



WORK PROGRAM COMMITTEE

MINUTES

July 28, 2006

The meeting was held in the Cook County Conference Room at the CATS office at 233 South Wacker Driver, Chicago, Illinois.

1. Call to Order

Work Program Committee Chairman Groner called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Work Program Committee Members Present:

Jack Groner, Chairman, Metra
Vanessa Adams, FTA, USDOT Chicago Metro Office
Chris DiPalma, FHWA, USDOT Chicago Metro Office
Rocky Donahue, Pace
Neil Ferrari, representing Jason Tai, IDOT-DPIT
Heidi Files, representing Thomas Rickert, Kane County
Luann Hamilton, CDOT
Clarita Lao, IDOT-District One
John Loper, representing Chuck Tokarski, DuPage County
Arlene J. Mulder, CATS Council of Mayors
Les Nunes, representing Gordon Smith, IDOT-OP&P
Jason Osborn, representing Holly Ostdick, McHenry County
Mark Pitstick, representing John DeLaurentiis, RTA
Jeffrey Sriver, CTA
Steve Strains, NIRPC
Ron Thomas, NIPC
Paula Trigg, representing Marty Buehler, Lake County
Mary Wells, ISTHA

Work Program Committee Members Absent:

Rodney Bettenhausen, Cook County
Bruce Gould, Will County
Benet Haller, CDOP
Fran Klaas, Kendall County
Don Kopec, CATS
Paul Losos, Private Transportation Providers
John Rita, MTDs
Mike Rogers, IEPA
Chris Snyder, Cook County
Tom Zapler, Class 1 Railroad Companies

2. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of June 23, 2006

On a motion by Mr. Loper, seconded by Ms. Hamilton, minutes of the June 23, 2006 meeting were approved.

3. Updates and Status Reports

a. Committee and Task Force Meetings

There were no questions or comments on the committee and task force meeting summary report.

b. Status Report on the Implementation of Projects

Ms. Lao stated that IDOT's Region One has awarded about \$16.7 million worth of contracts in the June letting. Highlights included I-94 Edens Expressway patching, seal coating and bridge deck repairs at Gross Point Road; US 6 bridge replacement at the IC RR and Metra between I-294 and IL 1; IL 7 bridge replacement over US 45; and various bridge repairs, resurfacing and signal timing progressions.

Mr. Pitstick had no report.

Mr. Seglin had no report.

Mr. Patronsky advised the Committee that no additional obligation information has been received since the June meeting; the CMAQ program is 76% obligated. This breaks down to 85% for projects programmed under TEA-21 and 42% for project programmed under SAFETEA-LU. He also noted that one project was on the August 4, 2006 letting for \$89,000.

Mr. Patronsky said that the CMAQ Project Selection Committee is considering options for improving the management of currently programmed projects. A recommendation will be made for consideration at the September Work Program Committee meeting.

c. Council of Mayors Update

Mayor Mulder stated that the Council of Mayors Executive Committee has not met since the last Work Program Committee meeting. The Executive Committee will have a full agenda at its August 22nd meeting. The meeting is timed so that the mayors can provide feedback on CMAP's draft strategic report to the State legislature on the agency's vision, governance, and funding. In the meantime all Councils are encouraged to hold special meetings or otherwise work with their partner COGs to conduct their reviews before that meeting. Other topics on the agenda will include approval of new STP programming marks, developing a process to respond to the upcoming IDOT policy on "*flexible match*" that the Work Program Committee discussed last month, and being ready to aid the Department in the management of the FY 2007 "*State -wide line item appropriation*" for STP that the Council of Mayors, IDOT and the Illinois Municipal League fought for and the State Legislature approved. This new form of the appropriation will help Council of Mayors STP projects move forward as soon as projects are ready for letting by allowing borrowing and lending of appropriation for locally sponsored, federally funded projects throughout the State. It is especially important this year that all funds be used so that this approach will be considered again in the future.

The Council of Mayors STP program accomplishment included 6 projects on the June letting for 3.6 million dollars and 5 projects scheduled for the August letting totaling 8.1 million dollars.

Mayor Mulder reminded everyone that the annual Illinois Municipal League Conference will be held Sept. 28 to Oct. 1st at the Chicago Hilton. She encouraged one and all to come by after the next Work Program Committee meeting and visit the CMAP/Council of Mayors booth.

Mayor Mulder thanked Joy Schaad for her services with the Council of Mayors and wished her well in her new position in the agency. The Mayor expressed concern about the continued need for work on the train whistle issue. Ms. Schaad will continue her efforts in this area.

4. FY 05-09 TIP Changes

Ms. Dixon requested Work Program Committee approval of the TIP changes. The list of proposed changes is posted on the web site. On a motion by Ms. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Ferrari the changes were approved.

5. Selected Year of the FY 05-09 TIP

Ms. Dixon requested that the FY 07 be considered a selected year for the TIP for continuity between the FY 05-09 and the FY 07-12 TIP until the FY 07-12 TIP is approved. On a motion by Ms. Lao, seconded by Mayor Mulder FY 07 has been added as a selected year of the FY05-09 TIP.

6. Regional Planning Act

Ms. Leary updated the Committee on the CMAP activities since the last WPC meeting. A visioning workshop for the Board was held on July 14, 2006. The presentation is available on the website www.chicagoareaplanning.org. The workshop helped to define the roles for CMAP by examining the work currently done at CATS and NIPC, the proposed work CMAP will do in the near future, and additional future opportunities. Also, it included a high level summary of budget implications associated with each component.

Seven major areas of focus were considered based on work currently being done at CATS and NIPC and the work of other regional agencies, including the following: Economic & Community Development, Environment, Housing, Human Services, Land Use, Regional

Information, and Transportation. The material from the workshop will be used to develop the September 1 report to the General Assembly.

Ms. Leary referred to the handout and presented the proposed committee structure that was discussed at the previous CMAP Board meeting. The proposed committee structure establishes a hierarchy to better coordinate planning and decision making across all functions with a working committee level, a coordinating committee level, an advisory level, and a policy level. The MPO designation will remain with the CATS Policy Committee. Both CATS and NIPC have an extensive committee structure and as we transition to the structure, we will work to incorporate all of the functions of those committees, working groups and task forces by an inclusionary process.

CMAP has proposed working committees around the major functional areas of our mission: Economic and Community Development, Environment and Natural Resources, Housing, Human Services, Land Use, and Transportation. Serving on these committees will be current members of the NIPC Commission; experts in those functional areas; interest groups; business representatives; implementing agencies; local, county, and state government officials and their representatives; and advocacy groups. These committees will receive their charge from the CMAP Board (and the MPO on transportation issues) and will provide input and recommendations regarding the issues that come before them. A chairperson and vice chairperson of these working committees will come from its members.

Because these working committees are specific to individual issues, CMAP needs to create a mechanism for coordinating issues that cross those committees. Nearly all of our regional planning and programming efforts have impacts beyond that functional area. We need to ensure that they are consistent with the regional plan and that we analyze the impacts of those plans on other functional areas. CMAP has proposed that two coordinating committees be created to ensure that appropriate review and analysis across committees is occurring. The first would be a planning committee that reviews longer range proposals and the second would be a programming and operations committee that looks at shorter term activities. The Regional Planning Act called for creation of a Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), which was established in July 2006. The CAC and the CATS Council of Mayors along with input from county officials would provide advisory recommendations to CMAP and the MPO from both the general public and the elected official perspective. The Council of Mayors will continue to program local STP funds.

It is envisioned that transportation decisions will be made jointly by the MPO and CMAP and will be based upon the regional vision encompassed in CMAP's comprehensive plans. It is important that the MPO receive information not only from the transportation staff and committees, but from the rest of the committees as well. The relationship between the MPO and CMAP will be defined in a written memorandum of understanding.

Lastly, Ms. Leary stated that a draft of report to the General Assembly will be available on CMAP's website on August 8, 2006. The Board will release the draft for public comment at its August 9 meeting. The public comment period will extend until August 28 at 4.00 p.m. Throughout the public comment period, staff and Board members will meet with our partners to discuss the report and receive feedback. The Board will approve the final report at its August 30 meeting and it will be distributed to members of the General Assembly and the Governor on September 1.

7. 2007 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program

Mr. Patronsky thanked Mr. Groner for the introduction.

He introduced the proposed CMAQ program for FY 2007, which was being recommended to the Work Program Committee by the CMAQ Project Selection Committee.

Mr. Patronsky noted that an estimated \$11.9 million will be available for funding projects for FY 2007, including a rescission that was finalized after the Committee met. The recommended program consists of 41 projects representing just over \$18 million in funding, the amount known to the Committee when the recommendation was prepared. He said the Committee intends to identify currently programmed projects whose funding can be moved to a future year to cover the difference between the program and the funding available.

Mr. Patronsky continued that the FY 2007 funds programmed are for those project phases that can be obligated in 2007; the program also commits \$8.7 million in funds for FY 2008 and \$6.6 million in funds for FY 2009 for future phases of these same projects.

Mr. Patronsky said that if the Work Program Committee agrees, the proposed program will be released for public comment and review beginning July 31st, extending through August 29th. Following this, it

will be considered and revised if necessary by the CMAQ Project Selection Committee and will return to the Work Program Committee for final review and recommendation to the Policy Committee at its October meeting.

On a motion by Ms. Hamilton, seconded by Mayor Mulder, the proposed program of CMAQ projects for FY 2007, with FY 2008 and 2009 commitments was released for public review and comment.

8. Air Quality Conformity Analysis, Capital Element of the 2030 RTP Update, Proposed FY 07-12 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Wies provided an overview of the 2030 RTP Update Capital Element. He reported that the RTP and TIP had been analyzed and found to conform to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Air Quality. The Work Program Committee agreed to release the 2030 RTP Update Capital Element, the FY 2007-2012 Transportation Improvement Program and the Conformity Analysis documentation for public comment. On a motion by Ms. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Thomas the Air Quality Conformity Analysis, the Capital Element of the 2030 RTP Update and the Proposed FY 07-12 TIP will be released for public review and comment.

9. SAFETEA-LU

Ms. Berry reported on efforts to develop comments in response to the NPRM on planning. Several upcoming discussions on the proposed rules, including AMPO's webcast were announced. All were encouraged to participate in development of the comments.

10. 2006 CMS Status Report

Mr. Heither stated the Congestion Management System (CMS) is a process for managing congestion that provides information on transportation system performance and on alternatives for alleviating congestion and enhancing mobility. The CMS Status Report is a state-of-the-system report produced periodically by staff. The last one was presented to WPC in 2002.

The federal Intelligent Transportation Infrastructure Program was created to enhance traffic surveillance and provide better data to

measure performance. In northeastern Illinois the program is a partnership between IDOT, ISTHA, FHWA and Mobility Technologies, a private company. The company installed a series of microwave sensors along the tollway system to record traffic data and is archiving five minute summary data from the detectors. It is also collecting and archiving five-minute summary data from IDOT's system of closed-loop detectors on the expressway system. These archived files are being made available to transportation agencies.

CATS staff used the archived data to analyze current roadway conditions in eight corridors located around the region. The analysis focused on three performance measures: travel times, travel time reliability and the 95th percentile travel time which indicates the amount of time one needs to allow to be on-time 95% of the time. In general the travel time increases during the morning and afternoon peak periods in the Eisenhower corridor were about the same magnitude. This was also true in the Stevenson corridor, while the Edens and Dan Ryan Express corridors showed that one peak period had travel times noticeably longer than the other. The Dan Ryan corridor had the most unreliable travel times of the four expressway corridors examined. The tollway corridors all showed noticeably longer travel times during one peak period. The Tri-State corridor had the most unreliable travel times of the tollway corridors examined.

CATS travel demand models were used to examine future congestion. Daily arterial and expressway VMT is forecast to increase from 148.3 million to 179.4 million between 2005 and 2030. Daily congested VMT for the region is forecast to increase from 14.6 million to 19.5 million during the same period. Mr. Heither noted that the Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee ITS Corridor partners have made some tools available at www.gcmtravelstats.com that allow members of public to perform their own analysis with the travel time data.

Mr. Strains inquired how the archived traffic data was being used in the CMS process. Mr. Heither stated the CMS is integrated into the planning, programming and project development efforts in the region. He noted that the Status Report is an output of the CMS process and that this was the first use of this archived data so it has not been integrated into the CMS cycle yet. He also noted federal guidance on the Congestion Management Process (CMP) required under SAFETEA-LU is expected in early 2007 and should provide some insight. Mr. DiPalma stated he was impressed with the analysis efforts and felt this type of work would meet many of the CMP requirements.

On a motion by Mayor Mulder and a second by Ms. Files the CMS Status Report was approved.

11. JARC/NF Process and Program

Mr. Bill Reynolds of the RTA staff made a brief presentation on the development of the 2006 JARC/New Freedom programs and the 2007 Human Services Transportation Plan. RTA has initiated a collaborative planning process with CATS, CTA, Pace, Metra, and region-wide stakeholders to identify projects for the 2006 program. The call-for-projects was released on August 11th. Applications are due November 1. Following project selection by a committee of staff from CATS and RTA, the RTA will seek endorsement of the program from the Community Mobility Task Force and the Task Force for Seniors and People with Disabilities at their November meeting. In addition, in October the RTA will request that the Policy Committee give authorization to the Work Program Committee (WPC) to endorse the program at the November WPC meeting. This will allow the RTA Board to approve the program in December 2006.

Development of the 2007 Human Services Transportation Plan is being conducted concurrently with the 2006 JARC/New Freedom Programs. A scope of work for the 2007 HSTP is under development. The RFP will be released in September. It is anticipated that the plan will take at least six months to complete. The RTA will continue to work with CATS staff and the established committee structure throughout Plan development. The UWP funds programmed for consultant assistance in this process will be transferred from CATS to RTA. Ms. Adams noted that JARC or NF funds could be used instead of UWP funds.

On a motion by Mayor Mulder and a second by Mr. Loper the Work Program Committee recommended sending this item to the Policy Committee for their consideration.

12. Other Business

A flyer on the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Workshop to be held on September 12, 2006 was distributed. All were encouraged to pass on information about the workshop to other appropriate parties.

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be September 29, at 10:00 am.

13. Adjournment

On a motion by Mayor Mulder, seconded by Ms. Hamilton the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully
submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Berry", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Patricia A. Berry
Secretary