

**CATS Task Force for Seniors and People with Disabilities  
And  
Community Mobility Task Force**

**Meeting Date:** January 8th, 2007

**Meeting Location:** CATS/CMAP

**Meeting Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Attendance**

David Snell	PACE
Holly Ostdick	McHenry County Council of Mayors
Candace King	DuPage Federation
John Paquet	CTA
Virginia Chandler	Metra
Taha Hossein Rashidi	UIC
Kathy Hazelwood	Association for Individual Development (AID)
Lynn O'Shea	Association for Individual Development (AID)
Suzen Riley	Pace
Russell Pietrowiak	CMAP
Antonia Gamez	Age Options
Bruce Christensen	Lake County
Tammy Wierciak	Central Council of Mayors (COM)
Holly Smith	Kane County Council of Mayors / KC DOT
Joe DiJohn	UIC
Dave Glowacz	Chicagoland Bicycle Federation
Dia Cirrillo	Work Welfare and Families
Alice Segal	Anixter Center
Bill Reynolds	RTA
Mary Keating	Dupage County Community Development
Jay Ciavarella	RTA
Erica Interrante	IDOT-DPIT
Dave Spacek	IDOT-DPIT

**Introductions:** In the absence of the chair CMAP staff (Russell Pietrowiak) "chaired" the meeting. The task force members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

**JARC/New Freedom Program Update**

Due to time constraints RTA (Jay Ciavarella) asked that this item be moved to the top of the agenda. An update was then provided on the status of the Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP). A handout was passed out and it was stated that the first organizational meeting with various stakeholders and the consultants had taken place. The plan is to have the first public meetings in late February or early March. It was stated that many of the committee members would be contacted in an effort to both gather information and solicit your help with this project. It was also suggested that

anyone that has information about possible contacts should forward that information to the RTA so that they can be added to the database they are in the process of compiling. Finally, it was mentioned that a webpage is currently under development with a link from [www.rtachicago.com](http://www.rtachicago.com) available the week of January 22.

For additional information, please contact Jay Ciavarella, RTA Program Manager, at (312) 913-3252 or [ciavarellaj@rtachicago.org](mailto:ciavarellaj@rtachicago.org).

A question regarding if a call for FY07 JARC and NFI projects would occur before the HSTP would be finished was asked. The answer was that since the projects have to be derived from the HSTP a call for projects could not happen until the HSTP was finished.

**Approval of Minutes:** The November 2006 (last meeting date) meeting notes were approved as submitted.

### **Regional Updates:**

Holly Smith provided an update about the Ride-In-Kane program. The Ride-In-Kane program is moving ahead with upcoming meetings scheduled with sponsors and with potential taxi cab providers. This project will be funded via a JARC and New Freedom Initiative (NFI) grant.

Holly Smith also provided information regarding Kendall County's plans to have a countywide system. This system involves partnering with the volunteer action center from DeKalb.

Holly Ostdick gave an update regarding McHenry County's implementation of a demand responsive program. This project will be funded from a NFI grant.

### **JARC/New Freedom Program:**

RTA (Bill Reynolds) provided an update on the status of the newly approved JARC and NFI applications. At this time the RTA board has approved the list of recommended projects. CMAP staff has entered the projects into the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) database. The next step is for the RTA to submit the projects to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Dave Spacek from IDOT informed the committee that IDOT was in the process of preparing a designation letter.

A discussion then took place regarding the difficulty that procuring a match has and likely will cause regarding the JARC, New Freedom, and 5310 programs. The role that the State might have regarding providing match money was also discussed. Questions were then asked about how projects can be sustained after the initial JARC or NFI grant runs out. The role of the State and the RTA in providing long term funding to help maintain successful programs was discussed. It was mentioned that this topic should be discussed in the context of helping to craft the HSTP for the region.

### **Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Brokerage Service RFP:**

A discussion regarding an RFP that IDHS has put forth took place. Dia Cirrillo from Work Welfare & Families and Erica Interante from IDOT provided information about the RFP. Transystems is the consultant that has been selected to try to determine how much DHS is spending on transportation, to examine the feasibility of a brokerage system, and other issues. It was decided that we should have a representative from

IDHS come and discuss this at the next meeting. Dave Spacek from IDOT mentioned that it is important that agencies that fund transportation now maintain their funding commitment even if they do not intent to be the service provider.

### **CMAP and the Future of the CMTF & TFSPD Groups**

CMAP (Russell Pietrowiak) discussed the transition from the current taskforces to the Human Services committee under CMAP. The CMAP board and the CATS Policy committee both have already approved disbanding the CATS Task Force for Seniors and People with Disabilities and the Community Mobility Task Force and replacing them with the Human Services committee. The list of committee members was then discussed. It was emphasized that the purpose of the committee is to be a working committee that builds consensus around issues and to expand the committees work into areas beyond transportation. Examples of the type of work that the committee may be doing over the next year include supporting the RTA lead HSTP effort, preparing a regional report that is similar in nature to the DuPage Federation on Human Services report:

“Who are the New Neighbors? *Facts about Demographic Change in DuPage County*”,  
<http://www.dupagefederation.org/Publications/Who%20are%20the%20New%20Neighbors.pdf>

working with the RTA on the JARC and New Freedom projects, and getting organized as a new committee.

The list of committee members and their roles were then discussed. It was mentioned that voting in the traditional sense would be replaced with consensus building and that recommendations would mention not only the consensus of the committee but also concerns or questions that might still need to be addressed or considered in a different committee. The role of the chair person and vice-chair person on the planning and programming committee was presented. The chair would also serve on either the planning or the programming committee and the vice-chair on which ever committee the chair was not on. The goal is to have each committee represented at the coordinating level. Various concerns were then raised regarding the proposed committee membership. It was explained that the purpose of this committee was to be more than just transportation and that in order to do this the membership would need to reflect the new mission which meant that new members needed to be brought on board. The question was raised as to why the service boards (CTA, Pace, and Metra) were no longer committee members. It was explained that the RTA would be looked at to represent their interest on this committee and that the transportation committee and others would have service board representation. It was also emphasized that being a member of the committee does not mean that you shouldn't participate in the committee meetings. In the past many non-taskforce/committee members have made meaningful contributions and that is expected to continue. Also emphasized was process of consensus building not voting and that regardless of whether or not you are an official member you still have a vital role in that process. Finally there was some discussion and suggestions regarding possible additions to the committee such as the United Way.

### **Other Business / Next Meeting:**

This was the last meeting of these two taskforces the next meeting will be for the Human Services Committee and is TBA at this time.