

## COUNCIL OF MAYORS

### MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

9:30 AM

#### 1.0 Call To Order

Representing agencies present:

**Central Council of Mayors:** President Jim Discipio, La Grange Park

**DuPage Council of Mayors:** President Len Austin, Clarendon Hills

**Kane Council of Mayors:** Mayor Jeffery Schielke, Batavia

**Kane Council of Mayors:** President John Skillman, Carpentersville

**Lake Council of Mayors:** Mayor Leon Rockingham, North Chicago

**Lake Council of Mayors:** President Glenn Ryback, Wadsworth

**North Central Council of Mayors:** President Jeffrey Sherwin, Northlake

**North Shore Council of Mayors:** Mayor George Van Dusen, Skokie

**North Shore Council of Mayors:** President Greg Lungmus, Northfield

**Northwest Council of Mayors:** President Karen Darch, Barrington

**Northwest Council of Mayors:** President Thomas Hayes, Arlington Heights

**Southwest Council of Mayors:** President Dave Brady, Bedford Park

**Southwest Council of Mayors:** President Mary Werner, Worth

**Will Council of Mayors:** Mayor Terry Kernc, Diamond

**Will Council of Mayors:** President Keith Ogle, Frankfort

**Staff present:** Laurent Ahiablame, Erin Aleman, Bill Barnes, Victoria Barrett, Lily Brack, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Phoebe Downey, Doug Ferguson, Timothy O'Leary, Jared Patton, Russell Pietrowiak, Elizabeth Scott, Sarah Stolpe, Blanca Vela-Schneider, Mary Weber, Laura Wilkison

**Others present:** Zac Adelman, Zachary Braun, Lenny Cannata, Anthony Cefali, Charles Riddle, Mimi Cowan, Eric Czarnota, Rory Davis, Jackie Forbes, Michael Fricano, Scott Hennings, Mark Janssen, Kendra Johnson, Peter Kersten, Mike Klemens, Daniel Knickelbein, Heidi Lichtenberger, Brittany Matyas, Jada Porter, Leslie Rauer, Milo Shapey, Joe Surdam, Kyle Whitehead

#### 2.0 Approval of Minutes

[23-207](#)

**Attachments:** [Council of Mayors EC Draft Minutes 2023.01.17](#)

*A motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023 meeting was made by President Lungmus and seconded by President Hayes. The motion was approved.*

### **3.0 Updates**

#### **3.1 Executive Director's report**

[22-438](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: CMAP leadership will provide an update on recent agency actions.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Executive Director Erin Aleman began her update by recognizing the passing of Western Springs mayor and Council of Mayors Executive Committee member Alice Gallagher.

Ms. Aleman then provided a brief overview of the agency's recent public opinion survey and ongoing State of the Region meetings, which are taking place throughout the region. At these meetings, CMAP shares the results of the opinion survey, discusses the Annual Report, and congratulates recipients of Regional Excellence Awards. Council of Mayors Executive Committee member Mayor Van Dusen is one of this year's award recipients.

Ms. Aleman then highlighted several key topics being discussed at today's meeting, including the Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) and CMAP's legislative work.

There were no questions.

#### **3.2 IDOT Bureau of Local Roads update**

[23-164](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: IDOT Local Road Staff will provide an update.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

Chad Riddle of the IDOT Bureau of Local Roads provided a brief update on the Bureau's recent and upcoming work. Lettings have been consistent during the first quarter of the year. In total, 31 projects worth more than \$90 million were let. The April letting will consist of 16 projects worth \$40 million. June and August are expected to see a similar number of projects. Mr. Riddle then explained that ITEP awards were recently released.

Mayor Rockingham asked if inflation was affecting the letting process. Mr. Riddle said that most projects were coming in within the permitted range of engineer estimates.

#### **3.3 Transportation safety update**

[23-172](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: CMAP staff will provide an update on the agency's work to improve transportation safety in the region.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Senior Planner Victoria Barrett began her update by providing an overview of CMAP's Safe Travel for All Roadmap (STAR), which encompasses all of CMAP's transportation safety work. Ms. Barrett then announced that CMAP has received a \$4.87 million planning grant to create a regional safety plan that will include county-level safety action plans. This will be a two-year project and will include some work by an external consulting team. CMAP has released an RFP (#281) for the contract and applications are due by May 5.

There were no questions.

**3.4 Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) update**[23-205](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: CMAP staff will provide an update on recent work related to the Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART).

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Senior Director and Policy Advisor Laura Wilkison provided the committee with an update on the agency's partnership with RTA to create the Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART). The plan will consist of three main sections: The system we want, How to implement it, and How to pay for it. Ms. Wilkison provided an overview of the topics that will be addressed in each section and explained how they will be put into action.

Mayor Rockingham emphasized that funding and ridership recovery are critical for the system's future, and that the system needs to be useful and accessible. There were no other questions or comments.

**3.5 Local Government Network update**[23-166](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: Staff will provide an update on recent and upcoming Local Government Network initiatives

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Planner Lily Brack provided an update on the Local Government Network. The Network recently completed its 17th initiative, which highlighted municipal-level greenhouse gas emissions summaries and invited partners to attend a CMAP Talks webinar discussing climate action planning. The initiative also shared resources related to the Call for Projects.

The Network is currently conducting the 18th initiative, which is an effort to get better land use and zoning data for the region.

Next quarter, the Network will connect new mayors and presidents with their CMAP liaisons to ensure continued communication and resource sharing.

There were no questions.

### 3.6 Legislative update

[22-406](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: CMAP legislative affairs staff will be available to answer questions.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Senior Director and Policy Advisor Laura Wilkison gave the committee an update on the agency's recent legislative affairs work. CMAP's primary focus for this session of the General Assembly is securing funding to support implementation of the Regional Planning Act, which would allow CMAP to better fulfill its non-transportation requirements. A bill has been introduced to secure the funding with the intent of incorporate it into the FY24 budget. CMAP has created a fact sheet outlining why this funding is needed.

Mayor Van Dusen asked for the bill numbers. They are SB 1429 in the Senate and HB 4027 in the House.

Ms. Wilkison then provided a brief overview of the agency's federal work. CMAP is continuing to distribute its IJA priority booklet and is developing a process for updating and maintaining the project list.

There were no additional questions.

### 4.0 Information items

#### 4.1 FFY 2024 - 2028 STP Programming Marks

[23-162](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: Staff will review the attached memo documenting the programming marks for the Shared Fund and Local programs for FFY 2024 - 2028.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

**Attachments:** [FFY 2024-28 STP Marks Memo\\_03062023](#)

CMAP Senior Analyst Russell Pietrowiak provided an overview of the STP programming marks memo. Mr. Pietrowiak explained that one-time funding increases included in the FFY 22 federal budget resulted in a higher level of STP funding for the state and region than had been previously anticipated. CMAP does not anticipate these onetime increases continuing in future years. Additionally, some funding streams that were part of the STP funding calculations are not anticipated to be part of future calculations. To account for this, CMAP decided to grow future STP programming marks in a conservative fashion using FFY 23 programming mark as a base instead of the artificially high FFY24 number provided to CMAP by IDOT and to grow the STP programming amount using the same percentage increases shown in the BIL/IJA, in future years.

There were no questions. Mayor Rockingham expressed his support for this approach.

#### 4.2 STP Project Selection Committee update and call for projects summary [23-206](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: Staff will provide an update on activities of the STP Project Selection Committee and a summary of applications received during the recently closed call for STP Shared Fund, CMAQ, CRP, and Local TAP projects. A link to a full report of all applications, as submitted, is provided below. The report is also available on the call for projects web page (<https://cmap.is/2023callforprojects>).

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAQ Senior Analyst Kama Dobbs provided an update on the recent work of the STP Project Selection Committee. The committee has met twice since the last meeting of the Council of Mayors Executive Committee.

At the January meeting, the committee approved revisions to the region's Active Program Management (APM) polices. Specifically, the committee added clarifying definitions for several terms, moved MPO Policy Committee project approvals from October to June, and ended the practice of removing projects from the program due to missed deadlines, in favor of reducing programming marks and providing greater flexibility to individual councils to determine when projects should continue.

At the April meeting, the committee received reports on the status of Shared Fund projects, a review of the regional accounting for the shared fund and local programs, and a summary of the applications received during the recently closed call for projects.

Ms. Dobb then provided an overview of CMAP's recent combined CMAQ, Carbon Reduction, STP Shared Fund and TAP-Local call for projects. The agency received 129 unique applications for all project types and is in the process of completing evaluations. Draft scores will be available in late May or early June and the staff recommended program will be presented to the project selection committees and released for public comment in early July.

There were no questions.

#### 4.3 RTA Strategic Plan: Transit is the Answer [23-165](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: RTA staff will provide an update on *Transit is the Answer*, the recently adopted transit strategic plan, and relevant implementation activities.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

RTA Principal Planner Peter Kersten provided an overview of the Authority's recently adopted comprehensive plan, *Transit is the Answer*. Mr. Kersten summarized key elements of the plan and outlined how it will be advanced during the coming years. Mr. Kersten specifically highlighted the challenge posed by the upcoming fiscal cliff and the importance of overcoming the crisis while maintaining high quality service. To accomplish this, the RTA has created an Agenda for Advocacy and Action, which focusses on long- and short-term approaches for securing the future of transit, including sustainable funding, coalition building, and improving the transit system, among others. Finally, Mr. Kersten explained how the RTA will track progress towards plan implementation.

#### 4.4 Air Quality (Ozone) Work and Research by the Lake Michigan Air Directors Consortium (LADCO). [23-203](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: LADCO staff will provide an overview of Air Quality work they are doing (along with IEPA) to try to attain the current Ozone standards as the region is a Nonattainment area for Ozone and needs to make significant progress to demonstrate attainment.

**ACTION REQUESTED: Information**

Lake Michigan Air Directors Consortium (LADCO) Executive Director Zac Adelman provided an overview of LADCO's role in the Great Lakes region and detailed some of the air quality challenges facing northeastern Illinois.

Mr. Adelman began his presentation by explaining the history of LADCO, which was created in 1989 to serve as a forum for regional coordination around air pollution issues. LADCO has three primary functions: facilitating coordination, modeling air pollution, and providing training.

Mr. Adelman then gave a detailed overview of air pollution in the region. Ground level ozone is currently the region's greatest air quality challenge, though localized hotspots for other pollutants do exist. Mr. Adelman also explained that the region may be reclassified as non-attaining for particulate matter pollution (PM 2.5) in the coming years. Mr. Adelman concluded his presentation by highlighting past successes in air quality improvements and previewing some of the ways pollution can be improved moving forward.

There were no questions. Mayor Rockingham emphasized that this work is important for the region's future.

**5.0 Other Business**

Mayor Rockingham encouraged committee members traveling to Springfield for lobby day to remember regional issues when meeting with legislators, and specifically highlighted CMAP's funding request and transportation safety work as important topics to discuss.

**6.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**7.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in-person at CMAP's office on July 18, 2023.

**8.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.