here's a link to our current GHG indicator:  
<https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/2050/indicators/greenhouse-gas-emissions>

10:09:12 - Vice Chair Stone: Reid, Cook County is working with some local communities on Resilience Hubs pilots

10:09:55 - Member Makra: Raed, please better explain the approach of the Community Resilience Hub

10:14:30 - Analyst McAdams CMAP: Thanks Raed! You're right that the detailed health risk factors are missing from our analysis and that is a drawback of our approach, but I'm glad someone in NE IL is looking into this! Looking forward to catching up soon to compare notes on our HVI approaches

10:15:11 - Member Mansour: Exactly, to expand the definition - agree.

10:15:56 - Member Mansour:

---

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/sep/23/california-extreme-heat-resilience-centers>

10:19:01 - Member Mansour: Elena, the DPI prototype HVI takes into account Mental Health too. I'll loop back to you on this.

10:20:17 - Member Grossman: Thanks, Raed

10:22:37 - Member Mansour: Summary of the recent project award for working on extreme weather (heat and flooding) that has not started yet:

<https://buffett.northwestern.edu/research/global-working-groups/defusing-disasters.html>

10:23:33 - Planner Pudlock: Raed, thanks for sharing

10:24:21 - Member Grossman: There is also a lot of research that there is a lot of stigma around going to cooling centers so rethinking and reimagining them is a great idea

10:25:34 - Member Makra: Marcella, I know you are familiar with the emissions reduction targets established in the Climate Action Plan for the Chicago Region. There are detailed targets tied to objectives beginning on page 25.

<https://mayorscaucus.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Climate-Action-Plan-For-the-Chicago-Region-2021-by-MMC-NOAA.pdf>

10:26:28 - Director Ensign: Congratulations on the Oak Park plan, Marcella! I was impressed both with the content and how well it was presented through a StoryMap.

10:26:53 - Member Makra: The four municipalities working in the Climate and Health Institute include Waukegan, Aurora, Chicago Heights, and Hanover Park.

10:28:40 - Member Bondie Keenan: Edith, the regional plan makes a good point that innovation is needed to address the remaining 20% I will say that the IPCC indicates that the net zero goal is, in a sense, non-negotiable. Perhaps the region can be a force in driving the needed innovation, and CMAP can have a role in that.

10:30:17 - Member Makra: Here is the announcement of the Community Research on Climate and Urban Science (CROCUS) led by Argonne. We are proud to be a part of the project. <https://www.anl.gov/crocus>

10:34:08 - Member Mansour: Thank you!

10:34:16 - Member Grossman: Thank you!

10:34:17 - Member Makra: Thanks

## 8.0 Next Meeting

Following approval of item 4.01, the next meeting will be Tuesday, November 29, 2022.

## 9.0 Adjournment

Chair Durnbaugh adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaemi Jackson and Brian Daly, CMAP Climate Committee Co-Liaisons