



EVANSVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Regular meeting held at 10:00 a.m. in Room 301
Civic Center Complex – Administration Building
Evansville, Indiana**

March 11, 2021

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):

Webex/Phone: Doug Boom, Matthew Bullock, Karstin Carmany-George, Shawn Dickerson, Chris Gentry, Nick Hall, Shawn Hayden, Angie Higgins, Luke Hill, Sadie Middleton, Kelly Mitchell, John Petkovsek, Lora Phillippe, Karen Robinson, Jonathan Siebeking, Lorie Van Hook, Thomas Witt

Evansville MPO Staff Present:

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

Seyed Shokouhzadeh directed the meeting.

1. ELECTION OF CY 2021 OFFICERS: CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Seyed Shokouhzadeh nominated Greg Wathen for Chairman; Matthew Bullock made a motion for approval and Lorie Van Hook seconded the motion; motion carried.

Seyed Shokouhzadeh nominated Nate Hahn for Vice Chairman; Shawn Hayden made a motion for approval and Angie Higgins seconded the motion; motion carried.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Petkovsek made a motion for approval and Shawn Hayden seconded the motion; motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Project Update – presented by Pam Drach

City of Evansville

- **Covert Ave:** Sidewalks, ramps, drives and signal construction from Vann Ave to Green River Rd are nearly complete. Work is beginning on the remaining three phases from US 41 to Vann Ave.

- Walnut St Phase 1 (US 41 to Weinbach Ave): Ph 2, Rotherwood Ave to Lodge Ave, is being graded and prepped for sod. Phase 3, US 41 to Rotherwood Ave, pavement removal and storm sewer installation have begun.
- Walnut St Phase 2 (Weinbach Ave to Vann Ave): All offers made to property owners and 33 parcels are secured. Final Pavement Design is in development.
- Walnut St Phase 3 (MLK Jr Blvd to US 41): The draft environmental document was submitted to INDOT on March 4, 2021.
- Signal Preemption: The project was let for bid on February 10, 2021 and awarded to Midwestern Electric for the low bid of \$2,339,328.
- Signal Head Replacement: Preliminary field check held on February 24, 2021. The environmental document was submitted to INDOT on March 2, 2021.

Warrick County

- Warrick Trails SRTS: The project was let for bid on February 10, 2021 and awarded to JBI Construction for the low bid of \$960,344. A pre-construction meeting has been scheduled for March 12, 2021.

City of Henderson

- Wathen Lane: Final design is complete. Request for right-of-way and utility funding is being drafted.

KYTC

- Watson Lane: Federal authorization has been received for the second phase of design.

INDOT Updates – presented by Matthew Bullock, INDOT

- SR 62 over Bruce Ditch: Pre-Construction meeting was held February 12, 2021 and construction is set to begin this spring.
- SR 66 at Epworth Rd: Reached agreement with Warrick County. Project will be a displaced left turn intersection (continuous flow intersection) on both ends. I-69 ramps will change from current configuration.
- US 41 at Hillsdale Rd: Project removed from the May letting due to right-of-way property with CSX and will be moved to a later fiscal year; currently looking at January 2022.
- US 41 NB Ramp over Eagle Creek and US 41 Over SR 66/Diamond Ave: US 41 over Diamond Ave will be moved to January 19, 2023 letting on Contract R-41410.
- SR 62 (various locations between SR 61 and the West Jct SR 161): Pavement design approved on February 24, 2021. Right-of-way appraising still in progress.
- US 41 from N of SR 66/SR 62 (Lloyd Expwy) to N of SR 66 (Diamond Ave): Working on Traffic Management Plan.
- US 41 Pedestrian Walk at US 41 and Washington: HNTB submitted Stage 1 Plans on February 25, 2021. After INDOT's review of the plans, a stakeholder meeting will likely be planned for some time in April or May.
- 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): Presented proposed improvements to local elected officials on March 4, 2021. Will present proposed improvements to stakeholders on March 10 and 11, 2021. First public meetings are scheduled for April 20, 2021 (virtual) and April 21 and 22, 2021 (in person). Capacity will be limited for the in-person meetings.

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

b. MTP 2045 Amendment and Conformity – presented by Pam Drach

The Evansville MPO is requesting approval of the amendment to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2045 and the associated conformity determination. The purpose of the MTP 2045 is to guide decisions relating to roadways, public transportation freight movement, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities through the year 2045, while conforming to federal air-quality standards. The draft amended MTP 2045, including the associated conformity determination, was advertised for a public comment period from January 29 through March 1, 2021. No comments were received. The documents are available on the Evansville MPO website.

Kelly Mitchell made a motion for approval and Angie Higgins seconded the motion; motion carried.

c. 2022-2026 TIP – presented by Pam Drach

The Evansville MPO is requesting approval of the FY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP was developed cooperatively with local government, transit operators, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration and other appropriate state and federal agencies. The purpose of the TIP is to fulfill federal requirements and to serve local officials and the public as a complete program of federally funded transportation improvements proposed to be undertaken during the next five years (fiscal years 2022-2026) in the Evansville-Henderson Metropolitan Planning Area.

The Draft 2022-2026 TIP was advertised for a public comment period from January 29 through March 1, 2021. No comments were received. Additions and deletions made to the draft TIP include:

Project Additions/Deletions from Draft TIP to Final			
Sponsor	Des/Item #	Project	Change
INDOT	1902845	Install lighting and ITS equipment	Added to the project to the TIP using State funding with Local match
Vanderburgh County	1801924	Mill Rd Bridge over CSX Railroad	Removed project from the TIP

The TIP program of projects is fiscally constrained and the projects included in the TIP are consistent with the amended Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2045 and air quality conformity determination. The updated document is available on the Evansville MPO website.

Matthew Bullock asked if there was a TIP for later years that has been published. Pam Drach explained that the MPO only has one TIP at a time that covers the 5-year time period. Matthew also asked if there was a plan for the Mill Rd Bridge project that is being removed. Pam replied that there is no plan for it at this time. Seyed Shokouhzadeh added that the county will notify the MPO of any changes so that the TIP can be amended. Pam also noted that the Mill Rd Bridge project was not using any federal funds; it was state and local funds and was in the TIP in case federal funds became available for that project. Because it doesn't include federal funds, it isn't required to be in the TIP, but the MPO would certainly add it back in if it needed to be in later.

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

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. FY 2020-2024 TIP Amendments – presented by Pam Drach

Before Pam Drach presented, she briefly discussed the format changes that have been made for the MPO Policy and Technical Committee meeting memos regarding TIP Amendments. The information is now presented in a table format instead of a narrative. She encourages thoughts and feedback on this new format.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) requested the following TIP Amendments:

Sponsor	Contract	Des#/ID#	Road	Description	County	Work Type	Funding Type	% Split	Action	Fiscal Year	Phase/Source	Active TIP	New TIP
INDOT	T-42653	1902845	Various	Various locations along I-64	Various	Install Lighting	HSIP	100	Add Project	2022	PE	\$0	\$528,000
		1902848		Various locations along I-69		Install lighting				2023	CN	\$0	\$5,826,000
		2002551		Various locations along I-64		ITS Program Equipment							
	R-43254	2000186	US 41	0.87 mi S of SR 62/SR 66 (Washington Ave)	Vanderburgh	Intersection Improvement, Median U-Turn	NHPP	80/20	Move PE and Increase Funding	2022	PE	\$154,000	\$0
										2021	PE	\$0	\$458,000
Henderson County	N/A	N/A	Walking Trail	Sandy Lee Watkins Park Trail	Henderson	Recreational Trail	RTC	80/20	Add Project	2021	CN	\$0	\$46,000

John Petkovsek made a motion for approval and Shawn Hayden seconded the motion; motion carried.

b. FY 2020-2024 TIP Modifications – presented by Pam Drach

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) requested the following modification on January 15, 2021:

Des# 1801411: Various locations in the Vincennes District (Contract T-41269): Lighting installation project. Add Preliminary Engineering (PE) in FY 2021 at a total cost of \$39,000. Costs will be funded with 90% Federal HSIP and a 10% state match.

The Evansville MPO requested the following modification on February 17, 2021:

Des# 1901938: Capital Assistance: Revise the FY 2021 funding to reflect \$253,000 in FTA Section 5310 and \$63,000 in local match for a total of \$316,000.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) requested the following modification on February 17, 2021:

Des# Various: SR 62 from Posey/Vanderburgh county line to Rosenberger Ave: Road Reconstruction with Intersection Improvements at Schutte Rd, Wabash Ave and Stockwell Rd (Lead Des# 2001917, Contract R-43197). Add PE in FY 2021 for a total of \$295,000. The project will be funded with 80% Federal NHPP funds and 20% state match.

The Evansville MPO requested the following modification on March 4, 2021:

Des# 2001060: UPWP Planning Activities (STBG): Increase the FY 2021 funding from \$125,000 to \$158,000, funded with 80% Federal STBG funds and 20% local match.

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

c. 2021 Title VI Goals and 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 include completed and upcoming trainings and workshops, updates to Title VI documents and surveys, and the total number of Title VI complaints from the previous year. There were 0 complaints in 2020.

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

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

d. 2021 Transit Targets (TAM and PTASP) – presented by Matt Schriefer

METS and HART have been required to develop annual Transit Asset Management (TAM) Targets since completion of the Group TAM Plan in September 2018. At the end of each year, the MPO gathers fleet data from METS and HART to calculate the end of the previous year Performance Metrics and set the end of the current year Targets. Although not required, the MPO also calculates Performance Metrics and sets Targets for the non-profit vehicles. With approval, the MPO will include these targets in the TIP and MTP documents. The following table includes the TAM Performance Measure definitions, end of 2020 Performance Metrics, and end of year 2021 Tam Targets.

Starting in 2021, METS and HART are also required to develop annual Safety Targets. These Targets are listed in the recently complete Public Transit Agency Safety Plans (PTASP) for both METS and HART. The MPO worked with METS and HART to collect safety data to calculate Performance Metrics and set Targets. With approval, the MPO will include these Targets in the TIP and MTP documents. The following table includes Safety Performance Measure definitions, end of 2019 Performance Metrics, and end of 2021 Safety Targets.

		METS		HART		MPO	
		End 2020 Measures	End 2021 Targets	End 2020 Measures	End 2021 Targets	End 2020 Measures	End 2021 Targets
Transit Asset Management	Rolling Stock (buses) - % of revenue vehicles that have met or exceeded their Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)	28%	28%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Rolling Stock (cutaways) - % of revenue vehicles that have met or exceeded their Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)	32%	53%	13%	0%	0%	13%
	Equipment - % of equipment that has exceeded ULB or with a condition rating below 3.0 on FTA's (TERM) Scale	73%	73%	33%	33%	29%	25%
	Facilities - % of facilities with a condition rating below 3.0 on FTA's Transit Economic Requirement Model (TERM) Scale	0%	0%	0%	0%	N/A	N/A
		METS		HART			
		End 2019 Measures	End 2021 Targets	End 2019 Measures	End 2021 Measures		
Transit Safety	Fatalities – Total number of fatalities that occurred at a transit facility or involving a transit revenue vehicle	Fixed Route	0	0	0	0	
		Demand Response	0	0	0	0	
	Injuries – Any injury (other than a fatality) requiring immediate medical attention that occurred at a transit facility or involving a transit revenue vehicle	Fixed Route	3	0	0	0	
		Demand Response	0	0	0	0	
	Safety Events – Any fatality, injury or other safety event (property damage, collisions, evacuations), that occurred at a transit facility or involving a transit revenue vehicle	Fixed Route	6	0	0	0	
		Demand Response	1	0	0	0	
	System Reliability (major failures) – Distance between major mechanical failures that limit actual vehicle movement, require a tow, or create safety issues (N/A if no major mechanical failures)	Fixed Route	43,670 miles	75,000 miles	N/A	50,000 miles	
		Demand Response	76,548 miles	50,000 miles	N/A	50,000 miles	

Kelly Mitchell made a motion for approval and Angie Higgins seconded the motion; motion carried.

e. 2021 MPO Section 5310 Grant Public Hearing – presented by Matt Schriefer

Public Notice of the 2021 MPO Section 5310 grant application for FTA funding for non-profit vehicles was placed in the Evansville Courier & Press on February 21, 2021. The Notice provided an opportunity for the public to review, comment, and ask questions about the grant application, as well as be notified of the public hearing to be held at the MPO Technical

and Policy Committee meetings on March 11. The Program of Projects for the grant application is attached for reference. Public comments will be accepted through March 18.

If the MPO receives comments, the application will be reviewed and revised as needed. If no comments are heard, the grant application will be submitted with the funding amounts listed in the following Program of Projects:

Section 5310 (Capital)

The Arc of Evansville – Acquisition of one (1) Low-Floor Minivan

Missing Pieces CDC (S.A.F.E. Transportation) – Acquisition of one (1) Low-Floor Minivan

Royal Transportation – Acquisition of one (1) Low-Floor Minivan

New Hope CDC (Bridge Builders) – Acquisition of one (1) Medium Transit Vehicle and one (1) Large Transit Vehicle

Easterseals Rehabilitation Center – Acquisition of one (1) Large Transit Vehicle and four (4) cameras to monitor vehicle parking area

Section 5310 (Planning)

Evansville MPO – Section 5310 Planning for FY 2022

PROJECT FUNDING

Project	FTA 5310	Local	Total
The Arc of Evansville 1 Low-Floor Minivan	\$36,000	\$9,000	\$45,000
Missing Pieces 1 Low-Floor Minivan	\$36,000	\$9,000	\$45,000
Royal Transportation 1 Low-Floor Minivan	\$36,000	\$9,000	\$45,000
New Hope CDC (Bridge Builders) 1 Medium Transit Vehicle	\$47,200	\$11,800	\$59,000
New Hope CDC (Bridge Builders) 1 Large Transit Vehicle	\$48,800	\$12,200	\$61,000
Easterseals Rehabilitation Center 1 Large Transit Vehicle	\$48,800	\$12,200	\$61,000
Easterseals Rehabilitation Center 4 Cameras	\$381	\$96	\$477
Evansville MPO Planning for FY 2022	\$25,280	\$0	\$25,280
TOTAL	\$278,461	\$63,296	\$341,757

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

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Matthew Bullock commented that public hearings will be held April 21 and 22 for The Lloyd4U Lloyd Expressway project. More information, such as times and locations, will be posted in the Evansville Courier & Press, The Lloyd4U Facebook page and the project website at thelloyd4u.com.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Shawn Dickerson commented on behalf of the Tree Advisory Board. The Board was established in 2000 with the focus to protect, preserve and plant trees in public areas where they can. The Board has worked with many agencies in the past to help ensure that tree benefits are maximized throughout the community, either by protecting them or planting new ones. He mentioned that he’s seen times where trees have been removed when it wasn’t necessary, and reminded everyone that the Department of Urban Forestry (under the Department of Transportation Services, as well as the Tree Advisory Board) is available to participate in the planning process.

Meeting adjourned.