



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

February 13, 2020

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 (voting):

Jack Corn, Jr., Jeff Hatfield, Gene Pfeiffer, Angela Koehler Lindsey, Bill Hubiak, Dan Saylor, Christy Powell, Rusty Fowler, Barry House

Members Absent (voting):

Dr. H. Dan Adams, Mayor Lloyd Winnecke, Todd Robertson, Buzzy Newman

Members Absent (non-voting):

Joe McGuinness, Mayela Sosa, Shawn Seals, Erica Tait, Marisol Simon, Cecilia Godfrey, Thomas L. Nelson, Jr., Bernadette Dupont, Greg Thomas, Amanda Spencer, Melissa Duff

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

Don Gibbs, Robert Howard

Jack Corn directed the meeting.

1. ELECTION OF CY 2020 OFFICERS: CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Christy Powell nominated Jack Corn for Chairman; Bill Hubiak seconded the motion; motion carried.

Christy Powell nominated Rusty Fowler for Vice Chairman; Bill Hubiak seconded the motion; motion carried.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Angela Koehler Lindsey made a motion for approval and Rusty Fowler seconded the motion; motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Project Update- presented by Pam Drach

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Covert Ave: The project was let on the February 5, 2020 bid letting and a low bid of \$5,995,580.85 was received from JBI Construction. It is anticipated that the bid will be awarded.

Walnut St – Phase 1: The project was let on the February 5, 2020 bid letting and a low bid of \$5,313,408.10 was received from Blankenberger Brothers. It is anticipated that the bid will be awarded.

Walnut St – Phase 2: The draft environmental document was sent to INDOT for review and comment.

Washington Ave/2nd Street/Parrett St: Notice to Proceed to construction was issued January 14, 2020. The preconstruction conference was held on January 27, 2020.

Signal Preemption: Interviews and second round scoring for the RFP from manufacturers of Emergency Vehicle Preemption (EVP) equipment was completed February 12, 2020.

Signal Modernization – on Green River Rd and on Washington Ave: The Preliminary Field Check was held on January 23, 2020. A public information meeting has been scheduled for February 19, 2020.

Signal Modernization – at First Ave and Mill Rd and at Green River Rd and Vogel Rd: The Preliminary Field Check was held on January 23, 2020. A public information meeting has been scheduled for February 19, 2020.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Franklin Street Bridge over Pigeon Creek: Section 106 Early Coordination letters were sent to consulting parties. A field check meeting for the historic bridge alternatives analysis was held on January 16, 2020.

WARRICK COUNTY

Warrick Trails SRTS: All offers provided to property owners and two owners have accepted offers. Two of three permits are approved. Utility coordination is ongoing.

Telephone Road: The survey and utility coordination activities have started.

CITY OF HENDERSON/HENDERSON COUNTY

Green River Rd: The Categorical Exclusion for Minor Projects was approved.

Wathen Ln: Palmer Engineering was selected to do the project design. A preliminary line and grade meeting was held on November 11, 2019.

KYTC

Watson Ln: The Phase 1 plans are complete and an alternative has been selected.

US 60 Spottsville Bridge: Tree clearing and utility work is underway.

KY 2084 at KY 812/Airline Rd: Phase 2 design plans are complete.

Jack Corn asked where the public meetings would be held for the two signal modernization projects in Evansville. Pam Drach responded that they would be held at McCullough Library on Washington Ave.

INDOT UPDATES – presented by Rusty Fowler, INDOT

US 41 at Hillsdale Rd: Working through hydraulic designs and a Preliminary Field Check is scheduled for February 26, 2020.

SR 66 at Epworth Rd: Setting up a meeting with stakeholders in two to three weeks to discuss modeling.

US 41 from Lloyd Expwy to Diamond Ave: Received fee proposals for additional design work.

SR 62 and SR 66 (Lloyd Expressway: Intersection improvement projects located at St. Joseph Ave, Rosenberger Ave, Vann Ave, Burkhardt Rd, and Cross Pointe Blvd): Stage 2 scoring completed on February 5, 2020. Central Office was to approve the selection on February 12, 2020.

Rusty Fowler also gave an update on the US 41 bridge over Pigeon Creek that was hit and damaged earlier this year. The bridge suffered substantial damage and has been closed to traffic. Traffic is now set up in the same lane shift pattern as it was during the bridge construction period last year so motorists do not have to exit onto Diamond Ave before reentering on US 41. Some inspections are still ongoing and next steps will be coming soon.

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

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution Authorizing Application Filing for Section 5303 Grant with KYTC and Committing Local Share of Funds – presented by Matt Schriefer

KYTC has modified its application process for Section 5303 Transit Planning Funds. The application process is now entirely online. The resolution give Seyed Shokouhzadeh authorization to upload the required documents for the Section 5303 application. The resolution also states that the Evansville MPO will provide the required 20% local match, which will come from the City of Henderson.

Bill Hubiak made a motion for approval and Dan Saylor seconded the motion; motion carried.

b. FY 2020 – 2024 TIP Amendments – presented by Pam Drach

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

Des# 1902738: Various Locations within the Vincennes District: Bridge Rehabilitation (Contract B-42643). Add project to the TIP with CN in FY 2022 for a total of \$690,000. The project will be funded with 80% Federal STBG funds and 20% state match.

Des# 2000456: Various Locations within the Vincennes District: Bridge Rehabilitation (Contract B-42699). Add project to the TIP with PE in FY 2020 for a total of \$252,000 and CN in FY 2022 for a total of \$1,260,000. The project will be funded with 80% Federal STBG funds and 20% state match.

Angela Koehler Lindsey made a motion for approval and Christy Powell seconded the motion; motion carried.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Approval of Bills

Bill Hubiak made a motion for approval and Christy Powell seconded the motion; motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Hatfield wanted to make the Policy Board aware of an upcoming decision that the County Commissioners will be faced with regarding work to the landfill. He explained that in order for the landfill to continue operation and extend its life, dirt will need to be hauled from their property on the west side of St. Joe Ave to the landfill on the east side. At the February 25 Commissioners meeting, they will be discussing a change to an agreement that was signed by previous Commissioners. This agreement was to allow the landfill to install a stoplight at Meier Rd and St. Joe Ave for 3 to 5 years while the dirt was being hauled across St. Joe Ave. Since the agreement was signed several years ago, the landfill has decided that it would be better in the end to construct a tunnel underneath St. Joe Ave, causing a closure for around 4 to 6 months during construction. Negotiations are still taking place on what the St. Joe Ave and Meier Rd intersection would look like once the tunnel is complete, but it would be an improvement to the network. Jeff also added that he is meeting with every public first responder agency that operates in the county to plan for how first responders would be impacted and what alternate routes would be available before a decision is made. Jack Corn asked where the tunnel would go, and Jeff explained that it would be under St. Joe Ave going east / west, south of Meier Rd. Jeff also added that the fire station that is located on St. Joe Ave at Mohr Rd has been notified of the potential plans and has already looked into alternate routes. Gene Pfeiffer asked if the closure of St. Joe Ave was to move dirt across the road or to build the tunnel. Jeff explained that the closure is necessary to build the tunnel in the shortest amount of time, adding that there is a wetland on the other side that needs to be avoided. The project would not start until mid- to late-summer, so they are meeting with first responders now to start planning for adjustments if this project should move forward.

Meeting adjourned.