



Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Executive Director

EVANSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Regular meeting held at 4:00 p.m. in Room 301
Civic Center Complex – Administration Building
Evansville, Indiana

September 3, 2015

The foregoing are minutes and not intended to be a verbatim transcript. An audio version of the proceedings can be heard or viewed on our website at www.evansvillempo.com.

ROLL CALL

Members Present (voting):

Jack Corn, Stephanie Brinkerhoff-Riley, Stephen Melcher, Barry Russell, Russell Sights, Richard Reid, Chris Wischer, Rusty Fowler, Kevin McClearn

Members Absent (voting):

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke, Todd Robertson, Angela Koehler Lindsey, Bill Hubiak

Members Absent (non-voting):

Brandye Hendrickson, Rick Marquis, Scott Deloney, Marisol Simon, Tony Greep, Jose Sepulveda, Bernadette Dupont, Mike Hancock, Keith Damron, John Gowins, Michelle Allen

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

Craig Luebke, Pam Drach, Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Vishu Lingala, Erin Schriefer, Kari Akin, Rob Schaefer

Others Present:

Steve Sherwood, Brian Aldridge

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Russell Sights made a motion to approve the minutes and Chris Wischer seconded the motion, with Rusty Fowler's comment to change the Roll Call Members Absent (non-voting) from Karl Browning to Brandye Hendrickson; motion carried.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Project Update – presented by Pam Drach

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Washington Ave – Weinbach Ave: The first section of pavement, curb and gutter and driveway approaches is in place along Washington Ave.

SR 66/Lloyd Expressway Pedestrian Overpass: The MSE wall construction is approximately 95% complete. Grading operations are ongoing.

Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage Project (Arts-Glenwood-Hi-Rail Corridors): The topographic field survey is complete and field check design plans are in development. Anticipate a field check to be scheduled in October.

Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage Project (Mid Levee Connection): The City is preparing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for project development and design.

Evansville-Vanderburgh Sign Inventory and Replacement: Phase 1 was let on July 8, 2015 with the low bid of \$347,960.14 received from Michiana Contracting, Inc. The project has been awarded and Notice to Proceed was issued July 24, 2015.

Tekoppel Safe Routes to School: Construction is complete and road is open to traffic.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Burkhardt Rd/Virginia St: Project construction is ahead of schedule and the pre-final walk through will be held in the next couple of weeks.

WARRICK COUNTY

Oak Grove Rd – Phase 2: Project was let for bid on September 2, 2015. Apparent bid results indicate no bids received were below the engineer's estimate; however the lowest bid is awardable.

Oak Grove Rd – Phase 3: An open house has been scheduled for Thursday, September 10th, 2015 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at J.H. Castle Elementary School.

INDOT

SR 61 Connector, Boonville Bypass: Project was let for bid on September 2, 2015. Apparent bid results indicate no bids received were below the engineer's estimate; however, the low bid is awardable.

CITY OF HENDERSON

Sand Lane Safe Routes to School: The project was rescheduled for letting to today, September 3, 2015.

KYTC

US Highway 60, Spottsville Bridge: A public meeting was held on August 25, 2015.

This item was informational and did not require a committee action.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. US 41 Traffic Access Management Study in Henderson, KY

Kevin McClearn introduced Brian Aldridge of Stantec Consulting to present the US 41 Traffic and Access Management Study. The purpose of this study is to improve traffic operations and safety along US 41 between US 60 and Wolf Hills Road in Henderson County.

The study included analysis of crashes and intersection delays at all of the intersections within the study corridor, providing improvement alternatives. A matrix containing evaluation and cost estimates for the alternatives was distributed for review. The matrix includes improvement concepts with their associated impacts, local official's ranking, and estimated costs for the intersections in the corridor.

A question was asked regarding how many US 41 direct access points would be eliminated by creating the backage road, and the practicality of a frontage road. At this point, left turn access points would be limited with a raised median, leaving right-only ingress and egress into the businesses along US 41. The creation of a backage road would be more beneficial than a frontage road.

Attached to the minutes are the study matrix and the US 41 Traffic and Access Management Study project handout. The full presentation can be heard at www.evansvillempo.com.

This item was informational and did not require committee action.

B. FY 2015 Annual Performance and Expenditures Completion Report – presented by Kari Akin

The Annual Unified Planning Work Program Performance and Expenditures Completion Report for FY 2015 presented a summary of the activities and products that were completed by the MPO during FY 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015). Progress attained in completing each of the work elements contained in the approved FY 2015 and FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program was described in the report.

The work elements each included a description of the status, related products, and funds expended. The document also included: budget and expenditure summary tables for each funding source; the FY 2015 4th quarter project update; a listing of the traffic counts and turning movements taken; and a table listing the TIP amendments and TIP modifications processed during the year.

Page 40 of the report was discussed which includes all of the funding sources. Items that have balances in them are multi-year projects and included: the METS COA, the Evansville Bike and Pedestrian Connectivity Master Plan, the Regional Pavement Management System, the Safety Education and Public Awareness Campaign, and the Transit Vehicle Acquisition. All of these balances are consultant balances and will be carried forward into FY 2016.

The electronic copy of the report is available on the MPO website; hard copies are available upon request.

This item was informational and did not require a committee action.

C. FY 2016-2019 TIP Amendments – presented by Craig Luebke

- i. Des# 1006084: Pigeon Creek Greenway, Mid-Levee Corridor: Bike and pedestrian improvements from Heidlebach Avenue to Stringtown Road. Add project for Preliminary Engineering (PE) in FY 2016. PE costs of \$210,000 will be funded with 80% federal STP funds and a 20% local match.
- ii. Des# 0710850: Newburgh Rivertown Trail Phase 3A: Multi-use trail project from Yorkshire Drive to Old SR 662 West. Revise construction schedule from FY 2016 to 2017.
- iii. Des# 1500513: Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant, Operating Assistance: Revise 2016 program of projects to reflect final budget and project revisions. Add des#. The total FY 2016 budget of \$8,577,296 will be funded with \$518,044 in federal Section 5307 funds, \$2,148,344 in state funds and \$5,910,908 in local funds.
- iv. Various Des#'s : Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant, Capital Assistance: Revise 2016 program of projects to reflect final budget and project revisions, including des#'s. The total FY 2016 budget of \$1,755,001 will be funded with \$1,404,001 in federal Section 5307 funds and \$351,000 in local funds.
- v. Des# 1382055: Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant, Planning Assistance: Add FY 2016 project des#.
- vi. Des# 1500484: Transit bus purchase (2): Revise description and budget to reflect the FY 16 purchase of two transit buses funded with Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities and CMAQ funds. The total cost of \$905,000 will be funded with \$265,010 in federal Section 5339 funds, \$458,990 in federal CMAQ funds and \$181,000 in local funds.
- vii. Des# 1500485: Highway 41 North Route, Operating Assistance: Add project in FY 2016. Project costs of \$516,050 will be funded with 50% federal CMAQ funds (\$258,025) and 50% local funds.

Board members had questions regarding the Highway 41 North Route and how the CMAQ funding is used to operate this route. Questions were also asked about the status of the METS COA study. MPO staff informed the board that the Highway 41 North Route was funded for three years with CMAQ funds, with the funding being a 50/50 split. After the third year, the route will need to be funded through the METS annual budget. Staff indicated that the METS COA is wrapping up and is tentatively scheduled to be presented to Policy Committee in November and the process before City Council is at their discretion.

Barry Russell made a motion to approve the TIP Amendments and Russell Sights seconded the motion; motion carried.

D. FY 2016-2019 TIP Administrative Modification – presented by Craig Luebke

- i. Des# 1592289 and Des# 1592290: Unified Planning Work Program Planning Activities: Add Des#'s and revise STP funding in FY 2016 to reflect current UPWP budget. STP UPWP costs of \$165,000 will be funded with \$132,000 in federal STP funding and a \$33,000 local match. HSIP UPWP costs remain unchanged at \$100,000, funded with \$90,000 in federal HSIP funding and a \$10,000 local match.

This item was informational and did not require a committee action.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Approval of Bills

Russell Sights made a motion to approve the bills and Stephen Melcher seconded the motion; motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jack Corn congratulated the MPO for receiving a national Honorable Mention award for “The Millennial Plan for 2040: A Regional Plan for Sustainability” from the Transportation Planning Excellence Awards Program. This program is a biennial awards program developed by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration and co-sponsored by the American Planning Association. The program provides a unique opportunity to recognize and celebrate outstanding transportation planning practices performed by planners and decision-makers in communities across the country.

An independent, expert panel of judges reviewed each nomination, and identified eight Award-Winning projects and eight Honorable Mentions.

Meeting adjourned.