



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

July 9, 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.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present (voting):

In person: Jack Corn, Mayor Lloyd Winnecke, Ron Beane, Rusty Fowler, Angela Koehler Lindsey, Todd Robertson, Dan Saylor

Phone: William “Buzzy” Newman, Gene Pfeiffer

Members Absent (voting):

Jeff Hatfield, Deneatra Henderson, Bill Hubiak, Christy Powell

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

In person: Seyed Shokouhzadeh, Pam Drach, Kari Akin, Erin Schriefer, Matt Schriefer, Amir Varshochi, Xinbo Mi

Others Present:

In person: Robert Howard, Don Gibbs

Jack Corn directed the meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rusty Fowler made a motion for approval and Todd Robertson seconded the motion; motion carried.

2. OLD BUSINESS

a. Project Update – presented by Pam Drach

Before going through the Project Update, Pam provided a summary of FY 2020 spending which ended on June 30.

The Evansville MPO, INDOT, LPA partners and consultants collaboratively delivered \$20.6 million in contract-related projects. Of that, six contracts went to letting (Covert Avenue, Bell Road, Walnut Street Phase 1, Columbia/Delaware Bridge, Vanderburgh County Sign Project, and 2nd Street/Washington Avenue Intersection Project). These totaled \$19 million in construction in FY 2020.

The EMPO typically does not get that much money to spend – the annual obligation is \$6.75 million, and this past year the Prior Year Balances (PYB) were about \$10.8 million. The PYB needed to be spent down by the end of the fiscal year. The EMPO also borrowed about \$3 million from other MPOs that weren't going to be able to spend down their annual obligation, with the agreement that we will give them that \$3 million back in the future. Moving forward, the EMPO will not get \$20 million to spend, but will get the \$6.75 million annual obligation. The EMPO will also not be able to carry over any balances that are not spent.

The EMPO will continue to focus on construction as the first priority, and will look at other expenses if there will be money left over. In the past when PYB was available, the EMPO could put roughly 70% of money towards construction and 30% towards other expenses, but moving forward it will be closer to 90% construction and 10% other expenses. This makes it important that projects are delivered when they are programmed.

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

Signal Preemption: Plans and the environmental documentation are in development. Letting is moved to January 2021.

Signal Modernization – on Green River Rd and on Washington Ave: Environmental Document was approved by INDOT. Final Tracings were submitted to INDOT on June 30, 2020.

Signal Modernization – at First Ave and Mill Rd and at Green River Rd and Vogel Rd: Environmental Document was approved by INDOT. Final Tracings were submitted to INDOT on June 30, 2020.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY

Columbia-Delaware Bridge over Pigeon Creek: Project completion is expected in July.

Franklin Street Bridge over Pigeon Creek: A preliminary field check has been scheduled for July 13, 2020.

Green River Rd: Construction is complete. A final inspection has been scheduled for July 15, 2020.

HENDERSON COUNTY

Wathen Lane Bridge: The project is complete.

KYTC

Watson Lane: Splitting the project into two phases is under discussion. The intersection improvements would be a priority.

US 60 Spottsville Bridge: Beginning July 8th, US 60 will be reduced to one 9-foot lane with a temporary traffic signal. Restriction could last between 14-25 days.

KY 2084 at KY 812/Airline Road: Additional funds for right-of-way and utilities were received and the consultant is working on final plans.

INDOT UPDATES – presented by Rusty Fowler, INDOT

US 41 at Hillsdale Rd: A public hearing is scheduled for July 21, 2020 at the Vanderburgh County 4H Banquet Hall. Notice went out on July 5, 2020 in the Courier and Press.

SR 62 Pedestrian Walk near St. Joseph Ave: Structure type finalized, project was moved to Contract R-42287 on the November 15, 2023 letting.

SR 62 from Rosenberger Ave to Wabash Ave (also includes intersection improvement projects located at Rosenberger Ave, St. Joseph Ave, Vann Ave, Burkhardt Rd, and Cross Pointe Blvd: Scoping meeting held on March 24, 2020. Fees proposals were due by April 17, 2020. All proposals have been received. NTP sent out for survey work on the whole project.

US 41 Pedestrian Walk at Washington Ave: NTP sent to HNTB on May 13, 2020.

US 41 Bridge at Pigeon Creek: The proposed alternative is a bridge replacement. The Historic Bridge Alternative Analysis is ongoing and should be finished in August. Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2021.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Fix for 41: Project is complete.

Lloyd Expressway Bridge Joint and Overlay Project: Work is still moving along and night work is taking place. The completion date is still set for September 2020.

I 69 Bridge Overlay: Project is ongoing with night and weekend work due to the congestion policy restrictions near the Lloyd and Lynch Rd area. The completion date is still set for October 2020.

Lloyd Patching: Work is complete and the final inspection should be held in the near future.

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

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Amendment to the Evansville MPO Capital Assets Policy – presented by Kari Akin

The Evansville MPO seeks approval of an amendment to the Capital Assets Policy initially approved on November 1, 2007. According to the Indiana Code, thresholds for purchasing materials and supplies have increased since the policy was initially approved. In accordance with IC 5-22-8-2, the second tier will change from “Less than \$25,000” to “Less than \$50,000”. In accordance with IC 5-22-8-3, the third tier will change from “\$25,000 to \$74,999” to “\$50,000 to \$150,000”.

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke made a motion for approval and Angela Koehler Lindsey seconded the motion; motion carried.

b. FY 2025-2026 Notice of Funding Availability for Indiana LPAs – presented by Erin Schriefer

The Evansville MPO will be accepting applications for federal funding from Indiana LPAs starting July 9, 2020. Funds awarded will cover construction only and will be programmed for EMPO fiscal years 2025 and 2026.

Eligible applicants include local jurisdictions in the Evansville Urbanized Area in Vanderburgh and Warrick counties.

Any project, regardless of anticipated FHWA funding source, is eligible for submission, including projects eligible for Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds, Transportation Alternative funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds and Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds.

The application, along with an accompanying reference guide, can be found on the Evansville MPO website at <http://www.evansvillempo.com/CallForProjects.html>. Applications are due back to the MPO by Thursday, July 23, 2020.

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

c. FY 2021 MPO/HART Transit Agreement

The Evansville MPO is seeking approval of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Evansville MPO and Henderson Area Rapid Transit (HART). This agreement identifies activities the EMPO will perform in Fiscal Year 2021 for HART in exchange for compensation. It also identifies the activities HART must complete in order for the EMPO to complete their tasks.

Buzzy Newman made a motion for approval and Angela Koehler Lindsey seconded the motion; motion carried.

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

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) requested the following amendment:

Item# 02-715: US 41 at Wolf Hills Rd: Intersection improvement project. Eliminate the project from the program.

Gene Pfeiffer made a motion for approval and Angela Koehler Lindsey seconded the motion; motion carried.

e. FY 2020 – 2024 TIP Modifications – presented by Pam Drach

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

Des# 1600891: Third St from Sycamore St to 460 ft past Olive St: Road Rehabilitation project. Move the RW funding from FY 2020 to FY 2021. The project will be funded with 80% Federal STBG-Rural funds and a 20% State match.

The Evansville MPO requested the following modifications:

Des# 1801969: Signal Preemption project in the City of Evansville: Adjust CN in FY 2021 to a total of \$4,400,000 and reflect the project CN, up to the programmed amount, will be funded with 100% Federal funding.

Des# 1802803: Acquisition of a Fixed Route Bus: Move from FY 2021 to FY 2022.

Des# 1802810: Acquisition of a Paratransit Bus: Move from FY 2021 to FY 2022.

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

4. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Approval of Bills

Todd Robertson made a motion for approval and Angela Koehler Lindsey seconded the motion; motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Meeting adjourned.