



**MPO POLICY COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES - FINAL**

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

9:30 AM

**Marquee Conference Room  
433 West Van Buren Street, 2nd Floor  
Chicago, IL 60607**

Members of the public who attend in-person can pre-register for a visitor's pass at [info@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:info@cmap.illinois.gov) until September 12 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/84341801786>

Meeting ID: 843 4180 1786

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CMAP provides the opportunity for public comment. Individuals are encouraged to submit comment by email to [info@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto: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.

In light of the substantive nature of the Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) report, the total cumulative time for public comment will be extended beyond the usual 15 minutes. 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](mailto:info@cmap.illinois.gov)) or phone (312-454-0400).

## 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

### CMAP Board

Chair Bennett called the meeting of the CMAP Board to order at 9:49 a.m.

**Present:** Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Matthew Brolley, Karen Darch, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, John Roberson, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan, Matthew Walsh, and Diane Williams

**Absent:** Gary Grasso

**Non-Voting:** Kouros Mohammadian, and Leanne Redden

### Remote Participation Request

Chair Bennett reported that a request was made by Carolyn Schofield to attend the meeting virtually in compliance with Open Meetings Act regulations.

*A motion was made by Member Matthew Brolley, seconded by Member Diane Williams, to allow Member Carolyn Schofield to participate in the Board meeting virtually in compliance with Open Meetings Act regulations. The motion carried by the following vote:*

**Aye:** Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Matthew Brolley, Karen Darch, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, John Roberson, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Anne Sheahan and Diane Williams

**Absent:** Gary Grasso

**Abstain:** Carolyn Schofield

**Non-Voting:** Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

**Not Present:** Matthew Walsh

### MPO Policy Committee

Secretary Osman called the special meeting of the MPO Policy Committee at 9:52 a.m.

**Present:** IDOT Representative, CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CMAP Representative 2, CTA Representative, Cook Co Representative, CoM Representative, DuPage Co Representative, Tollway Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative, and Will Co Representative

**Absent:** Class I Railroads Representative

**Non-Voting:** FHWA Representative, and FTA Representative

Secretary Omer Osman served as IDOT representative, Vig Krishnamurthy served as CDOT Representative, Frank Beal served as CMAP 1 Representative, Matt Brolley served as CMAP 2 Representative, President Dorval Carter served as CTA Representative, Jennifer Sis Killen served as Cook County Representative, Jeff Schielke served as CoM Representative, Deborah Conroy served as

DuPage County Representative, David Snyder served as FHWA Representative, Tony Greep served as FTA Representative, Cassaundra Rouse served as ISTHA Representative, Corinne Pierog served as Kane County Representative, Sandy Hart served as Lake County Representative, Michael Buehler served as McHenry County Representative, Jim Derwinski served as Metra Representative, Richard Kwasneski served as Pace Representative, Leanne Redden served as RTA Representative, Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant served as Will County Representative

**Staff present:** Laurent Ahiablame, Erin Aleman, Jesse Altman, Alex Bahls, Victoria Barrett, Asha Barnes, Bill Barnes, Lindsey Bayley, Lily Brack, Nora Beck, Jonathan Burch, John Carpenter, Karly Cazzato, Daniel Comeaux, Brian Daly, Mai Dang, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Austen Edwards, Ryan Ehlke, Alex Ensign, Nick Ferguson, Parry Frank, Alicia Gage, Rachel Gaunce, Borja González, Jane Grover, Jon Haadsma, Cassidy Harper, Noah Harris, Kasia Hart, Craig Heither, Emiliano Hernandez, Mitch Hirst, Leroy Kos, Natalie Kuriata, Aimee Lee, Jen Maddux, Tony Manno, Matt Marth, Alexis McAdams, Amy McEwan, Jason Navota, Art Nicholas, Jared Patton, Sam Pavlekovsky, George Perkins Anene, Stephane Phifer, Russell Pietrowiak, Kimberly Piper-Cannon, Jose Portillo, Katie Reigstad, John Rodgers, Jose Rodriguez, Elizabeth Scott, Lee Skuby, Sarah Stolpe, Ryan Thompto, Jennie Vana, Andres Vazquez, Blanca Vela-Schneider, Mary Weber, Laura Wilkison, Beatrix Yan

**Others present:** Zahra Ali, John Amdor, Will Anderson, Garland and Heather Armstrong, Isabel Azpiroz, Katie Bell, Holly Bieneman, Emily Bittner, Elaine Bottomley, Zach Braun, Steve Brown, Kevin Brubaker, Kevin Bueso, Roland Calia, Christopher Canning, Pat Carey, Pat Cary, Kevin Carrier, Anthony Cefali, Lynnette Ciavarella, William Coulson, Eric Czarnota, Dan Cronin, Chalen Daigle, Eva De Laurentiis, Drew Duffin, Jesse Elam, Peter Fahrenwald, Antonio Favela, Jackie Forbes, Mark Fowler, Sarah Freishtat, Michael Fricano, Hope Garrett, Brandon Geber, Gary Gibson, Aaron Gold-Stein, Gary Grasso, Veton Hasku, Lanetta Haynes Turner, Jennifer Henry, Darlene Hightower, Max Honzel, Neil James, Kendra Johnson, Jack Jordon, John Jordan, Peter Kerston, Mike Klemens, Daniel Knickelbein, Jon Paul Kohler, Tim Kotarac, Nora Leerhsen, Olivia Lynch, Mark Kownick, David Kralik, Jeremy LaMarche, Lisbeth Leanos, Jill Leary, Erik Llewellyn, John Loper, Morgan Madderom, Mike Mahoney, Jack Malec, Sheryl Markay, Arudi Masinjila, Nick Mathiowdis, Brittany Matyas, John Marino, Connor McDermott, Brandon McFadden, Laura McFadden, Madeline McGuire, Bill McLeod, Tim McMahan, Megan Miller, Lesli Melendi, Hank Meyer, Melissa Meyer, Matt Meyers, Skylar Moran, Claudia Morell, Heather Mullins, Elaine Nekritz, Manar Nashef, William O'Connell, Jon Nelson, Darlene Oliver, Tara Orbon, Kevin O'Malley, Rob Nash, Hugh O'Hara, Matt Pasquini, Rebecca Perelman, Lauren Pett, Laura Platt, Philip Plotch, Jada Porter, Carol Portman, Doug Pryor, Marni Pyke, Leslie Rauer, Lucas Reigstad, Tom Rickert, Leon Rockingham, Mimi Rodman, Jeff Ronaldson, Rachel Ruttenberg, Amy Rynell, Stephen Schlickman, Todd Schmidt, Garrett Shrode, Brandon Siefring, Melissa Silverberg Meyer, Tina F. Smith, Vicky Smith, Chris Snyder, Alex Sobor, Linda Soto, Kevin Stancial, Justin Stange, Joe Surdan, Megan Swanson, Daniel Thomas, Janice R. Thomas, David Tomzik, Mike Vanderhoof, Senator Ram Villivalam, Sukmeke Watkins, Audrey Wennink, Kyle Whitehead, Carter Wilhite

## 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

CMAP Board Chair Bennett welcomed Gary Grasso, Mayor of Burr Ridge and DuPage County's Representative, who was unable to attend the meeting in person but is listening in. He announced that Paul Goodrich has resigned his position as a Board Member for the City of Chicago and that John Roberson has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

(Member Matt Walsh arrived at the meeting at 9:54 a.m.)

### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

#### 3.01 Minutes from June 14, 2023

[23-387](#)

**Attachments:** [CMAP Board Minutes 06.14.23](#)

*A motion was made by Member Richard Reinbold, seconded by Member John Noak, that the CMAP Board minutes from June 14, 2023 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:*

**Aye:** Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Matthew Brolley, Karen Darch, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, John Roberson, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan, Matthew Walsh and Diane Williams

**Absent:** Gary Grasso

**Non-Voting:** Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

### 4.0 CMAP Announcements

*The agenda item was received and filed.*

#### 4.01 Executive director's report

[23-388](#)

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, congratulated IDOT for receiving two awards from the Midwest chapter of the America Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). Chicago's Jane Byrne Interchange was honored for the quality of life for transit, bike, pedestrian, and other mobility improvements. The I-55 and Weber Road new diverging-diamond interchange in Will County won in the technology and innovation category.

Executive Director Aleman remarked that CMAP, in partnership with ComEd and the Respiratory Health Association, is a recipient of the Clean Energies to Communities competitive grant funded by the US Department of Energy which will allow CMAP to use technical assistance to better understand the types and scale of action needed to reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions and other co-pollutants from the regional transportation network.

CMAP's Logan Square Blue Line Equitable Transit-Oriented Development Action Plan (ETOD) won the Advancing Diversity and Social Change Award from the American Planning Association - Illinois Chapter. Executive Director Aleman reported on CMAP's work, in conjunction with many stakeholders including the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee, during the last year to guide and develop recommendations on the Plan of Action for Regional Transit.

*The executive director's report was provided.*

### 5.0 Procurements and Contract Approvals

#### CMAP Board

##### Approval of the Group Vote

*A motion was made by Member John Noak, seconded by Board Member Richard Reinbold, to approve agenda items 5.01 through 5.03 under one vote. The motion carried by the following vote:*

**Aye:** Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Matthew Brolley, Karen Darch, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, John Roberson, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield,

Anne Sheahan, Matthew Walsh and Diane Williams

**Absent:** Gary Grasso

**Non-Voting:** Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

- 5.01 Contract for a three-year agreement, with two, two-year renewal options, with Resource Systems Group (RSG) for RFP 286 Household Travel Survey in the amount of \$2,999,329.74** [23-400](#)

**Attachments:** [RFP 286 Household Travel Survey Memo](#)

*This item was approved under one vote.*

- 5.02 Sole source agreement to enter into a nine-month agreement with one, six-month optional renewal, with DePaul University to provide Housing Data Snapshot for the not-to-exceed amount of \$260,000** [23-390](#)

**Attachments:** [Housing Data Snapshots DePaul Memo](#)

*This item was approved under one vote.*

- 5.03 Intergovernmental agreement for Cook County Assessor Data - Tax Year 2021** [23-391](#)

**Attachments:** [IGA with Cook County Sep 2023](#)  
[Resolution with Cook County Assessor Office \(CCAO\) for GIS data sharing](#)  
[Exhibit A - Statement of Purpose](#)

*This item was approved under one vote.*

## **6.0 Other Items for Approval**

- 6.01 Nomination of CMAP Officers** [23-389](#)

**Attachments:** [Memo on nomination of Officers](#)

### **CMAP Board**

Chair Bennett reported that at his direction, Executive Director Erin Aleman conferred with Members Nancy Rotering, Matt Walsh, and Frank Beal on the nomination of Executive Committee Officers. It is recommended that the follow members be considered as CMAP Officers and members of the Executive Committee:

Chair Gerald Bennett, Mayor-Suburban Cook County  
 Vice Chair Carolyn Schofield - Collar Counties  
 Vice Chair Anne Sheahan - City of Chicago  
 At Large Diane Williams - Suburban Cook County  
 At Large John Noak, Mayor - Collar Counties

*A motion was made by Member Nancy Rotering, seconded by Member Matthew Walsh, to approve the nomination of CMAP Officers as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:*

**Aye:** IDOT Representative, CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CMAP Representative 2, CTA Representative, Cook Co Representative, CoM Representative, DuPage Co Representative, Tollway Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Will Co Representative

**Absent:** Class I Railroads Representative

**Non-Voting:** FHWA Representative and FTA Representative

**Aye:** Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Matthew Brolley, Karen Darch, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, John Roberson, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan, Matthew Walsh and Diane Williams

**Absent:** Gary Grasso

**Non-Voting:** Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

## 7.0 Information Items

### 7.01 Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART) report update

[23-399](#)

**Attachments:** [Resolution language for Board MPO consideration - Draft](#)  
[Plan of Action for Regional Transit DRAFT](#)  
[Plan of Action for Regional Transit - Draft Revised 9.12.23](#)

Chair Bennett provided opening remarks on the Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART). Illinois Senator Ram Villivalam and Illinois House Representative Eva-Dina Delgado thanked CMAP staff for their efforts in preparing the recommendations of the PART report. The shared goal is to ensure that the region provides accessible, equitable, transparent, environmentally friendly, and safe public transit. This is a difficult task that will impact the residents of the region and requires a robust discussion.

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, reported CMAP was mandated by the General Assembly to prepare a series of recommendations to address the transit fiscal cliff and governance challenges. Transit moves riders and non riders, drives the region's economy, improves air quality and climate, and connects people to opportunities which increases equity across the region. A 20 percent cut to operational funds could equate to 40 percent of service cuts which would have a significant impact on the region. Approximately 60 percent of regional employees have jobs for which remote work is not an option. Based on CMAP modeling, inaction would affect quality of life and productivity and would increase emissions. Many recommendations in the recommendation report are aligned with ON TO 2050 Plan recommendations but go farther in reimagining the system that we want and how we get there. Daniel Comeaux, Senior Analyst in Regional Policy and Implementation, Elizabeth Scott, Principal in Regional Policy and Implementation, and Aimee Lee, Deputy of Transportation, Research, Analysis, and Programming, discussed that a Steering Committee was created to help develop and guide recommendations. The Steering Committee formed three subcommittees to focus on the areas of "The System We Want", "How to Pay for It" and "How to Implement It." They provided an in-depth presentation of the work and the recommendations for each of these focus areas.

Members from the PART Steering Committee were introduced. Jacky Grimshaw, Vice President of Government Affairs with Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT), reported that there is a need to adapt to the changing region and to develop a system that considers regional development, environment, and accessibility.

Amy Rynell, Executive Director of Active Transportation Alliance, reported that the existing system struggles to meet rider and employer needs. The mandate affords the ability to look at how we fund, govern, and understand transit. During recent listening sessions at six communities, users expressed

frustration with bus infrequency, delays, no shows, and overcrowding. Riders also identified recommendations that would improve their experience. The better and more responsive the system is, the more riders it will attract, revenue will grow, and the system will be strengthened.

Derek Douglas, President of the Civic Committee and the Commercial Club of Chicago, discussed the PART Steering Committee's role in developing recommendations. The PART Steering Committee provided their expertise as stakeholders. They were challenged by state legislators to use this as an opportunity to reimagine how transit should work and what considerations should be made to the structure, governance, and funding of the system. While the members of the committee had different ideas on fare increases, the consensus of members was that the transit systems needed to consider fare structure, evaluate cost efficiencies, and identify opportunities to reduce expenses. They also agreed that reform was needed in governance and service. He indicated that the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee will need to vote on a resolution regarding the report and that not all the recommendations are going to fully satisfy all the members of both public bodies. He urged the Board and MPO Committee to look at the report in its entirety when considering their votes.

Dan Cronin, former DuPage County Chairman, noted that there are monumental challenges facing the city and region due to jobs and business growth, taxes, governance of public bodies, as well as the everyday challenges facing local communities. The pandemic exacerbated the issue, creating a lot of uncertainty. There has been consensus that people want an effective, clean, efficient, and accessible regional transit system.

Robert Puentes, President and CEO of Eno Center of Transportation, reported that his agency was brought on to consider technical elements of the governance focus area and has conducted several interviews and research on different governance models. This is a prominent discussion across the country, given the fiscal cliff many agencies have been experiencing, the impact of COVID, and the federal funding that is winding down. Governance challenges have been identified across the country for different reasons but at its core, transit is regional by nature. However, there is a fundamental need, based on a user's perspective, that an integrated transit governance is needed to have a highly functional system. The recommendations provided today will make a greater difference than changing governance or restructuring operations alone.

Randy Blankenhorn, former Executive Director of CMAP and co-chair of How We Implement It focus area, stated the service board structure was created 40 years ago and was designed so that each agency made decisions on what was best for their agency and not on a user's perspective. Users care about getting from one point to another in a safe and easy manner. There is a need to consider what decisions are regional and which decisions should be left to those operating the system day-to-day.

Discussion by the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee ensued. Discussion included:

- \* Lack of transit options in suburban areas;
- \* Whether a referendum has been considered;
- \* Safety of public transit;
- \* The need for a stable and reliable funding source;
- \* Equity in the transit system throughout the region;
- \* Tolling of additional roads;
- \* Clarification of language in the report;
- \* Regulatory operations of transit agencies;
- \* Cost of maintaining infrastructure; and

\* Flexible of federal highway funds.

*The PART report update was discussed.*

**Aye:** IDOT Representative, CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CMAP Representative 2, CTA Representative, Cook Co Representative, CoM Representative, DuPage Co Representative, Tollway Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Will Co Representative

**Absent:** Class I Railroads Representative

**Non-Voting:** FHWA Representative and FTA Representative

## 8.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the CMAP Board or MPO Policy Committee.

## 9.0 Public Comment

Garland Armstrong, former Illinois resident, expressed concern that if nothing is done to address the fiscal cliff, there will be a huge impact to transit agencies and riders. He also commented on the recent bankruptcy filing of an electric bus manufacturer in Iowa and questioned whether CTA and Pace have contingency plans in place. He also commended Mayor Nancy Rotering for her actions to address gun violence.

Heather Armstrong, former Illinois residents, encouraged taxing services over goods and increasing corporate and real estate taxes to help fund transit.

## 10.0 Next Meeting

**The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the CMAP Board and is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 1:30 PM.**

**The meeting will be held in the Marquee Room on the 2nd floor of the Old Post Office.**

## 11.0 Adjournment

### CMAP Board

The CMAP Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

*A motion was made by John Noak, seconded by Richard Reinbold, to adjourn the CMAP Board meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:*

**Aye:** Gerald Bennett, Frank Beal, Matthew Brolley, Karen Darch, Nina Idemudia, John Noak, Richard Reinbold, John Roberson, Nancy Rotering, Stefan Schaffer, Carolyn Schofield, Anne Sheahan, Matthew Walsh and Diane Williams

**Absent:** Gary Grasso

**Non-Voting:** Kouros Mohammadian and Leanne Redden

### MPO Policy Committee

*A motion was made by Cook County Representative Jennifer Sis Killen, seconded by Will County Representative Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant to adjourn the MPO Policy Committee meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:*



- Aye:** IDOT Representative, CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CMAP Representative 2, CTA Representative, Cook Co Representative, CoM Representative, DuPage Co Representative, Tollway Representative, Kane Co Representative, Kendall Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative, Pace Representative, RTA Representative and Will Co Representative
- Absent:** Class I Railroads Representative
- Non-Voting:** FHWA Representative and FTA Representative

The MPO Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Blanca Vela-Schneider