



MPO POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Thursday, March 14, 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 Wednesday, March 13, 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/85003934401?pwd=c8iHEB2dAJLGSu7i04UZtsN8REb5sy.1>

Conference Call number: 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 850 0393 4401 Passcode: 775974

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

Vice-Chair Killen called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

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

Absent: CMAP Representative 2, DuPage Co Representative and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: FHWA Representative, FTA Representative and Class I Railroads Representative

Noting a physical quorum, Pro-Tem Chair Killen reported that requests were received from FTA Representative Mark Kane, IDOT Representative Secretary Omer Osman, RTA Representative Leanne Redden, and Kendall County Representative Scott Gengler to attend the MPO Policy Committee meeting virtually in compliance with the Open Meetings Act requirements.

A motion was made by CMAP Representative 1 Frank Beal, seconded by Council of Mayors Representative Jeff Schielke, to allow the remote participation of members in compliance with the Open Meetings Act requirements. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: CDOT Representative, CMAP Representative 1, CTA Representative, Cook Co Representative, CoM Representative, Kane Co Representative, Lake Co Representative, McHenry Co Representative, Metra Representative and Pace Representative

Absent: CMAP Representative 2, DuPage Co Representative and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: FHWA Representative and Class I Railroads Representative

Not Present: IDOT Representative, FTA Representative, Tollway Representative, Kendall Co Representative and RTA Representative

Secretary Omer Osman served as IDOT Representative, Vignesh Krishnamurthy served as CDOT Representative, Frank Beal served as CMAP Representative 1, Tom Evenson served as Class I Railroads Representative, Jennifer Killen served as Cook County Representative, Jeff Schielke served as Council of Mayors Representative, Molly Poppe served as CTA Representative, Jon Paul Kohler served as FHWA Representative, Mark Kane served as FTA Representative, Cassandra Rouse served as Illinois Tollway Representative, Tom Rickert served as Kane County Representative, Scott Gengler served as Kendall County Representative, Shane Schneider served as Lake County Representative, Scott Hennings served as McHenry County Representative, Jim Derwinski served Metra Representative, Erik Llewellyn served as Pace Representative, and Leanne Redden served as RTA Representative

Staff present: Nora Beck, Bill Barnes, Michael Brown, John Carpenter, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Doug Ferguson, Ryan Gougis, Jane Grover, Kasia Hart, Craig Heither, Aimee Lee, Martin Menninger, Richard Norwood, Stephane Phifer, Russell Pietrowski, Elizabeth Scott, Ryan Thompto, Jennie Vana, Blanca Vela-Schneider, Isaura Velez, Laura Wilkison

Others present: Garland Armstrong, Christina Bader, Holly Bieneman, Andy Brinkerhoff, Lynette Ciavarella, John Donovan, Drew Duffin, Brian Larson, Adella Bass-Lawson, Elaine Bottomley, Kevin Carrier, Eric Czarnota, Jackie Forbes, Jennifer Henry, George Kandathil, Mark Kane, Mike Klemens, David Kralik, Jill Leary, Heidi Lichtenberger, Heather Mullins, Jeffrey Nolish, Matt Pasquini, Leslie Rauer, Karyn Robles, Leon Rockingham, Joe Surdam, Megan Swanson, Maulik Vaishnav

Pro-Tem Chair Killen turned the meeting over to Chair Osman.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

Chair Osman indicated that there are no changes to the agenda. He reported that Vershun Tolliver will serve as the new Illinois Division Administrator for the Federal Highway Administration, and he thanked Chris Hall for leading the office in the interim. Jon Paul Diipla was selected to fill the Metropolitan Planning Specialist position in the Chicago Urban Satellite Office effective April 7. Chair Osman announced the upcoming retirement of Jon-Paul Kohler.

Chair Osman reported that IDOT has set a 2.6 percent statewide reduction target for tailpipe CO2 emissions from 2022 to 2026 and expressed excitement in learning more about CMAP's effort to set the region's target which will inform and benefit from its ongoing Climate Action Planning work.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.01 Minutes from January 11, 2024

[24-113](#)

Attachments: [MPO Policy Committee 01.11.24 Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Cook Co Representative Killen, seconded by CoM Representative Schielke, that the January 11, 2024 meeting minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: CMAP Representative 2, DuPage Co Representative and Will Co Representative

Non-Voting: FHWA Representative, FTA Representative and Class I Railroads Representative

Not Present: Tollway Representative

4.0 CMAP Announcements

4.01 Executive director's report

[24-114](#)

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, announced that the deadline for the next round of Technical Assistance Call for Projects is Friday, March 22 at noon. She reported 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. 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 also reported on the federal FY 2025 budget which includes \$350 million in USDOT funding for CTA's red line extension project.

(Illinois Tollway Representative Cassandra Rouse arrived at 9:43 a.m.)

The Executive director's report was received and filed.

4.02 Council of Mayors' report

[24-115](#)

Council of Mayors' Representative Jeff Schielke noted that the January 23, 2024 Council of Mayors'

meeting was cancelled. He raised awareness of cyber threats and crimes against the senior community. He also acknowledged the technical challenges facing the senior community, particularly related to transportation. Illinois Tollway Representative Cassaundra Rouse discussed initiatives the Tollway has taken to assist individuals who have little technological experience with computers and mobile applications. Metra Representative Jim Derwinski remarked that Metra has installed vending machines at all of its stations and that conductors continue to accept cash payments on its train lines.

The Council of Mayor' report was received and filed.

4.03 CMAP Board update

[24-116](#)

RTA Representative Leanne Redden provided an update of CMAP Board activity. At its February 14, 2024 Board meeting, the CMAP Board reviewed and approved the FY 2025 Comprehensive Budget and Work Plan, a copy of which is included in the Committee's packet under agenda item 5.01, Proposed FY 2025 Unified Work Program (UWP) for Northeastern Illinois. The Board also received an update on CMAP's innovative outreach and engagement approaches and discussed ways in which the Board members engaged with members of their community. At its March 13, 2024 Board meeting, the Board voted on proposed legislative changes to the Regional Planning Act. An update on the proposed changes, along with other legislative information, will be presented later in the meeting. There was also a presentation on the Regional Climate Action Plan and the MPO will also see a presentation of this later today.

Separately, RTA Representative Redden remarked on the safety summit hosted by the RTA regarding the challenges public transportation is facing as it relates to safety and security.

The CMAP Board update was received and filed.

5.0 Other Items for Approval

5.01 Proposed FY2025 Unified Work Program (UWP) for Northeastern Illinois

[24-112](#)

Attachments: [Proposed FY2025 UWP Budget Memo](#)
[Proposed FY2025 Unified Work Program](#)
[Proposed FY2025 Budget and Work Plan Memo](#)
[CMAP Proposed FY2025 Budget and Regional Work Plan](#)

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, presented the FY 2025 Unified Work Program (UWP) for Northeastern Illinois including a brief video. The CMAP Board approved the proposed FY 2025 Budget and Work Plan which outlines revenues, expenses, and sub-awards to partner agencies and the associated matching funds for the next fiscal year. The FY 2025 UWP is a companion document to CMAP's budget and work plan, and outlines core activities carried out by CMAP, as well as core and competitive-funded activities. The FY 2025 UWP was approved by the Transportation Committee at its March 1, 2024 meeting.

Executive Director Aleman provided highlights of the comprehensive budget including revenue and expenses. She reviewed the UWP sub-awards and core MPO Activities.

Discussion ensued regarding competitive funds, data governance, and consultant costs.

A motion was made by CoM Representative Schielke, seconded by CMAP Representative 1 Beal, that the Proposed FY 2025 Unified Work Program (UWP) for Northeastern Illinois be approved. The motion

carried by the following vote:

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

6.0 Information Items

6.01 Legislative update

[24-104](#)

Attachments: [Legislative Update](#)

Laura Wilkison, Senior Director and Policy Advisor, provided a legislative update. CMAP is seeking a \$5 million appropriation from the state to continue the broader scope of work in the Regional Planning Act, including housing, climate, and economic development, that is currently funded solely through the use of grants. CMAP has also filed a request to amend the Regional Planning Act to strike out the language requiring CMAP to have a Wastewater Committee as well as to include new language that would permit a simple majority vote on contracts (excluding the contract of the executive director), grants, purchase agreements, and meeting minutes. Staff is working with state legislators regarding this request.

The Illinois Municipal League is pursuing legislation that would permit public bodies subject to the Open Meetings Act (OMA) to meet remotely in cases when the public body deems it unsafe or a danger to public health. The OMA statute permits certain public bodies with a jurisdiction of more than 4,500 square miles to meet the physical quorum requirement at one or more public building locations, through an interactive video conference provided that the public body provides public notice and public access.

A legislative update was presented.

6.02 Regional Climate Action Plan

[24-105](#)

Attachments: [CAP Memo](#)

Nora Beck, Principal Policy Analyst in Regional Policy and Implementation, 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 location but 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 meetings. These targets will be used to inform the development of the next Regional Transportation Plan.

Principal 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 was led by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus; the Comprehensive Climate Plan that is due by July 2025; and the status report that is due the summer of 2027. Phase 2 of the program is the implementation of the competitive grants.

The Regional Climate Action Plan update was presented.

6.03 Regional Planning Approach Update

[24-122](#)

Attachments: [Regional Planning Approach Update Memo](#)

Elizabeth Scott and Ryan Thompto, Principal Policy Analysts, provided a presentation on CMAP's Regional Planning Approach. CMAP has federal requirements to update the Regional Transportation Plan every four years. It also has state requirements under the Regional Planning Act to develop a regional comprehensive plan that integrates land use with transportation considerations.

Principal Scott reviewed the history of CMAP. CMAP has developed comprehensive plans (GO TO 2040 and ON TO 2050) that cover all state and federal requirements and smaller plan updates.

Principal Thompto reported that staff are evaluating their approach in the next plan and have explored other metropolitan planning agencies' approaches including that of Puget Sound Regional Council of Seattle, Washington, the Metropolitan Council of St. Paul, Minnesota, and the Atlanta Regional Commission of Atlanta, Georgia. He provided an overview of each of these regions' plans.

CMAP 's proposed model includes an overall arching vision of the challenges and opportunities to guide CMAP but also includes sub-plans around the climate, transportation, and economy plans that create spaces for more in-depth conversations. Anticipated benefits include product improvements that enhance public engagement and allow deeper analysis, provide more tailored solutions, and improve implementation and monitoring. It also allows for process improvements that provide flexibility and focus, break down planning silos, align with the regional goals, and focus on continuous improvement.

Principal Scott reviewed next steps including performing a comprehensive look across the region and completing an analysis of existing conditions, obtaining input from civic leaders and the public, and creating a document to use as guidance.

Discussion ensued.

A Regional Planning Approach update was provided.

7.0 Other Business

There was no other business before the committee.

8.0 Public Comment

Garland Armstrong, former Illinois resident, acknowledged Mayor Schielke's long-term tenure as mayor of Batavia and thanked him for being proactive in protecting seniors from cyber-crime. He urged community leaders to consider non-English speaking and deaf residents in their emergency preparedness plans.

John-Paul Jones, Steward of Grow Greater Englewood and President of Englewood Initiatives, expressed the need to discuss current issues with current data and to get legislators involved.

9.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2024.

10.0 Adjournment

A motion was made by CMAP Representative 1 Frank Beal, seconded by Cook Co Representative Sis Killen, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Blanca Vela-Schneider.