

Council of Officials Meeting  
July 13, 2016

OMAHA-COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY

COUNCIL OF OFFICIALS  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 13, 2016

The April 13, 2016 Council of Officials meeting was held at Uncle Buck's Grill in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Doug Kindig, Mayor of La Vista, opened the meeting by welcoming all Council Members and guest. The lunch started at 11:30 a.m. with the meeting following at 12:00 p.m.

MINUTES

A. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTION

Members Present:

Dennis Bardsley	Mayor, City of Underwood
Scott Belt	Supervisor, Pottawattamie County
Patrick Bloomingdale	Douglas County
Dan Kinney	Iowa Western Community College
Scott Keep	Metropolitans Utilities District
Doug Kindig	Mayor, City of La Vista
Ron Kohn	Board Chairman, Mills County
Jerry McCall	Planning Consultant, Fremont Public Schools
Dan Owens	Omaha Airport Authority
Cassie Paben	Deputy Chief of Staff, City of Omaha
Tom Richards	Commissioner, Sarpy County
Rita Sanders	Mayor, City of Bellevue
John Yochum	Economic Development Director, City of Ralston
Matt Walsh	Mayor, City of Council Bluffs

Others:

Tim Carmody	Chief of Police, City of Council Bluffs
Deb Hale	City of La Vista
Roland Lynch	Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers, Citizen-at-large
Mark Norman	Greater Omaha Chamber
Nancy Pridal	Lamp Rynearson
Kevin Stratman	Investors Realty
Kim Thomas	City of La Vista

MAPA Staff:

Natasha Barrett	Sue Cutsforth	Lynn Dittmer	Melissa Engel
Michael Felschow	Chuck Karpf	Karna Loewenstein	Patti McCoy
Jeff Spiehs	Greg Youell		

B. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES – (Action)

MOTION by Sanders, SECOND by Paben to approve the April 13, 2016 minutes.  
Motion Carried.

C. MAPA QUARTERLY REPORTS AND PROJECT UPDATE – (Info)

Mr. Youell announced to the committee that the MAPA Quarterly Reports are contained within the packet for the committee to review.

D. MAPA HOUSING PROGRAM INTRODUCTION – (Info)

Mr. Chuck Karpf, MAPA Housing Coordinator, introduced himself and the new housing program to the Council. Mr. Karpf was the Executive Director for the Panhandle Area Development District for about 7 years in Scotts Bluff and relocated to Omaha. MAPA is in the process of developing a housing program and working with the communities to see what the interest and needs are. The agency is looking strongly at owner-occupied rehabilitation. Other programs to look at are private development for low income, moderate income and workforce development housing.

E. HEARTLAND 2050 (H2050) UPDATE – (Info)

Ms. Karna Loewenstein presented an update on H2050 to the Council. The Executive Committee met and reviewed the plan of work for the upcoming year and the projects that will move forward. The Summer Summit will be held on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Jeff Speck will be the keynote speaker at the Summit. Ms. Loewenstein introduced three of the Implementation Committee Chairs that were in attendance and asked them each to give a brief summary of what has been going on in their committee meetings.

- Mr. Mark Norman, Chair of the Economic Development, said there are two things that the committee is looking at moving forward. The first is to conduct a market demand market analysis of the region in terms of the demand and availability for industrial site development and building development. The committee would then like to be able to take that information to the developers and communities and provide them with a better idea of what we should be working towards. The other focus of the committee is on the labor market.
- Dr. Dan Kinney, gave an update to the committee on the direction and focus of the education committee. The Buffett Institute is currently working with Omaha Public Schools to implement their research on how to prepare children for school. The committee would like to see the research of the Buffett Institute implemented to the entire region. Dr. Kinney shared with the Council recent work of the Metro Omaha Education Consortium. The committee is also discussing adults that are unemployed or underemployed and what type of education issues should be addressed to correct that.
- Ms. Nancy Pridal gave an update on the direction and focus of the Natural Resources Committee. Ms. Pridal explained that the Natural Resource Committee covers a wide-range of topics and there's a lot of diversity such as greenways, air quality, water quality and local foods. There's a lot of energy and momentum currently around the regions natural resources and local foods.

F. OLD BUSINESS –

1. FY 2017 Budget – (Info)

Mr. Youell presented to the Council the FY 2017 Budget. MAPA has a \$6.286 million total budget, \$1.77 million covers MAPA personnel expenses, \$4.5 for non-personnel expenses and the remaining \$3.5 million covers pass through contracts and MAPA vendor agreements.

Some of the projects/contracts that MAPA is currently working on include: Comprehensive Plan Update for Mills County; Comprehensive Plan for the City of Treynor; Transportation Master Plan for Pottawattamie County; Downtown Revitalization Project in the City of Walnut; Downtown Revitalization

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Project in Gretna which will serve as a pilot project for the Heartland 2050 as well; Sarpy County Transit Study; Phase Two of the Joint Land Use Study; Platteview Road Corridor and the Southern Sarpy County Sewer Study; Coordinated Transit Committee and MAPA continue work with the FTA funds for vans/buses; Little Steps Big Impact project for ozone awareness; and the Heartland 2050 Action Steps.

2. FY 2017 Final Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – (Action)

Mr. Youell presented the UPWP to the Council for approval.

MOTION by Sanders, SECOND by Kohn to approve the FY 2017 UPWP.  
Motion Carried.

G. GUEST SPEAKER – Chief Tim Carmody, Council Bluffs Police Department

The City of Council Bluffs recently approved a \$20 million bond referendum for a new police headquarters, a project the department and community has been working on for over 20 years. Chief Carmody started in law enforcement in 1983 and after 4 ½ years in Sarpy County, spent 22 ½ years serving the community of North Omaha and 17 years on the SWAT team. Chief Carmody was one of the first responders on December 5, 2007 when the shooter went into Von Maur. He was one of the first command officers inside Von Maur and spent several hours organizing the response. As a Chief, over the past 6 years, Chief Carmody has served in two communities and worked shoulder to shoulder with communities groups to help make the community as safe as it could be. Chief Carmody shared how his duties have taught him about leadership. Our communities need strong leadership more than ever before and we need to come together as leaders to make our communities whole again. Leaders must see the big picture and paint the vision. A clear vision gives individuals the hope that they can accomplish bold goals and helps to build the confidence to step out of individual comfort zones. Leadership is all about relationships and people are most likely to follow leaders that they trust and respect. Chief Carmody commented on the tremendous collaboration he has witnessed through the Heartland 2050 project. For us to be truly successful as leaders, there has to be a uniting vision that each member understands and is willing to follow. Accomplishments are only possible by first achieving trust.

H. COMMUNITY UPDATES –

President Kindig asked Mayor Dennis Bardsley, City of Underwood to share an update on his community. Mayor Bardsley shared that the city is looking at 108 acres of land that is getting closer to being shovel ready. Patrick Bloomindale, Douglas County shared that the County has passed their budget and they will be hiring a public information officer for the County. Douglas County will have a public safety bond issue on the November general election ballot. Commissioner Tom Richards provided an update on Sarpy County and shared that the county is growing. Roland Lynch, citizen of Council Bluffs, shared his concerns for transportation, one particular concern is small communities do not have good access to the cities.

I. 2016 MAPA REGIONAL AWARDS –

President Kindig asked the Council to submit nominations for the 2016 MAPA Annual Regional Awards.

J. ADJOURNMENT

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Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.