



## COUNCIL OF MAYORS

### MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

9:30 AM

Please join from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

Web: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84979364649>

Phone: (312) 626-6799, Passcode: 84979364649#

Meeting ID: 849 7936 4649

#### 1.0 Call To Order

Representing agencies present:

**Central Council of Mayors:** President Alice Gallagher, Western Springs

**DuPage Council of Mayors:** Mayor Gary Grasso, Burr Ridge

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

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

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

**McHenry Council of Mayors:** Mayor Emily Berendt, Bull Valley

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

**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

**South Council of Mayors:** President Michael Einhorn, Crete

**South Council of Mayors:** President Bob Kolosh, Thorton

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

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

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

**Staff present:** Erin Aleman, Lily Brack, Sarah Buchhorn, John Carpenter, Daniel Comeaux, Wylie Crowther, Kama Dobbs, Teri Dixon, Doug Ferguson, Jane Grover, Kasia Hart, Alexis McAdams, Amy McEwan, Tim McMahon, Jared Patton, Russell Pietrowiak, Elizabeth Scott, Sarah Stolpe, Blanca Vela-Schneider, Mary Weber

**Others present:** Joe Breinig, Leonard Cannata, Kaci Crowley, Eric Czarnota, Jon Paul Diipla, Jackie Forbes, Michael Fricano, Jon Haadsma, Scott Hennings, Kendra Johnson, Tom Kelso, Michael Klemens, Scott Hennings, Heidi Lichtenberger, Brittany Matyas, Chad Riddle, Jazmin Vega

#### 2.0 Approval of Minutes

*A motion was made by President Einhorn, seconded by Mayor Rockingham, that the agenda item be approved. The motion carried.*

### **3.0 New Business**

#### **3.01 CMAP update**

[22-334](#)

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

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Executive Director Erin Aleman began her update by stressing the importance to working collaboratively as a region to pursue competitive grants available through the recent infrastructure law. Several of northeastern Illinois' peer regions have drafted consensus project lists and CMAP is working with its partners to develop a comparable project list for the region. Ms. Aleman also explained that the new infrastructure law included an increase planning funds which will be used to create a regional resilience plan and study electric vehicle charger planning.

Next, Ms. Aleman explained that CMAP is increasing local contributions by 20 percent this year. These funds will be used to better guide the delivery of federally funded infrastructure projects, expand resilience and ADA transition planning, and continue creating safety plans, carbon reduction plans, pavement management plans, and other projects.

Finally, Ms. Aleman gave an update on CMAP's recent work with RTA to study the impacts that the pandemic has had on the region's transportation system.

Chair Schielke asked who elected officials should be contacting in Washington to support the region's infrastructure funding applications. Ms. Aleman said that CMAP is reaching out to all members of the region's delegation and emphasized that Senator Durbin and Senator Duckworth are well aware of the region's infrastructure priorities. The agency is working with the region's representatives and their staff to ensure they are familiar with these priorities as well. CMAP is also developing a pamphlet that explains these priorities, which will be available to committee members to help guide conversations with the state's congressional delegation. Chair Schielke emphasized that recent redistricting has led to some communities having new representatives, which is a challenge for collaborative work.

There were no other questions.

#### **3.02 STP Project Selection Committee Update**

[22-335](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: Staff will provide an update on activities of the STP Project Selection Committee.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP analyst Kama Dobbs provided an update on recent work by the STP Project Selection Committee. The committee last met on June 23. At that meeting, staff provided an update on research into the possible inclusion of commuter railyard expansions as eligible project types. The committee is concerned about adding new project types to the eligibility list but encouraged staff to continue their research. The committee will continue to discuss railyard expansion eligibility at their next meeting on August 11 at 9:30am. The committee also discussed proposed language changes to clarify the meaning of "substantially complete" with regards to the eligibility requirement for stage 1. This revision is also being discussed with the CMAQ and TAP Project Selection Committees. Finally, staff proposed replacing the current green infrastructure planning factor with a resilience planning factor that would support green and gray infrastructure features that improve a project's ability to withstand natural hazards. Finally, staff sought input from committee members on potential safety focus areas to supplement current need scoring categories.

Ms. Dobbs also reported that through June, roughly \$8.5 million has been obligated for STP Shared Fund projects and over \$49 million has been obligated for STP Local projects. This is just under 24 percent of the

total funding available to the region during federal fiscal year 2022. To date, 17 percent of the region's total COVID relief funding has also been obligated. There are several projects that are on the verge of being approved and will be extended into the new fiscal year.

Ms. Aleman asked for clarification on the percentage of federal funds that have been obligated. Ms. Dobbs explained that the region is a bit behind in its spending due to several large projects that have experienced delays. Ms. Dobbs also explained that this year, authorization of the final letting will not occur until the new federal fiscal year.

President Einhorn then asked who oversees the timeframes and noted that the requirements do not seem to reflect the timeline needed to assemble a project. Ms. Dobbs explained that CMAP must work around the state and federal fiscal years and seeks to align deadlines with the state letting schedule. President Einhorn clarified that the challenge seems to be on the federal side. Ms. Dobbs responded that developing guidance and procedures often takes time and highlighted that most congressionally appropriated funds have a current year plus three years obligation deadline.

Mayor Kernc used the chat to ask how the agency is handling recent bids that have come in over their pre-bid estimates. Ms. Dobbs said that the agency has received bids both over and under pre-bid estimates, and that in most cases the local council or shared fund is able to cover the cost increases. President Einhorn highlighted that those increases bump up the local contributions needed to fund the projects and asked if it might be possible to cover those increases with the shared fund. Ms. Dobbs explained that the shared fund is federal money and cannot be used as a match, but that there may be an opportunity to use state funds in this way.

President Einhorn then raised concern about using cohorts to determine local matches, and specifically mentioned the potential for consultants to inflate project costs in cohort four communities, since the local government is not affected by the increase. Ms. Dobbs said this is a conversation that can be had at the STP project selection committee which made the decision to implement the program. Ms. Dobbs also highlighted that local councils set their own criteria and may choose a different approach.

### **3.03 IDOT Bureau of Local Roads Update**

[22-336](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: IDOT Local Roads staff will provide an update.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

Chad Riddle from IDOT's Bureau of Local Roads provided a brief update on the bureau's recent work. Mr. Riddle reported that lettings have been slow. There were 17 lettings in April and 3 in June, though lettings are expected to pick up significantly in the fall.

Mr. Riddle then highlighted that ITEP cycle 15 will be opening on August 1 with applications due on September 30. \$125 million will be available with a cap of \$3 million for individual projects. IDOT will hold three webinars to explain the program and application process.

Finally, Mr. Riddle reported that IDOT has been receiving inquiries about why funding has been revoked for some projects that have timed out. When funds are revoked due to projects timing out, it is due to CMAP and council policies. CMAP, the councils, and IDOT will need to coordinate in these situations.

President Einhorn commented that project turnaround time seems to be going down, and thanked Mr. Riddle for making that possible. Chair Schielke seconded President Einhorn's comment and thanked the department for its work.

### 3.04 Update on CMAP's Mobility Recovery initiative

[22-332](#)

**PURPOSE & ACTION:** Over the last 18 months, CMAP has worked with regional stakeholders to assess the impacts that COVID-19 has had and will likely continue to have on the region's mobility system. Based on that analysis, CMAP staff and consultants have developed a series of preliminary recommendations, including strategies to sustain the region's transit network, accommodate new and different travel demands, respond to the challenges caused by shifts like increased telework and e-commerce, and more. Today, staff will present an update on the project and facilitate a discussion on the draft recommendations.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Discussion

CMAP analyst Daniel Comeaux provided an overview of CMAP's ongoing work to study how the region's transportation system has been affected by pandemic-related shifts, as well as to identify strategies for improving the system's performance, reliability, and sustainability. Mr. Comeaux briefly reviewed the project's findings, highlighting the significant increase in remote work and its impact on overall travel patterns. Mr. Comeaux then summarized the process through which the team identified and examined potential recommendations. Mr. Comeaux then previewed the potential recommendations that are likely to emerge from the project, including improved multi-modal system integration and affordability, the adoption of new revenues to support transit, improving traffic safety, and others.

President Einhorn asked for clarification of who the project is being conducted by and for whom the recommendations are intended. Mr. Comeaux gave a quick overview of the makeup of the project's steering committee, which includes representatives from the seven counties of northeastern Illinois, transportation implementers, nonprofit organizations, the business community, academia, and more. Mr. Comeaux also clarified that the recommendations will focus on how to respond to the challenges of COVID-19 on transportation systems throughout the region, and do not emphasize a specific area or type of service.

### 3.05 Regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory

[22-333](#)

**PURPOSE & ACTION:** Staff will provide an overview of the recently completed Regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory and related local emissions summaries. Staff will also explain what the results mean for the region and how local governments and community groups can use the inventory to begin planning for emissions reductions.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Information

CMAP planner Jared Patton provided an overview of the recent Regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory and local emissions summaries. Mr. Patton explained that this is CMAP's GHG emissions inventory shows all emissions from transportation, stationary energy, and waste. Due to the pandemic and subsequent stay-at-home orders, CMAP conducted the inventory for 2019, rather than 2020 as initially planned.

Mr. Patton then reviewed the findings of the inventory. In 2019, the region generated 112MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e, which is a 9 percent decrease from 2010 and a 2 percent decrease from 2015. Roughly 65 percent of the region's emissions come from natural gas and electricity used in buildings, 32 percent of the region's emissions come from transportation, and 3 percent of emissions come from waste and wastewater. Between 2010 and 2019, transportation was the only sector that saw an increase in emissions (2 percent), which was due mainly to an increase in VMT. Although overall emissions are going down, Mr. Patton highlighted that the region is not on track to meeting its 80 percent reduction target.

Mr. Patton then walked the committee through an example of a local emissions summary. As part of the inventory project, CMAP created 2-page summaries that show most (but not all) GHG emissions, as well as related indicators such as EV chargers and tree canopy coverage, for every municipality and Chicago

Community Area in the region.

Finally, Mr. Patton reviewed the next steps for sharing and using the inventory data and offered to review the inventory data with elected officials, Village staff, and community groups through presentations and one-on-one meetings.

### **3.06 Local Government Network update**

[22-337](#)

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

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP planner Lily Brack provided an update on LGN activities. The network recently completed its 13th initiative which included an effort to gauge interest in technical assistance for transportation safety planning and to share information about IDOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program. The network also recently partnered with Illinois DCO by sharing municipal contact information to support their new CRM. The network's next initiative will focus on building awareness of CMAP's upcoming LTA call for projects and promoting the agency's municipal survey. CMAP may support this work through in-person outreach with municipal staff.

### **3.07 Legislative update**

[22-338](#)

PURPOSE & ACTION: Staff will provide an update on recent legislation relevant to the agency's work.

ACTION REQUESTED: Information

CMAP Director John Carpenter provided an update on recent legislative work at CMAP. The agency is currently developing its FY2023 legislative agenda, which will be finalized this fall. Chair Schielke expressed an interest in contributing to the agenda drafting process. Mr. Carpenter said they would work with the committees to review and discuss the agenda in the coming months.

### **4.0 Other Business**

### **5.0 Public Comment**

### **6.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be September 13, 2022.

### **7.0 Adjournment**