



## REGIONAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Monday, May 23, 2022

9:00 AM

May 23, 2022

Please join from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85803127013?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85803127013?pwd=aXpyNOI5djlmSUpsWjFBWWJJdmFhdz09)  
[pwd=aXpyNOI5djlmSUpsWjFBWWJJdmFhdz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85803127013?pwd=aXpyNOI5djlmSUpsWjFBWWJJdmFhdz09)

#### TO USE YOUR TELEPHONE

Meeting ID: 858 0312 7013

Passcode: 032581

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### 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

Chair called meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

**Staff Present:** Erin Aleman, Tony Manno, Alexandra Ensign, Ryan Ehlke

**Others Present:** Garland Armstrong, Heather Armstrong

**Present:** Bob Tucker, Kim Porter, Caitlin Ritter, Darnell Shields, Joan Fox, Jonathan Furr, Kendra Freeman, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Marisa Lewis, Michael Meyers, Olatunji Oboi Reed, Shannon McGhee, Tiffany McDowell, Veronica Gonzalez, and Tara Orbon

**Excused:** Peter Creticos

**Absent:** Adam Ballard, Dionne Baux, Jennifer Tammen, Kevin Kramer, and Josh Potter

**Ex-Officio:** Michael Horsting

### 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

#### 2.01 Request for agenda changes

[22-241](#)

No requests for agenda changes were heard.

#### 2.02 Executive Director's Announcements

[22-243](#)

Director Aleman reviewed the previous MPO Board meeting. She noted the Board is working on an update to the ONTO 2050 Plan which should be completed in October. She also noted how CMAP is making sure the Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) positively impacts our region. Some example of this are communicating available Electric Vehicle infrastructure funds and holding public forums to make sure funds reach all areas of our region. Director Aleman also noted that CMAP is starting a new ADA program to ensure that local communities are in compliance with required planning requirements. She also noted that CMAP recently hired Linda Mastandrea as director of ADA Planning and local safety.

### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

#### 3.01 Minutes from March 28, 2022

[22-237](#)

**Attachments:** [MeetingMinutes09-May-2022-12-42-47](#)

*A motion was made by Marisa Lewis, seconded by Jonathan Furr, that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:*

**Aye:** Bob Tucker, Kim Porter, Darnell Shields, Jonathan Furr, Kendra Freeman, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Marisa Lewis, Michael Meyers, Olatunji Oboi Reed, Shannon McGhee, Tiffany McDowell, Veronica Gonzalez, and Tara Orbon

**Excused:** Peter Creticos

**Absent:** Adam Ballard, Dionne Baux, Jennifer Tammen, Kevin Kramer, and Josh Potter

**Abstain:** Caitlin Ritter, and Joan Fox

**Ex-Officio:** Michael Horsting

#### **4.0 New Business**

#### **4.01 Feedback on CMAP's Strategic Direction Approaches and Measures**

[22-244](#)

Alex Ensign, Director of Strategic Alignment and Innovation, introduced her team including Ryan Ehlke, Program Management Analyst, and provided an overview of the feedback staff had received from the Committee about the Strategic Direction which was presented at a previous meeting. Ensign noted how various approaches, outcomes and objectives were amended to incorporate Committee member feedback. Discussion continued with regards to the amended goals as members noted a desire to further include ADA considerations. Ensign noted that comments would be included and be various aspects be updated.

#### **4.02 CMAP's Coordination of Economic Strategies**

[22-239](#)

**Attachments:** [Regional Economic Recovery Task Force - Summary](#)  
[TIP-Brookings - Project Primer - Jan 2022](#)

Austen Edwards, Senior Policy Analyst, gave a presentation on the background of this initiative and why such coordination is now occurring. He noted three CMAP projects currently underway in support. Edwards began with an overview of A Framework and Action Plan by the Brookings Institute. He noted that the planning process started in November of 2021 and would continue through summer of this 2022. The ending action plan was to focus on tangible items/ activities to focus on regional development from local developers through the state administration. He also spoke of the partners that would be involved in the implementation. Committee members asked for additional clarification on the partners that would participate. Edwards explained government partners would participate, and one of the goals is to include community based organizations in the future. He noted past lessons learned is to make sure to find champions at the local level both private and public.

A second project was a strategic market assessment which will provide an in depth assessment of our region's competitive position and market opportunities. Committee members asked clarifying questions about the type of information to be included.

The final project Edwards spoke on was a CMAP collaborative on local incentives. He noted that the incentives consortium was building off two previous CMAP reports, a Local Development Tax Incentives in Northeastern Illinois and Improving Local Development Incentives. The first is an overview of available incentives and the second is a guide for how to use such incentives. Committee members noted their desire to ensure the program is equitable in study and implementation.

## **5.0 Other Business**

Member Reed shared an update on the work being performed by Equiticity in North Lawndale at a community mobility center and upcoming work the organization will undertake to remove local inequities. Member DeLaurentiis shared an update on a pilot program for southland municipalities to have tax exempt parcels added to tax rolls at a lower rate. Member Lewis shared an update on new projects in suburban Cook County that promote inclusive and equitable economies, and an update on ARPA funding for several initiatives focusing on opportunity youth, returning residents, and building capacity. Member Furr shared an update on new initiatives that are being launched by NIU to support and engage students. Ex-officio member Orbon provided an update on Cook County's program to cover costs for transportation improvements in local communities.

## **6.0 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 of Des Moines, Iowa commented that the region should pursue a refund program for recycling bottles and cans.

## **7.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be September 26, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

## **8.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Dominick Argumedo.