



REGIONAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Monday, September 26, 2022

9:00 AM

September 26, 2022

Please join from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Meeting ID: 858 0312 7013

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1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Tucker called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m., and reminded the members that the meeting was being live-streamed, and asked staff to call the roll.

Present: Bob Tucker, Kim Porter, Dionne Baux, Jonathan Furr, Kendra Freeman, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Olatunji Oboi Reed, Peter Creticos, Shannon McGhee, and Josh Potter

Excused: Jennifer Tammen

Absent: Adam Ballard, Caitlin Ritter, Darnell Shields, Joan Fox, Kevin Kramer, Marisa Lewis, Michael Meyers, Tiffany McDowell, and Veronica Gonzalez

Ex-Officio: Michael Horsting, and Tara Orbon

Staff present: Erin Aleman, Alex Ensign, Timothy McMahon, Kasia Hart, Ryan Ehlke, Tony Manno

Others present: Garland Armstrong

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

2.01 Requests for agenda changes

[22-447](#)

There were no requests for agenda changes.

2.02 Executive Director's announcements

[22-448](#)

Director Aleman updated on the Regional Economy Initiative and provided an overview of the strategic initiative to be discussed later in the agenda. For the Initiative, convened quarterly, she noted that the County Board chairs, leaders from the seven counties, in partnership, discussed principles around regional cooperation on economic competitiveness. The work was supported by a grant from the Chicago Community Trust with the Brookings Institution. Recommendations included prioritizing activities in Joliet - coordinating international engagement and creating a global identity for the region, encouraging city-centric entrepreneurship support region-wide with a focus on underrepresented entrepreneurs and establishing shared capacity for data and research and economic development among other activities. As the region continues to face slower than desired economic progress and stagnant population growth, Brookings and local leaders are drawing on best practices to develop a shared regional framework for equitable development. This initiative builds on a number of projects including the Chicago Metro Metals Consortium, South Land Development Authority and other regional stakeholders. She also discussed on the need for ramping up on efforts to help communities address ADA transition plans.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.01 Minutes from May 23, 2022

[22-449](#)

Attachments: [MeetingMinutes19-Sep-2022-04-53-13](#)

A motion was made by Kim Porter, seconded by Jonathan Furr, that the agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Bob Tucker, Kim Porter, Dionne Baux, Jonathan Furr, Kendra Freeman, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Olatunji Oboi Reed, Peter Creticos, Shannon McGhee, and Josh Potter

Excused: Jennifer Tammen

Absent: Adam Ballard, Caitlin Ritter, Darnell Shields, Joan Fox, Kevin Kramer, Marisa Lewis, Michael Meyers, Tiffany McDowell, and Veronica Gonzalez

Ex-Officio: Michael Horsting, and Tara Orbon

4.0 New Business

4.01 Strategic Direction Update

[22-445](#)

Alex Ensign, CMAP's Director of Strategic Alignment and Innovation, discussed feedback received from the committee members and staff at the workshop series and highlighted that there was some room improvement for the strategic direction. A series of 10 workshops was conducted over the summer to provide feedback. CMAP collected and compiled the feedback from spring meetings as well. She highlighted that the draft will be presented to the committees in November and will present the draft to board members in January before it is officially adopted. Some workshops were specially streamlined for cross focus areas at the intersection of economy and transportation and climate and transportation. CMAP made sure that the strategic direction not only guides the work within each of the focus areas but also cross-focussed initiatives and identified the need for working with the smaller core team to update and expand the strategic direction to be presented.

The agenda item was received and filed.

4.02 State and Federal Legislative Agenda

[22-446](#)

Attachments: [2023 Federal Advocacy Agenda - Draft](#)
[2023 State Advocacy Agenda - Draft](#)

Currently in draft form seeking comments. Federal - Funding and implementations of all the opportunities coming out of the IIJA (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) and the state agenda will focus on increasing capacity for CMAP and other MPOs around the state to take advantage of all the opportunities coming out of IIJA. Currently limited by what CMAP can address by the regional planning so CMAP will seek another regional planning act to address all the issues enumerated in the act.

Tim McMahon, CMAP Staff, presented on the draft federal agenda, transportation section - successful implementation of the IIJA. He noted staff continues to look for sustainable funding for safe and complete streets and active transportation projects. He then pivoted to discussing planning for a climate resilient future by reducing emissions, strengthen federal standards. Regional economic Competitiveness section - inclusive economic growth and increase opportunities for comprehensive planning support

Kasia Hart, CMAP Staff, presented on the need for aligning the draft state agenda with the strategic direction. She noted transportation funding and finance reform is a long-standing priority for CMAP and the transit funding will inform the recommendation in this area. Promoting traffic safety and pedestrian and biking infrastructure. Climate, Regional economic competitiveness - discussed the importance of local and regional tax policy.

The agenda item was received and filed.

4.03 Improving accessibility and ADA compliance

[22-450](#)

Linda Mastrandrea, CMAP Staff, presented on CMAP's efforts to make the region for ADA friendly. She discussed the current situation of infrastructure accessibility in the region. She then presented the infrastructure and administrative requirements for ADA compliance, self-evaluations and transition plans and the role of the ADA coordinator. She then discussed the data on disability in the United States in terms of number of people with disability and the amount of disposable income of people with disability. She noted that CMAP is creating a multi-faceted program for making communities accessible by education, outreach, technical assistance and a toolbox of resources like templates, checklist, etc to aid self-evaluation in communities and transition planning. Committee members asked for the number of communities that need technical assistance and the timeframe for the project.

The agenda item was received and filed.

5.0 Committee Member Updates

Member Reed shared updates on the Go Hub, a community mobility center modelled after traditional mobility hubs, however in low-to-moderate income areas with severe transportation inequities. GoHub brings hardware (mobility, devices, shared e-bikes, shared scooters), software (community mobility rituals and hyperlocal advocacy coalition to address and reduce violence at the neighborhood level), physical building (place for the hardware). Go Hub will work with Fairbank juncture at their campus, site location with the USDOE grant. Member Shannon McGee discussed resources to help fund black, brown, and women founders to take an idea and convert it into a commercialization product. She highlighted that her team was finishing up the design and build of a digital learning management platform that institutionalizes the entrepreneurial curriculum set to launch in March and that they are looking for feedback and technical assistance. Member Peter Creticos shared maps on distribution of female headed households in the City of Chicago, in relation to the locations of essential utilities such as pharmacies, grocery stores, banking institutions, brownfields, digital divide index.

6.0 Other Business

No other business was brought to 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.

Garland Armstrong called in from Des Moines Iowa and spoke. He complimented the work being done by committee members in the updates and importance to include all members of society in our work.

8.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, November 21, 2022.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Dominick Argumedo.