



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## **Economic and Community Development Committee Minutes July 24<sup>th</sup> 2007 – 9.00am Dupage County Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Lori Clark, Yasmin Bates. Joe Balasa, Mike Scholefield, Harry Pestine, Bob Gleeson, Terry Clark, Erick Nickerson, George Billows, Lila Petett, John Grueling

**Staff Present:** Bola Delano, Jill Leary, Bill Kiley, Brian Rademacher, Lee Deuben, Bob Dean

### **1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9.00a.m.

### **2.0 Welcome and Introductions**

All attendees introduced themselves.

### **3.0 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were approved by Joe Balasa and seconded by Terry Clark.

### **4.0 Agenda Changes**

John Grueling asked Bola Delano to give an update on the administrative changes within CMAP and also recommended that an additional item on the agenda should be a regular Deputy Directors report. This report resulted in a number of other relevant issues that were not on the agenda being discussed.

### **Deputy Directors Report.**

Bola informed members that Ron Thomas, Deputy Executive Director, Planning was leaving CMAP. Some changes as a result of his move was the creation of a Community and Technical Assistance Unit, headed by Bola Delano. The ED/C committee would be part of this new structure. She stressed that this was a good step in the right direction to ensure that the role of CMAP is more relevant to the needs of the region and that it would

enable the group to be more aligned with the roles of planning and transportation within the organization.

She informed members of the recent submission of a grant request to the National Technical Assistance Unit of US Economic Development Administration for a technical assistance grant to provide economic development assistance to distressed communities in Northeastern Illinois. Members will be updated on any developments.

The Innovative Global Climate summit will be held on Dec 11, 2007 at UIC. (Details to follow.) Members were asked to assist in coordinating this event. Lori Clark and Kim Uglig volunteered.

An event to develop the region's Vision ForThe Future will be held on Sept 12, 2007 from 8.30 a.m. - noon at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Hermann Union Building, 3242 South Federal Street, Chicago. Members were asked to attend and John Grueling agreed to attend on behalf of the group.

Terry Clark reported that he had an opportunity to study the CMAP budget and was of the opinion that there was a considerable allocation of funds for research and analysis. Bola Delano informed him that funds allocated were spread across the board and under the new project matrix management procedures every member of staff would have a role research and analysis as well as technical assistance. She added that most of the figures reflected were staff salaries.

John concluded by saying this was encouraging and urged members to actively participate in the committee's efforts.

John Grueling spoke about HB 1134 and the recent changes that accompany it. The bill recommends that CMAP create a Waste Water Committee. He stressed that this was an important issue for Will County and its 37 communities and without the cooperation of CMAP and a change in managing the process, some of the counties will not be represented. In light of that, Will County is actively pursuing to fill the vacant seat.

**Action:**

In order to keep members informed and aware of the bill Staff were asked to include it in the next meeting package. Details of the bill can be found at:  
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=&SessionId=51&GA=95&DocTypeId=HB&DocNum=1134&GAID=9&LegID=29746&SpecSess=&Session=>

John Grueling highlighted the importance of identifying projects of regional significance and mentioned that as a new role in CMAP all communities and members should get involved or participate in developing the criteria to be used. He referred to HB 1201 and the roles identified. Speaking on behalf of all county economic professionals, he expressed concern that most professionals consider being left out of the loop, in developing projects of regional significance. He stressed that local control of the entitlement process is critical and suggested CMAP implement a process where Mayors

or County Board members have some influence in identifying projects. He requested that all these groups should have a level of input in the areas of growth control. Details of the bill are available on the website above.

He also mentioned that the newly formed MEGA group could energize this process by developing good hard facts and help fill the gaps. This could be done in partnership with this committee and make the region more effective in competing for funds. Bola informed members that Don Kopec, Deputy Executive Director, Planning and Programming, was leading the effort of developing a criteria for the region on behalf of CMAP and recommended that he give a presentation at a later date.

John informed members of a recent document published by Crain's on July 2, 2007 which highlighted market fact and figures of the region.

**Action:**

Members were asked to look at this as it would assist in developing the quality of life indicators. Bola informed members that copies of the report will be sent with the minutes.

**5.0 Regional Plan**

Bob Dean gave a presentation on the planning process for the 2010 Regional Plan. He identified 6 major steps, they are as follows:

1. Developing a Vision - using existing plan, common ground 2040, RTP. All working committees are at this stage as they are developing themes and the meeting scheduled for September 12, 2007 will allow members to come to a consensus on these themes. CMAP plans to adopt a vision in March 2008.
2. The release of regional snapshots on important topics that are relevant to the planning process. Two topics which are being worked on are Sustainability, Infill and regional development.
3. Evaluation of Strategies.
4. Alternative future scenarios, a long process designed to measure scenarios against indicators and this will not be complete until 2009.
5. Selection of recommended capital projects.
6. Fall 2010 – Public comment.

The presentation and additional information will be attached to the minutes and is also available on the CMAP website

John Grueling suggested that item 6 be before 5 as this would enable the public to also recommend capital projects, this would demonstrate CMAP's commitment for more

involvement and would also help in having a consensus on the final list of recommended projects.

**6.0 Sub- Committee on Quality of Life Indicators Update**

John Grueling confirmed that the quality of life indicators development was a major task and it was quite evident from Bob Dean's presentation that these were very important. Terry Clark mentioned that the group will be meeting later to follow up on some developing issues.

**7.0 Sub-committee on Regional Plan Update**

This group was charged with identifying the role of the committee in this process and this would be further developed after the visioning process.

**8.0 Public Comment – There was no public comment.**

**9.0 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Economic and Community Development working committee is scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 9.00am in the CMAP offices.

**10.0 Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Joe Balasa and seconded by Sean McCarthy.