



EVANSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Regular meeting held at 10:00 a.m. in Room 318
Civic Center Complex – Administration Building
Evansville, Indiana

February 14, 2019

The following 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:

Angie Higgins, Matthew Bullock, Sierra Nunez, Shawn Hayden, Bill Harty, Nate Hahn, Thomas Witt, Nick Hall

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Pam Drach, Matt Schriefer, Laura Lamb, Erin Schriefer, Kari Akin, Xinbo Mi

Seyed Shokouhzadeh directed the meeting.

ELECTION OF 2019 CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Elections of Chairman and Vice-Chairman were tabled until the March 14, 2019 meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Angie Higgins made a motion for approval and Nate Hahn seconded the motion; motion carried.

2. OLD BUSINESS

a. Project Update- presented by Pam Drach

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Covert Ave Road Diet: Of the 132 right-of-way parcels needed, 77 appraisals are complete.

Walnut Street: Working on contract to begin the geotechnical and pavement design process. A public information meeting for Phase 1 is scheduled for 6:00 PM on March 12, 2019 at the C.K. Newsome Community Center.

Washington Ave/2nd St/Parrett St Area: Stage 3 plans are on track for submittal to INDOT by May 17, 2019.

Weinbach Ave Road Diet: Curb, sidewalk and driveways have been installed on the east half of the corridor between Covert Ave and Washington Ave.

Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage:

- Mid Levee Connection – The project was let for bid on January 16, 2019 and awarded to Blankenberger Brothers for the low bid of \$1,029,700.

Evansville-Vanderburgh Sign Inventory and Replacement: Stage 3 plans are on track for submittal to INDOT by February 15, 2019.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Columbia-Delaware Bridge over Pigeon Creek: Stage 3 plans were submitted to INDOT on January 14, 2019.

Green River Rd – Kansas Rd to Boonville New Harmony Rd: Utility relocations are underway.

TOWN OF NEWBURGH

Newburgh Rivertown Trail: The pre-construction meeting was held on January 7, 2019.

WARRICK COUNTY

Bell Rd – High Pointe Dr to Telephone Rd: Right-of-way acquisition is ongoing and offers have been accepted on 40 of the 67 total parcels.

Warrick Trail SRTS: The consultant is working on the environmental document.

CITY OF HENDERSON

Green River Rd Sidewalk Extension – Bend Gate Rd to Osage Dr: A scoping meeting was held on January 22, 2019 and the consultant has submitted an estimate for design to the City.

Wathen Ln Bridge Replacement: Project was advertised for bid on January 22, 2019. The bid opening was held on February 12, 2019. Two bids were received and are under review.

Watson Ln – Sunset Ln to Green River Rd: The notice to proceed letter was sent on January 29, 2019 to Integrated Engineers.

KYTC

US Highway 60 – Spottsville Bridge: The letting for the project is targeted for September 2019.

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

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Evansville-Henderson Regional Transportation Guide – presented by Matt Schriefer

In the fall of 2017, Toyota brought in the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) to look into potential improvements to regional transportation beyond the personal vehicle. In the summer of 2018, CTAA developed a report defining opportunities for improvement based on meetings with local transportation leaders.

The first item listed in CTAA's report was the creation of a regional transportation guide listing the public and non-profit transportation providers in the region. The MPO formed a Regional Transit Advisory Committee (RTAC) to help create this guide. The first meeting was held in October 2018 and a follow-up meeting was held in January 2019. From these meetings, the MPO created the *Evansville-Henderson Regional Transportation Guide*. The RTAC will continue to meet quarterly to share ideas among METS, HART, WATS and the non-profits that provide transportation to seniors and individuals with a disability.

The guide has been provided to all members of the RTAC for distribution to their organization and clients and is available at the MPO office. We ask that you distribute this guide as well. A PDF is available on the MPO website.

Shawn Hayden asked if it would be beneficial to place these guides in Eastland Mall. Matt Schriefer responded that the MPO would appreciate anyone making these available to the public. Thomas Witt commented that this guide was a good idea and thinks it will be helpful to the community.

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

b. 2019 Title VI Goals & Accomplishments Report – presented by Matt Schriefer

At the beginning of each year, the Evansville MPO develops a list of Title VI accomplishments from the prior year and Title VI goals for the upcoming year. These goals and accomplishments included completed and upcoming trainings and workshops, updates to the Title VI documents and surveys, and the total number of Title VI complaints from the previous year.

The complete list forms the annual Title VI Goals & Accomplishments Report (below). This report will be added to the appendices of the *Title VI Implementation Plan & Limited English Proficiency Plan*.

EVANSVILLE MPO 2018/2019 TITLE VI ANNUAL GOALS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

2018 Title VI Accomplishments

- On January 11, 2018, the MPO Policy Committee adopted the updated *Title VI Implementation Plan and Limited English Proficiency Language Assistance Plan*. Updates to the Title VI Plan began in the Fall of 2017 and concluded at the end of December 2017. This update ensures all required information is included and accurate, updates demographic information to 2015 data, and improves the layout to be more consistent with other MPO plans.
- On June 14, 2018, staff from KYTC's Office for Civil Rights & Small Business Development visited the Evansville MPO for an in-office review of the MPO's Title VI Implementation Plan. They suggested a few minor updates to the Plan that were submitted back to KYTC on July 20 (see below).
- On June 25, 2018, MPO Title VI & ADA Coordinator Matt Schriefer provided Title VI and ADA training to other MPO staff. Training included a general overview of Title VI and ADA requirements and the responsibilities of

the MPO. Staff signed the MPO's Notification to the Public of Rights under Title VI confirming they understand the responsibilities of the MPO and have completed in-office training.

- On July 20, 2018, the MPO Title VI & ADA Coordinator submitted a final version of the updated Title VI Plan to KYTC. The MPO and KYTC worked together between the June 14th in-office meeting and the delivery of the updated Plan on July 20th to ensure all updates were made as suggested by KYTC.
- On July 25, 2018, the MPO Title VI & ADA Coordinator and one other staff member attended a one-day Title VI/ADA Training in Vincennes, Indiana hosted by INDOT.
- On October 11-12, 2018, the MPO Deputy Director attended the annual Title VI & ADA Summit for Indiana Communities hosted by INDOT in Indianapolis.
- Starting in August 2018, the MPO began working with INDOT and METS on an ADA bus stop inventory and including it in the county-wide ADA Transition Plan. The MPO provided feedback to INDOT on the initial forms created to gather information. The MPO will assist METS as needed throughout 2019 to complete the inventory.
- The MPO began updating the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in 2018. As part of the update, Title VI and ADA information in the plan will also be updated.
- There were 0 Title VI or ADA complaints against the MPO in 2018.

2019 Title VI Goals

- Have a minimum of one staff member attend INDOT's annual Title VI & ADA Summit for Indiana Communities.
- Have Title VI/ADA Coordinator attend any other in-person or online training available. Encourage other staff members to attend online training opportunities.
- Have Title VI/ADA Coordinator complete Title VI and ADA training to MPO staff members after attendance at INDOT summit. Coordinator will have staff sign Notification to the Public of Rights under Title VI.
- Assist METS as they complete their ADA bus stop inventory for INDOT.
- Complete updates to the Title VI and ADA information included in the MTP and TIP.
- Strive for 0 Title VI or ADA complaints against the MPO in 2018. If there is a complaint, consult with complainant to determine the best possible solution moving forward.

Thomas Witt asked if the Title VI coordinator from KYTC has contacted the MPO regarding Title VI procedures. Matt Schriefer responded that they met with the Evansville MPO last year and a few updates were made to the Title VI Plan based on their comments.

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

c. Amendment to Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan – presented by Matt Schriefer

The 2018-2021 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan was adopted on July 6, 2017. The Plan includes details about METS, HART and the area non-profit organizations that have applied to the MPO for Section 5310: Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities funding over the past five years and their needs for additional vehicles between 2018 and 2021.

During the 2019 Call for Projects, the MPO received a Section 5310 application from Missing Pieces CDC, who had not previously applied. In order for Missing Pieces to be eligible, they must be included in the 2018-2021 Coordinated Plan.

The Project Table will also be updated to include Missing Pieces and update the number of vehicles METS will receive in 2019.

The MPO is requesting approval to amend the *2018-2021 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan* by adding the following information:

- Page 44 – Add Missing Pieces CDC (S.A.F.E. transportation) to the list of non-profit organizations eligible for Section 5310 funding as follows:
 - Missing Pieces CDC
The Missing Pieces Community Development Corporation (CDC) operates the S.A.F.E. (Seniors Against Fearful Environments) transportation program. They provide transportation to seniors aged 55 and over, focusing on low- and moderate-income seniors. S.A.F.E. helps to safely transport seniors to cash checks, pay bills, fill medical prescriptions, grocery shop, and any other needs. The program currently provides rides in cars and passenger vans. The 2019 grant application for a small transit vehicle with a lift will help Missing Pieces accommodate wheelchair users and multiple riders per trip.
- Page 55 – Update Table 18: Planned Capital Projects to add 1 Paratransit Bus for Missing Pieces in 2020 and update METS to 2 Paratransit Buses in 2019 instead of 1.

Shawn Hayden made a motion for approval and Matthew Bullock seconded the motion; motion carried.

d. FY 2018-2021 TIP Amendment – presented by Pam Drach

The Evansville MPO is seeking approval of the following amendments to the *2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program* (TIP). A public review and comment period was publicized for January 30 to February 13, 2019.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) requested the following amendments:

- Des# 1801924: Mill Road: New Bridge/Grade Separation (Local TRAXX Project). Add Preliminary Engineering (PE) in FY 2019 at a total of \$550,000, Right of Way (RW) in FY 2020 at a total of \$200,000 and Construction (CN) in FY 2021 at a total of \$5,500,000. PE costs will be funded with 100% State funding and RW and CN will be funded with 80% State funds and a 20% local match.
- Des# 1802984: Various Locations: Intersection Improvement – Statewide Rural Intersection Conflict Warning System (RICWS). Contract T-41864. Add Construction (CN) in FY 2020 at a total of \$3,000,000. Costs will be funded with 90% federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds and a 10% State match.
- Des# 1900007: Various Counties, Other Type Project, Survey Equipment and Software for use for various locations and capital oversight. Add Construction (CN) in FY 2019 at a total cost of \$1,417,000. Costs will be funded with 80% federal STBG funds and 20% State match.
- Des# 1900008: Various Counties, Other Type Project, INDOT Drone – Monitor Existing Assets. Add Construction (CN) in FY 2019 at a total cost of \$17,000. Costs will be funded with 80% federal STBG and 20% State match.
- Des# 1900010: Various Counties, Other Type Project, ISP Drones – Monitor Existing Assets. Add Construction (CN) in FY 2019 at a total cost of \$75,000. Costs will be funded with 80% federal STBG funds and 20% State match.
- Des# 1900144: Various Counties, Other Type Project, ISP Survey Equipment and Software for various locations and capital oversight. Add Construction (CN) in FY 2019 at a total cost of \$215,000. Costs will be funded with 80% federal STBG and 20% State match.

Des# 1802826: Various Locations, Other Type Project, On-Call Consultant Review. Add Preliminary Engineering (PE) in FY 2020 and 2021 at an annual cost of \$2,100,000. Costs will be funded with 80% federal STBG funds and 20% State match.

Nate Hahn asked where the 20% local match for the Mill Road project would come from, and if it is known beforehand that they would be paying the match. Pam Drach answered that Vanderburgh County will be paying the match, and they submitted an application for this project in which they had to show that they would have enough funds to pay the local match.

Seyed Shokouhzadeh asked Nate Hahn if INDOT needed any coordination with Evansville Regional Airport when purchasing drones. Nate Hahn answered that drones are controlled at the Federal level and local air traffickers are not allowed to give approval.

Nate Hahn made a motion for approval and Angie Higgins seconded the motion; motion carried.

e. Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2045 and Draft 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – presented by Pam Drach

The Evansville MPO has completed a draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2045. The Plan is a list of identified needs proposed for funding within the timeframe of the plan. The needs have been identified through the planning process which includes coordination with State and local stakeholders, and input from the Citizen Advisory Committee.

Fiscal constraint of the Plan is a requirement per the regulations. To complete the fiscal constraint element of the Plan and demonstrate that the Plan is implementable, the estimated costs for the projects is totaled then compared to the estimated funds that are reasonably expected to be available for the same period. When an agency is ready to move forward with financial commitment to a project under their jurisdiction, they would select a project from the Plan and program it in the TIP with the funding commitment shown.

Evansville MPO staff has also completed a draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which will cover fiscal years 2020-2024. Working cooperatively with State and local partners, the draft project list documents transportation projects for the next five years for the City of Evansville, the City of Henderson, and Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Henderson counties, INDOT and KYTC.

Air Quality Conformity Determination for both the MTP 2045 and the 2020-2024 TIP is included in the MTP 2045, Chapter 8.

All of the draft documentation, the MTP 2045, the 2020-2024 TIP and the associated conformity determination are out for a 30-day public comment period that began February 11 and runs through March 12.

Two open houses have been scheduled:

- February 19th
 - Evansville Central Library – Browning Room A
 - 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM
- February 20th
 - Henderson County Public Library
 - 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

The documents are available on the Evansville MPO website or can be viewed in person at the Evansville MPO Office, the Henderson City-County Plan Commission Office, Henderson City Manager's Office, Newburgh and Boonville Town Halls and select area libraries.

Based on all feedback, the MTP 2045, the TIP, and conformity determination will be presented for final adoption in March. Please review the draft documents and provide your feedback before March 12 so that it can be incorporated into the final documents.

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

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Thomas Witt mentioned that Kentucky is in the process of developing their new 6-Year Highway Plan and is using SHIFT again (Strategic Highway Investment Formula for Tomorrow), which is a data-driven approach. The process will be similar to last time. The MPO will be reaching out to officials in Henderson County looking for projects to include in the plan. KYTC needs to have the list of projects submitted by March 15, 2019 so they can begin scoring. Projects that do not make it into the plan based on the data-driven approach will come back to the locals for receiving potential “boost” points. The draft plan is anticipated to be finished by the end of 2019.

Thomas Witt also announced that the Kentucky Division of Air Quality is proposing to remove the air quality monitoring system from Henderson. Public comments are being accepted through March 8, 2019.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Harty asked a question to INDOT – he wants them to clarify what they are going to do with sidewalks on the Lloyd Expressway on the bridge over Pigeon Creek. He says portions of the sidewalks were taken out last year during construction and have not been replaced.

Meeting adjourned.